

Introduction

Once again, it is a pleasure for me to write a foreword to the Proceedings of a Computing in Cardiology Conference, this time the 40th annual meeting which was held in Zaragoza from September 22nd – 25th, 2013. I have pointed out in the past that a huge amount of work is undertaken by the Editor of the Proceedings, Alan Murray, and Editorial Assistant Cathie D'Amico, and this year is no exception. Although the finished product shows a complete standardisation of papers, this is not achieved without considerable effort. This year, papers were again submitted as Word or Latex files and particularly for the latter, thanks are also due to Pablo Laguna, George Moody and Leif Sörnmo for their assistance. Nonetheless, the Board of Computing in Cardiology remains indebted to Alan and Cathie for the enormous amount of work they do to ensure that the Proceedings maintain an exceptionally high standard year after year.

The Board of Computing in Cardiology was delighted when one of its members, Pablo Laguna, persuaded colleagues from the University of Zaragoza to collaborate with him in order to host this year's meeting in Spain, where there is a lot of activity in the field of Biomedical Engineering. Indeed, this was only the second time that the conference had been in Spain since its inception in 1974.

The meeting in Zaragoza was extremely successful with well over 400 abstracts being received and eventually 343 being accepted for presentation. The number of attendees approached a record level, exceeding 350 people including the local organising committee. Zaragoza was pleasantly bathed in sunshine for the duration of the meeting and the activists and passivists all had a very enjoyable social on Monday 23rd September. Those who canoed on the River Elbe enjoyed a pleasant breeze with a break in their efforts to enjoy some refreshments, while those who wandered around the city on guided tours were perhaps more exhausted in the heat!

The Board would like to thank the Co-Chairs Pablo Laguna and Juan Pablo Martinez and all of their colleagues on the local organizing committee for all the hard work which went in to making the meeting such a success.

Many of you will know that the meeting next year will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts on the outskirts of Boston from September 7th-10th. The Board of Computing in Cardiology decided that the 2015 meeting would be held in Nice, France with provisional dates from September 6th – 9th. Many other cities around the globe are interested in hosting future meetings of Computing in Cardiology and there should be some excellent meetings in store for those working in the field of Computing in Cardiology.

The Proceedings of Computing in Cardiology provide an invaluable resource for many individuals. They represent, in many cases, work in progress but they all contain information of

significant value. I do hope that you will enjoy reading those papers of particular interest in your field and that they may be of some value to you in your own work.

I look forward to seeing many of you next year in Cambridge, MA, USA. Please note that the deadline for abstracts has been moved forward to April 15, 2014. It will soon be time to start drafting your abstract!

Peter W Macfarlane
President, Computing in Cardiology