

Events

The 18th ICGG in Milan, Italy, hosted by Politecnico di Milano

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The 18th International Conference on Geometry and Graphics was held from August 3 – 7, 2018 in Milan, Italy [1]. The host institution was the Politecnico di Milano, at the Milano Leonardo Campus. There were many significant and unique occurrences which this review will attempt to highlight.

First, there was a double dedication for this Conference. It was dedicated to Leonardo Da Vinci, after whom the Campus is named and to whom homage should be paid as a genius among the greatest showing the widest power of Geometry and Graphics in investigation and creativity between Science and Art, and to Giulio Natta, professor at the Politecnico di Milano and Nobel prize recipient in Chemistry in 1963, together with Karl Ziegler, as a mentor of the profound function – and the beauty! – of Geometry and Graphics in Science and Technology, even at the invisible scale of the molecular world.

Next, the design and dedication of the Conference Logo must be mentioned. In the graphic synthesis of the logo, starting from a spatial version of the Leonardo's *homo ad circumum* diagram, the sphere (symbolizing the macro cosmos) appears covered by the molecular pattern of the Natta's *isotactic polypropylene* and inscribed inside an ideally cubic frame (symbolizing the micro

cosmos), and the outline of the *homo* (the man) meets the two mentioned structures at the base, where the first carbon atom of the chain is located, as a metaphor of the basic brick of organic life, while due the designated viewpoint the overall outline of the logo alludes to the letter "M" of Milan (fig. 1).

Regarding the conference logo, *Concept and Design*: Luigi Cocchiarella, *Digital Parameterization and Animation*: Matteo Cavaglia, *Digital Branding*: Umberto Tolino and Andrea Manciaracina. Crystall cubes with the conference logo etched in three dimensions were distributed to all attendees and were very well received.

The Opening ceremony under the leadership of the Chair Yasushi Yamaguchi (The University of Tokyo, President ISGG), the Honorary Chairs Otto Röschel (Graz University of Technology, outgoing President ISGG), Vito Cardone (Università degli Studi di Salerno/Italy, President of the Unione Italiana Disegno UID), and the Executive Chair Luigi Cocchiarella (Politecnico di Milano) occurred on Friday afternoon, August 3 at the Triennale Di Milano Design Museum. A number of welcoming addresses and invited speakers got the conference off tremendous start and it continued over the next five days. It is noted that the conference chairs provided the Society with a coordinated program consisting

of over 230 technical papers presented by 10 invited speakers and some 200 lecturers from 35 different countries representing all five continents. And that there were 30 presentations in the poster session; thus the co-chairs were responsible for an outstanding forum for the exchange of stimulating ideas, methodologies and conviviality among the 250 attendees and for the first time the Proceedings have been indexed as Scopus records by Springer. All of the technical presentations took place with the five day window and were extremely stimulating (fig. 2).

On Sunday, August 5, the Conference had an Exhibition Opening in Building 11 Spazio Mostre "Guido Nardi". The exhibition was unique in that it was a display of "40 Years of Geometry and Graphics" and "ICGG 2018 Posters on Show". The exhibition showed every Proceedings from the previous 18 Conferences which spanned 40 years. A copy of the first Proceedings from the 1978 Conference on Descriptive Geometry held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada was on display. The 1978 Conference was sponsored by the Engineering Design Graphics Division of the American Society for Engineering Education in celebration of 50 years as a Division within ASEE and the EDGD is credited with getting

the International Society of Graphics and Geometry started. Of major significance with regard to the 18th ICGG in Milano, is that two attendees at the Vancouver Conference in 1978, were in attendance at the 2018 Conference. Paul Zsombor-Murray from McGill University, Montreal, Canada, Frank Croft from Ohio State University, USA were in attendance in Vancouver.

Following the exhibition, attendees participated in the Conference Excursion. They had a choice of touring the City of Milano and visiting the Last Supper, or touring Upper Bergamo with its historical city center and spectacular view of the Po Valley. Both excursions were unique and provided attendees with great memories of the Conference.

