



Newsletter 37 of EUROPT

EUROPT - The Continuous Optimization Working Group of EURO

<http://europt.iam.metu.edu.tr/>

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Words from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the EUROPT Managing Board let me welcome you to the 37th EUROPT Newsletter.

Our annual EUROPT workshop will take place in Montreal, Canada, July 12-14 - just before the IFORS conference 2017 in Quebec. Please find the announcement of the EUROPT Workshop 2017 in the Newsletter as well as some other announcements and reports. We hope to see many of you in Montreal.

Enjoy reading the Newsletter!

Julius Žilinskas, Chair, EUROPT Managing Board

Vilnius University, Lithuania
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Forthcoming Events

15th EUROPT Workshop on Advances in Continuous Optimization Montréal, July 12-14, 2017

<https://www.gerad.ca/colloques/europt2017/>

The 15th EUROPT Workshop on Advances in Continuous Optimization will be held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, on July 12-14, 2017.

The EUROPT Workshop on Advances in Continuous Optimization is the annual event of the EUROPT continuous optimization working group of EURO (The Association of European Operational Research Societies). This 15th edition will take place in Montreal just before the 21st IFORS conference that will be held in Quebec City.

The workshop will take place during Montreal's 375th anniversary celebrations. Activities and special events are advertised at <http://www.375mtl.com/en/programming/>.

Plenary Speakers

- Shabbir Ahmed (Georgia Institute of Technology, U.S.A.)
- Timothy C.Y. Chan (University of Toronto, Canada)
- Francisco Facchinei (University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy)

Special Sessions In Memoriam

The scientific program will include special sessions in memory of Jonathan M. Borwein, Roger Fletcher, and Christodoulos A. Floudas.

Abstract Submission

Abstract Submission is online and is already open at <https://symposia.gerad.ca/europt2017/en/submit>

Important Dates

- Abstract submission deadline: *** March 15, 2017 ***
- Abstract acceptance: March 31, 2017
- Early bird registration deadline: May 1st, 2017

Please see the workshop webpage <https://www.gerad.ca/colloques/europt2017/> for more information.

We look forward to seeing you in Montreal this summer!

Sébastien Le Digabel, Miguel Anjos, Fabian Bastin and Andrea Lodi, organizers

MOPTA 2017

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA

August 14-16, 2017

<http://coral.ie.lehigh.edu/~mopta/>

Dear Colleague,

We cordially invite you to contribute to the **2017 Modeling and OPTimization: Theory and Applications (MOPTA)** conference, organized by the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering and held at Lehigh University.

Conference Objectives

MOPTA aims at bringing together a diverse group of professionals from the broad area of optimization, including topics from both optimization theory and applications. We plan to have invited and contributed lectures within a three-day program framework. Our main objective is to present and to discuss exciting new developments from various optimization areas, while also providing a convenient setting which allows a high level of interaction among the conference participants in the framework of a medium-scale event.

Important Dates

Abstract Deadline	May 20, 2017
Competition Deadline	June 15, 2017, 23:59 EST
Early Registration Deadline	June 30, 2017 (All speakers must register by this date)
Registration Deadline	July 31, 2017 (On-site registration is still possible after this date)
Conference	August 14-16, 2017

Confirmed Plenary Speakers

Ilan Adler, UC Berkeley
Immanuel Bomze, University of Vienna, Austria
Jesús A. De Loera, UC Davis
Joaquim R. R. A. Martins, University of Michigan
Kaisa Miettinen, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
Nikolaos Sahinidis, Carnegie-Mellon University

Contact Information

Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Lehigh University 200 W. Packer Ave., Bethlehem PA 18015, USA
Phone: +1 610.758.4050 Fax: +1 610.758.4886

Questions about the program, plenaries, and abstracts should be directed to:

János D. Pintér, Conference Chair jdp416@lehigh.edu

Questions about the AIMMS/MOPTA Optimization Modeling Competition 2017 should be directed to:

Martin Takáč mat614@lehigh.edu or Peter Nieuwesteeg Peter.Nieuwesteeg@aimms.com

Questions about registration, travel, and accommodation options should be directed to:

Kathy G. Rambo kgr0@lehigh.edu or Abby E. Barlok aeb213@lehigh.edu

We look forward to welcoming you at MOPTA 2017!

PRELIMINARY CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND SESSIONS

ECSO 2017 will be held on September 20-22, 2017, in Rome, Italy. It is the 2nd edition of a stream of triennial conferences organized by the [EURO Working Group on Stochastic Optimization \(EWGSO\)](#). The previous edition was held in Paris in 2014.

