

Message from the International Program Committee Chair



On behalf of the International Program Committee (IPC) and the IPC co-chairs, G. Ferrari-Trecate, P. Goulart, M. Heemels, K. Johansson, S. Kowalewski, B. Sinopoli, and J. Zaytoon I would like to welcome you to the 2013 European Control Conference.

The ECC13 IPC comprised 110 Associate Editors, under the guidance of the IPC co-chairs. Between them the IPC members were responsible for the review of the 23 Invited Session Proposals, the 1,180 Contributed Papers and the 135 Invited Papers that were submitted to the conference. This high number of submissions represents a record for the ECC and required considerable effort on the part of the Associate Editors, with most of them handling 12-14 papers each. The Associate Editors were nonetheless able to secure 4,048 reviews, an average of approximately 3 reviews per paper. Overall the review process was thorough and rigorous, with all papers receiving at least 2 consistent reviews on which a solid publication decision could be based and many papers receiving considerably more.

With the help of these reviews we were able to put together a highly selective and, in my view, high quality technical program. The overall acceptance rate for the conference was 58%, with 56% of Contributed Papers, 77% of Invited Papers and 77% of Invited Session Proposals accepted. In addition, 4 of the 5 pre-conference workshop proposals were accepted, with their reviews handled by the Workshops Chair, M. Heemels. The composition of the final program confirms the international appeal of ECC: Authors from 59 different countries, with France, the United States of America, Italy, Germany and Switzerland having the strongest representation.

The program of the conference is arranged around thematic days. The three themes are reflected in the choice of plenaries and semi-plenaries on each of the conference days: Computation and control on Wednesday, control in energy systems on Thursday, and control in biomedical systems on Friday. These themes are also reflected in the 7 tutorial sessions (3 on each the first two days and 1 on the last day) that are organized by leading experts on topics related to each day's theme, under the coordination of the Tutorial Sessions Chair, K.H. Johansson.

To honor excellence among the conference student participants, the organizing committee has decided to include a Best Student Paper

Award among the conference activities. Together with the IPC co-chairs we selected 5 papers whose lead author was a graduate student at the time of submission; the selection was among the papers nominated by the reviewers as candidates for the best student paper award, as well as the papers that received consistently excellent reviews. The winner of the award will be selected during the conference among these 5 short listed papers and will be announced at the conference banquet on Thursday evening.

In closing this message, I would like to thank the numerous people whose dedicated work contributed towards putting together a successful program for ECC13: The 7 IPC co-chairs, the 110 Associate Editors and the nearly 2,500 reviewers who were at the heart of the review process. A special note of gratitude for Pradeep Misra, for his invaluable and prompt assistance with all matters related to the Papercept conference management system. Also to Eduardo Camacho, Bob Bitmead and the Honorary IPC co-chair Carlos Canudas de Wit for helpful tips on the dos and don'ts of conference organization. And last but not least, I would like to thank the invited speakers, the tutorial session organizers and all the authors who entrusted us with their manuscripts. Thanks to their efforts we can all look forward to a high quality, stimulating conference!

John Lygeros
Chair,
ECC13 International Program Committee