News from the IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society

International IEEE Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems

Conference Report

The 13th International IEEE Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITSC 2010; http://itsc2010.isr.uc.pt) was held at Tivoli Madeira Hotel in Funchal, Madeira Island, one of Portugal's first class destinations, known as the "Island of Eternal Spring" because of its all year-round mild climate.

ITSC is the annual flagship conference of the IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society (ITSS) and a leading forum where the state-of-the-art research, latest developments, and future prospect relating to intelligent transportation systems are presented and discussed each year.

The ITSC 2010 call for papers led to 543 submissions (including 17 special session proposals) from 44 countries. The paper review for ITSC 2010 was handled by the conference program committee, which had one program chair (Dr. Yibing Wang), four program co-chairs (Dr. Christoph Stiller, Dr. Hesham Rakha, Dr.Matthew Karlaftis and Dr. Sadayuki Tsugawa), three special session chairs (Dr. Hans Van Lint, Dr. Constantinos Antoniou and

The ITSC Organizing Committee.

Dr. Ioannis Papamichail), and 120 committee members worldwide. The submitted papers were organized into four regular profiles:

- ITS modeling and analysis;
- Travel, traffic and emergency management;
- Advanced safety systems & intelligent vehicles;
- Electric vehicle transportation systems;

each managed by one program co-chair, and one special session profile managed by the three special session chairs.

Over 350 participants from all over the world attended the confer-

ence. A wide range of topics were covered by the conference. The conference program included 309 oral presentations arranged in 62 parallel sessions, including 15 special sessions covering a variety of highly focused topics such as "traffic and mobility management for rare events and emergencies," "variable speed limits for freeway management and control," "active traffic management," "ramp metering," "advances in traffic state estimation and prediction," "computational intelligence in ITS," and "robotics technologies for intelligent autonomous vehicles."

Conference attendees gather at the Tivoli Madeira Hotel for the conference banquet.

Prof. Fei-Yue Wang, from the Chinese Academy of Sciences and University of Arizona, Dr. Peter Van Den Bossche, from the Erasmus University College of Brussels, and Prof. Alberto Broggi, from University of Parma presented three plenary talks on "Parallel Control and Management for Intelligent Transportation Systems: Theory, Methods and Applications," "Harnessing Charging Power: The Communication Issues of Electrical Vehicle Charging Infrastructure from a Standardization Point of View," and "A New Extreme Challenge for Autonomous Vehicles."

In addition, the program included a panel discussion focusing on international strategic planning for ITS research, which was open to all conference attendees. The panel discussion was led by Prof. Robert Bertini, Portland State University and US Department of Transportation, and the panellists included Prof. Fei-Yue Wang, from China and USA, Prof. Hani Mahmassani, from USA, Prof. Markos Papageorgiou, from Greece, and Dr. Masao Fukushima, from Japan.

The conference was preceded by three Workshops: "Emergent Cooperative Technologies in ITS" organised by M.A. Sotelo, U. Nunes, L. Vlacic, and Hans Van Lint; "Traffic Behavior, Modeling and Optimization" organised by M. Galán Moreno and J. Sánchez Medina; and "Artificial Transportation Systems and Simulation" organised by R. Rosseti, H. Liu and S. Tang. In addition to more than 45 presentations, the workshops also included four keynote speeches by Dr. Matthew Bart, Dr. Robert Bertini, Dr. Erel Avineri, and Dr. Ronghui Liu, respectively on "Estimating and Optimizing the Environmental Impacts of Signalized Arterial Roadways," "Transforming Transportation through Connectivity: U.S. Perspectives on Cooperative Systems," "Choice Architecture and the design of Advanced Travel Information Systems," and "The Role of Microscopic Simulation in ATS."

The conference banquet took place at the Swimming Pool Balcony and Gardens of Madeira Tivoli Hotel, with a wonderful Atlantic Ocean View. At the banquet, the IEEE ITSS awards were presented.

ITSC 2010 has made several new records for ITSC, particularly in relation to the size of the program committee, the number of paper submissions received, the number of oral presentations conducted, as well as the number of participants. Overall, the conference was featured by its dedicated organizing team, excellent program, enthusiastic atmosphere, warm hospitality, and fantastic conference venue.

Urbano Nunes, General Chair and Yibing Wang, Program Chair, IEEE ITSC 2010

Panel discussion (from left to right): Hani Mahmassani, Masao Fukushima, Markos Papageorgiou, Fei-Yue Wang, and Robert Bertini.