The scope of this EWGSO Conference ECSO 2017 “Stochastic Optimization in Service Science” is to discuss the latest trends and challenges in Stochastic Optimization and its applications. The conference aims to bring together the leading researchers in Stochastic Optimization and practitioners in the field. Participants are welcome from academia and industry, media and institutions concerned with data uncertainty as well as decision making involving stochastic applications in services.

Young researchers and PhD students starting or developing their research related to Stochastic Optimization are encouraged to present their work for discussion and take part in the sessions and plenary lectures on the challenging topics of Stochastic Optimization theory and practice, held during the conference.

The conference will be held at the [Engineering School of Roma Tre University](#) in Rome, Italy.

ECSO 2017 will accept contributions related to Stochastic Optimization theory and applications, with particular emphasis on Service Science. The program of the conference consists of plenary lectures and parallel organized sessions.

Confirmed Plenary Speakers

Nicholas G. Hall (The Ohio State University)

Rüdiger Schultz (Universität Duisburg-Essen)

The complete list of Plenary Speakers will be given in the conference website, and in successive announcements.

Call for Abstracts and Sessions

We invite authors to submit high quality contributions describing significant results on different research topics related to Stochastic Optimization, including:

stochastic programming	simulation-optimization
large-scale stochastic optimization	machine-learning techniques
chance constrained programming	data-driven methods for stochastic
multistage stochastic programming	optimization
robustness and stability in stochastic	robust optimization
programming problems	modeling support and model management
risk measures and stochastic dominance	for stochastic programs

and on Service Science applications of Stochastic Optimization including, but not limited to, the following domains:

finance	supply chains
energy planning	oil and gas industry
healthcare	equilibrium problems and stochastic gaming
transportation	environment and sustainable development
logistics	ICT solutions and networks
project management	public sector analytics
smart cities	social networks
food and sustainability	

All researchers, academics, practitioners and students working on the conference themes are invited to participate to ECSO 2017 submitting a contribution proposal, and proposing sessions. ECSO 2017 allows submissions in the following categories:

Contribution proposals (One-Page-Abstract) – Deadline: April, 30 - 2017

Contributions will be selected by the International Program Committee to be presented in the conference and included in the book of abstracts which will be delivered during the conference. An edited volume with the conference proceedings (selected full papers) will be published at the end of the event. Contribution proposals should be submitted as a single PDF file as described in the [Conference Website](#). Information about post-conference special issues on recognized international journals will be given in the Conference Website, and in successive announcements.

Session proposals (Max 3 pages) – Deadline: March, 20 - 2017

Topics of interest include all areas of Stochastic Optimization. ECSO 2017 specifically welcomes sessions (composed of 4 contributions) tackling novel, cutting-edge topics, sessions covering lesser-addressed sub-areas, cross-discipline sessions and sessions dealing with possible and expected future evolutions of the Stochastic Optimization in Service Science. The organizers of approved sessions are responsible for advertising their sessions and will be involved in the review process. Organizers are expected to attend and chair their sessions. Session proposals should be submitted (by email to ecso2017@ing.uniroma3.it) as a single PDF file (max 3 pages) containing the following information: title, organizer(s), topic description, and a preliminary/tentative list of contributions.

Accepted contributions included in the conference program will appear in the ECSO 2017 booklet of abstract which will be delivered during the event. Information about post-conference Proceedings and Special Issues on indexed international journals will be given in the conference website and in successive announcements. A pdf version of this preliminary CfP and more detailed information about submissions, important dates and registration procedure are given on the Conference Website: <http://ecso2017.inf.uniroma3.it/>

Organization

General Conference Chairs

Carlo Meloni (Chair), Politecnico di Bari

Dario Pacciarelli (Co-Chair), Università Roma Tre

Local Organizing Committee

Andrea D'Ariano, Università Roma Tre
Gabriella Dellino, Politecnico di Bari
Renato Mari, ACT-Operations Research
Carlo Meloni (Chair), Politecnico di Bari

Dario Pacciarelli (Co-Chair), Università Roma Tre
Marco Pranzo, Università di Siena
Marcella Samà, Università Roma Tre

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Giorgio Consigli, Italy
Gabriella Dellino, Italy
Laureano Escudero, Spain
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Milos Kopa, Czech Republic
Abdel Lisser, France
Francesca Maggioni, Italy
Carlo Meloni (Co-Chair), Italy

