

## **“Computer Based Experiments, Learning and Teaching” International Conference COMBELET’99**

From the 28<sup>th</sup> of September to the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 1999, at Szklarska Poreba, Poland, was held the International Conference on Computer Based Experiments, Learning and Teaching-COMBELET’99, organized by the Wroclaw University of Technology, Division of Systems and Computer Science and sponsored by the Polish Ministry of Education.

The Conference was conducted by an International Program Committee, chairman A.Kasprzak (Poland), K.J.Burnham (United Kingdom) and Leszek Koszalka (Poland) vice-chairmen. One of the members of the prestigious Program Committee was Dr. Florin Stanciulescu (Romania). The Conference was organized by an Organizing Committee, chairwoman Iwona Pozniak Koszalka, secretary Agnieszka Gawryszuk.

The aim of the COMBELET’99 was to bring together researchers from different countries, in order to facilitate the exchange of experience and to highlight some recent results related to Computer Based Experiments, Learning and Teaching. Some areas of interest related to the first topic, Computer Based Experiments, were in the field of fuzzy and neural systems, expert systems, model identification, laboratory experimenting and distributed applications. The second Session, Computer Based Learning, was concerned with applications and tools for interactive learning and some problems related to building databases for both learning and knowledge checking. The third Session Computer Based Teaching focused on principles, requirements and hardware support for the computer -aided teaching. All the papers presented were at high informative and scientific standards.

The Conference reunited scientists and young researchers from 15 countries. From the personalities present I would like to mention Professor Imme de Bruijn (The Netherlands), Asai Asaithambi (USA), A.Kasprzak and Leszek Koszalka (Poland), Carlos A. Godfried (Argentina), Olivier Haas (United Kingdom), Dan Butnariu (Israel), Jan Stefan (Czech Republic), Mayr Herwig (Austria), Hamerlain

Meraoubi (Algeria), Helsper Christoph (Germany), Campilho Aurelio (Portugal), Vlacic Ljubo (Australia), Slavko Kcijancic (Slovenia), Razali Mohamad Rashidi (Malaysia) and Florin Stanciulescu (Romania).

Excellent organized by the Polish hosts, the conference represented not only a scientific event, but also a special opportunity for knowing each other and for making contacts with researchers from different geographical regions. For the wonderful atmosphere contributed both: the natural surroundings, Szklarka Poreba being placed in the Karkonosze Mountains region, and the program offered by the Organizing Committee, chairwoman Iwona Pozniak-Koszalka, which included some conference dinners and a bus trip in the region. The participants remarked the hospitality and kindness of our hosts, Mrs. Agnieszka Gawryszuk, secretary of the Organising Committee, making all the necessary efforts for a perfect coordination. Also, I would like to mention Professor Leszek Koszalka and Mrs. Iwona Pozniak-Koszalka who spent a lot of energy to ensure the success of this scientific event.

All the participants agreed on the continuation of organising the COMBELET Conference in the years to come. Starting from 1999 the Conference will be held each year, one year in Poland and the next in other organizing country. COMBELET-2000 will take place in Spain in the organisation of Saint Louis University (USA). The Conference Proceedings are published in a dedicated volume, which has been distributed to all participants.

Finally we consider that the idea of the organizers to get together young and senior researchers from different countries, with preoccupations in computer based experiments, learning and teaching, proved to be a generous and productive idea.

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