The Conference Social Dinner was held on Monday, August 6 at City Center Restaurant, "Le Banque". It is located close to Duomo di Milano and Teatro alla Scala in the trendy and cheerful atmos-

phere of a former Eclectic/Baroque-like bank hall of the beginning of the twentieth century. A great time was had by all. Wine glasses were filled continuously and it was a great social evening. The Closing Ceremony was on Tuesday, August 7, at the National Museum of Science and Technology "Leonardo Da Vinci", and was Chaired by Yasushi Yamaguchi, President of ISGG and Conference Chair from Japan. Of major significance was naming the recipient of the Steve Slaby Award and announcing the date and location of the 19th ICGG. Otto Röschel from Graz University of Technology in Austria has made significant contributions to the development of graphics and has demonstrated outstanding leadership within the ISGG and was the recipient of the Steve Slaby Award (fig. 3).

The site for the 2020 ICGG is São Paulo, Brazil. The following excerpt is from the ICGG 2020 website promoting the conference [2]. After 42 years of many

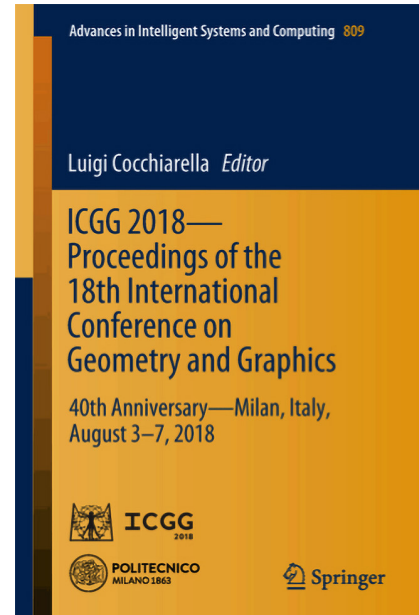


Fig. 2. ICGG2018 Cover of Book of Proceedings.



Fig. 1. Conference Logo: graphic version and rendered views of the crystall cube.

successful conferences at different venues around the world, the 19th edition of the International Conference on Geometry and Graphics (ICGG 2020), which is promoted by the International Society for Geometry and Graphics (ISGG), will be held at the University of São Paulo (USP) on August 9-13, 2020. São Paulo is the largest city in South America and the most important economic and cultural center of Brazil. Home of the largest Arab, Italian, and Japanese diasporas, it is a cosmopolitan melting pot city that offers a variety of entertainment, cultural attractions and gastronomy, and also the main hub for the tourism spots of the country. Following the past successful conferences, in the forthcoming ICGG we will encourage the expansion of the scope to new, interdisciplinary researches and



Fig. 3. Attendees meeting at the Great Dome of the "Vittorio Emanuele II Crystal Gallery" (Photo by Federico Brunetti).

active technical interchange and discussion on theoretical and applied, analogue and digital geometry and graphics and related fields between professionals, researchers, professors and students in architecture, engineering, industrial design, mathematics and arts. As an excellent opportunity to strengthen the tie with

the international community, we cordially invite the researchers and educators to present their recent results and experiences at the conference, and believe that it will be another successful event in the long history of ICGG. Last but certainly not least, a hearty thank you must be extended to the

student staff workers who made certain this Conference was a huge success. The time they spent over the span of the conference was enormous and it must be recognized. All the dedicated workers ensured a great conference. It was organized by Luigi Cocchiarella, as the Executive Chair of the Conference.

Notes

[1] Much of the material shown in this review was taken from the ICGG 2018 website <www.icgg2018.polimi.it> (accessed 1 December 2019)

and is not original material from the author. Therefore, this statement reflects a citation with regard to where the material originated.

[2] See: <www.icgg2020.pcc.usp.br> (accessed 1 December 2019).

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