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Inneke Van Nieuwenhuyse, Belgium
Georg Pflug, Austria
Dario Pacciarelli, Italy
Leonidas Sakalauskas, Lithuania
Rüdiger Schultz, Germany
Asgeir Tomasgaard, Norway
Daniele Vigo, Italy
Stein W. Wallace, Norway

Contact Us

For more detailed information please visit the Conference Website:

<http://ecso2017.inf.uniroma3.it/>

For any inquiry concerning the conference, please contact:

ecso2017@ing.uniroma3.it

Summer School on Optimization, Big data and Applications (OBA)

<http://webgol.dinfo.unifi.it/oba/info>

We are pleased to announce the
“Summer School on Optimization, Big data and Applications (OBA)”

Dates: 2-8 July, 2017

Venue: Veroli (Italy)

The fee of the School is 100 euros.
The accommodations expenses for six nights are 150 euros.

The event’s web site is <http://webgol.dinfo.unifi.it/oba/info>

The School is intended to be an advanced course for Master, PhD students, Postdocs.
The number of participants is limited to 50.
The main objective of the School is to provide machine learning models and novel optimization algorithms for big data problems and applications.

The lectures will be given by:

- C.J. Lin <http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin>
- S. Sathya Keerthi <http://www.keerthis.com/>
- L. Palagi <http://www.dis.uniroma1.it/~palagi>
- M. Pontil <https://www.iit.it/it/people/massimiliano-pontil>

Scientific organizer: Marco Sciandrone

Contact: optbigdata2017@gmail.com

Local Organization:

- Marco Sciandrone
- Fabio Schoen
- Leonardo Galli
- Giulio Galvan
- Tommaso Levato

Remembrance Day for Jon Borwein

<https://carma.newcastle.edu.au/eventprint.php?n=925>

A remembrance day dedicated to the memory of Jonathan Michael Borwein will be taking place on Friday February 10th, 2017 at the Institut Henri Poincaré in Paris.

Speakers on that day will be:

- Fran. J. Aragon (University of Alicante)
- David H. Bailey (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory)
- Patrick Combettes (North Carolina State University)
- Ivar Ekeland (University Paris-Dauphine)
- Martin Grötschel (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften)
- Alexander Ioffe (Technion)
- Adrian S. Lewis (Cornell University)
- Matthew Tam (University of Göttingen)
- Luc Trouche (Ecole Normale Supérieure, Lyon)
- Qiji Jim Zhu (Western Michigan University)

More details can be found on the meeting website.

Contact: Prof. Michel Théra (University of Limoges and Federation University).

Report of SIMANTAP 2016

SIMANTAP 2016 in Medan, Sumatra: A Window for OR in Indonesia

The National Seminar on Mathematics and its Applications (SiManTap2016) (<http://ocs.usu.ac.id/simantap/2016>) with the theme “Mathematics and Educational Mathematics are Keywords for Better Living” was held at the University of Sumatera Utara, Medan, Indonesia on November 28-29, 2016. It was a collaborative effort between the Indonesian Mathematical Society (IndoMS) - Aceh-North Sumatra Region, and further universities of Indonesia. The seminar, which was attended by 350 participants out of which 190 are paper presenters, aimed to provide a forum for researchers, lecturers, educators and students to exchange ideas, to communicate and discuss research findings and new advances in Mathematics. It further aimed to explore possible avenues to foster academic and student exchange, as well as scientific activities within the region. Topics discussed during the event included Mathematics and its applications and other related operations research topics.

The first SiManTap seminar was dated way back November 28-29, 2010, and was then organized by the University of Sumatera Utara of Medan, Indonesia. Succeeding SiManTap seminars were prepared by other higher educational institutions of Indonesia in collaboration with IndoMS. All the annual seminars held took place at every November 28-29.

It is worthwhile to note that the core team of SiManTap2016 consists of the main organizers of the celebrated InteriOR (International Conference on Operational Research). That conference is a biennial event, located in Medan; it was held for the first time in the year 2011, and has served as a gate to and from international OR, especially, with very active connections to EURO and IFORS and to their renowned EURO and IFORS Conference series.

