

International Stability, Technology and Culture

(SWIIS 2013)

IFAC Workshop

Prishtina (Republic of Kosovo)

June 6-8, 2013

The University for Business and Technology (UBT) organized this IFAC Workshop in cooperation with the Department of Intelligent Handling and Robotics (IHRT) of Vienna University of Technology which took place from June 6 to 8, 2013 at UBT in Prishtina (Kosovo).

Main sponsor was the IFAC TC 9.5 (TECIS), Co-sponsors the IFAC TC's 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 9.4.

The main goal of this event was to offer members of the scientific community mainly from Kosovo, Albania and Macedonia the possibility to present their scientific research results in an international recognized event.

The program consists of two survey papers and 47 contributed papers arranged in 10 technical and 2 invited sessions.

One of the survey papers "From Engineering to Mechatronics Management" was a report of the development and realisation of a "Mechatronics Management" BSc and MSc program at UBT. This program is based on a "Engineering Management" program running at Vienna University of Technology since 1995. First experiences of the currently running program were outlined and shortly discussed.

The other survey paper given by P. Groumos "An Overview of the Triangle of Knowledge as a Driving Force for Sustainable Growth in Developing Nations" gave an overview about different philosophies of connections between education, research and innovation.

As an historic tradition in SWIIS the subjects of the papers covered the field from globalization impact on international stability via knowledge Society vs. International Stability and Complex Adaptive Systems to End of Life Management.

One of the invited sessions "Automatic Control Education & International Stability: Lessons from International, Cross-disciplinary, Intercultural Pedagogies" was organized by A. Stapleton (Ireland). The contributions gave an overview about multi-cultural education especially on postgraduate level and the vision of a new Europe-wide University. The other invited session "Re-engineering of process control and maintenance systems" organized by M. Hadjiski (Bulgaria) with 4 papers discussed very interesting topics on Automation of production, mostly chemical, plants.

The working group “End of Life Management” in TC 9.5 was responsible for a session with the same name. The subject of the papers were “Recycling of mobile phones in Kosovo” – a classical topic - and relatively new, “Recover Rare and Precious Metals from WEEE” and “Research and education with Scrap”.

In addition to the program technical visits were organized in a furniture factory, a production plant for medications – owned and managed by a graduate of the Engineering Management Program of UBT.

The 68 attendees from 14 countries enjoyed the social events including a welcome reception, a banquet in the historical town of Vushtrri and a farewell at the new campus of UBT.

Reports of this workshop were in the TV, Broadcast, and several times in daily newspapers.

Because from the 49 papers 16 were from the countries mentioned above the main goal were reached according to the policy of TC 9.5

P. Kopacek

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