Highlights of the conference SiManTap2016 included the Plenary Talks of:

- Prof. Dr. Dian Armanto (KOPERTIS WIL - I) on *Mathematics For All and All For Mathematics*
- Prof. Dr. Vincent Geiger (Australian Catholic University, Australia) on *Seeking Out and Taking Advantage and Opportunities for Mathematical Literacy Across the Curriculum*
- Dr. Intan Detiena Muchtadi (Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia) on *Implementation of Messaging and Pollard Rho Attack in Elliptic Curve Cryptography*
- Prof. Dr. Ismail Bin Mohd (University Malaysia Perlis, Malaysia) on *Mathematical Concept of Wakap*
- Dr. Mardiningsih (Universitas Sumatera Utara, Indonesia) on *A Solution Method of Mathematical Model for Combinatoric Polynomial*
- Dr. Intan Syahrini (Universitas Syiah Kuala, Indonesia) on *Integer Programming Model for Production and Distribution Planning Problem of Fish Processed Product with Multiple Plants.*

The participants gave positive feedbacks and comments regarding the seminar and the preparations done, the plenary lectures and also the paper presentations. Every participant enjoyed listening to the talks, and so many commented that they learned a lot and had a great

experience by meeting other research enthusiasts from different parts of the region and from all over the world.

The event was over-all evaluated as a very successful one indeed.

Now, we are very much looking forward to IFORS 2017, in Québec, Canada, during July 15-21, 2017 (<http://ifors2017.ca/>), under the theme of “OR/Analytics for a better world” and with the Medan team around Stream Organizer Prof. Dr. Herman Mawengkang planning to be strongly represented again as at so many of our conferences before, and to InteriOR 2017, The 4th International Conference on Operational Research, in Medan, Indonesia, during August 21-23, 2017 (interior2017.esy.es), with the theme “Better Living with Operations Research”!

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Report of ICCESN 2016

Connections of Science, Engineering and Operational Research in Times of “Big Data”

Elaborated and Discussed at ICCESN 2016 in Antalya, Turkey

The 3rd International Conference on Computational and Experimental Science and Engineering (ICCESN 2016) was held in Antalya, Turkey, in the period of October 19-24, 2016. The event was organised by the chair Prof. Dr. Iskender Akkurt from Süleyman Demirel University, Isparta, Turkey, and by the organization committee from various universities of Turkey.

After two successful organizations of ICCESN 2014 and ICCESN 2015 (we reported on them in the Newsletter), ICCESN 2016 (<http://www.iccesn.org/>) again provided an excellent global forum for sharing knowledge and expertise of the researchers. This international conference covered highlights about new results in the wide spectrum of categories from natural science, social science and engineering in theory, methods and applications.

The academic program included plenary talks from recognized academicians. These talks included:

- *Monotonicity Recovering Methods for Postprocessing Finite Element Solutions* by Prof. Oleg Burdakov (Linköping University Department of Mathematics Linköping-Sweden)
- *Development of Laser Device Based on Glass Material* by Prof. Dr. Mitra Djamal (Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia)
- *Küresellesme-Bilim ve Teknoloji Ekseninde Toplumsal Çözümle* by Prof. Dr. Mustafa Eravci (Yildirim Beyazıt University, Ankara, Turkey)
- *The Impact of Knowledge Technology for Industry 4.0* by Prof. Dr. Madji Fathi (Dept. of EECS University of Siegen, Germany)
- *Production of The Charged Particles: Laser Based Techniques* by Prof. Dr. Hamdi Şükür Kiliç (Selçuk University, Konya, Turkey)
- *Laser Driven Beam Therapy - Where are we now?* by Dr. Ken Ledingham (Strathclyde University, Glasgow, Scotland, UK)
- *On the Mixed Set Packing and Covering Problem* by Prof. Dr. Jenny Leung (The Chinese University of Hong Kong, China; Professor Leung could not attend in person)
- *Radiation Protection Evaluations for the ELI-NP Facility with FLUKA Monte Carlo Code* by Dr. Maria-Ana Popovici (Politehnica University, Bucharest, Romania)
- *Controlling Factors which Influence the Quality of Primary Education in Developing Countries* by Prof. Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber (Middle East Technical University Ankara).

One of us, Zehra, who has attended many EURO and IFORS conferences in recent years, participated for the first time at the ICCESN conference series. She joined ICCESN 2016 with a local team from her home university. Her coauthor of this report, Willi, took part for the third time already. This congress was a very good chance to discuss about the emerging connections between science, engineering and Operational Research. The scholars gathers emphasized on the interactions between OR and, e.g., biology, social sciences, energy, finance, decision support systems and data science. For instance, in their talks, Dr. Madji Fathi, Dr. Bilgehan Erdem and Zeynep Idil Erzurum Çiçek took attention about the “big data” and the importance

of tools to use these data. In this perspective, Operational Research, applied mathematics and statistics came into the foreground. The presentations about the connections between Civil Engineering subjects with applied mathematics and statistics were beneficial, too. Willi's invited talk also gave a different perspective for researchers about system dynamics applications in the area of Education. Based on this topic, new project ideas began to be talked by us, related with the "big data" in Anadolu University (Eskisehir, Turkey) which is the world's second biggest "Mega University", conducting so much educational work by far-distance learning with so many students worldwide.

About 800 abstracts from 45 countries were submitted to ICCESN 2016. Personally, we exchanged with attendees from Algeria, Iran, Germany, etc., we spoke about how Operational Research can help in times of migration, of challenges in integration, of providing information, healthcare, education, etc., through advanced processing, mining and use of "big data".

The participants of ICCESN 2016 had the opportunity to take part in the presentation of plenary lectures, contributed papers of both oral and poster session types, and of their scientific discussions. Those were done on different topics which were organized in 15 themes and sessions.

After his lecture and at the conference dinner, Willi who also served in the Scientific Committee of ICCESN 2016 and is Advisor EURO Conferences, informed about our OR community and cordially invited the participants to two highlights in the OR calendar of the next two years: IFORS 2017 (to be held in Quebec City, Canada) and EURO 2018 (to be held in Valencia, Spain). He is very grateful to the conference organizers of ICCESN 2016 for their kind interest in our families of EURO and IFORS, for supporting Operational Research in their community of electrical and electronics engineering, of the sectors of energy and power supply, of radiology and medicine.



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Special issue of OMS

Call for Papers
Special Issue of Optimization Methods and Software
*“Advances of Optimization in
Science, Economics, Engineering and Medicine”*
to participants of the
**3rd International Conference on
Computational and Experimental Science and Engineering
(ICCESEN 2016)**

Papers presented at the *International Conference on Computational and Experimental Science and Engineering, ICCESEN 2016*, October 19-24, 2016, Kemer, Antalya, Turkey (<http://www.iccesen.org/>), will be considered for peer-reviewed publication in a special issue of the journal *Optimization Methods and Software (OMS)*: <http://www.tandfonline.com/goms>.

The quality and topics of the submissions should correspond to the high standards of publications in OMS and its Aims and Scope:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/journalInformation?show=aimsScope&journalCode=goms20>.

The deadline for submission is **March 15, 2017**.

The paper length should **not** exceed 25 journal pages.

Submissions should follow the journal's style and guidelines presented here:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=goms20&page=instructions>.

Manuscript submission must be made online via the journal's ScholarOne Manuscripts site

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/goms>.

To specify the special issue, choose “**ICCESEN-2016**”.

In case of any question, please contact by e-mail either the guest editor

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or, alternatively, OMS Editor-in-Chief: Prof. Dr. Oleg Burdakov: oleg.burdakov@liu.se.

PhD position at Universität München

PhD Position



Formal methods in control (Munich, Germany)

We invite applications for a doctoral researcher position in the field of formal methods in control. The successful candidate is expected to advance theory of as well as computational methods for abstraction-based controller synthesis, to a degree that facilitates routine, fully automated, practical application of the approach to nonlinear continuous-state plants and complex specifications. The focus is on synthesis algorithms that are both efficient and formally correct.

The project involves theoretical work, algorithm and software development, and, on a small scale, experimental work. There is no teaching requirement and no coursework to be completed. Competitive salary is offered according to the tariff "TVOeD Bund, E 13".

Required qualifications:

- MSc degree (or equivalent, giving access to doctoral studies) in Electrical Engineering, Mathematics, Computer Science, or a related field. Students about to complete their MSc will also be considered.
- Excellent academic record, showing a strong theoretical/mathematical background and a strong interest in dynamical systems.
- Proficiency in programming (C or Ada/SPARK).
- Excellent communication skills in English (CEFR level C1).

In addition, experience in one of the following fields would be a plus: Set-valued or validated numerics; dynamic programming; formal methods in control; reactive synthesis; professional-grade software development.

Your complete application consists of the following documents, which should be sent as a single PDF file to the email address given below (deadline: Feb 15, 2016): CV with photo; one-page cover letter (clearly indicating available start date as well as relevant qualifications, experience and motivation); university certificates and transcripts (both BSc and MSc degrees); contact details of up to three referees; possibly an English language certificate and a list of publications. All documents should be in English, with the exception of university certificates and transcripts, which may also be in German. The position is open to applicants worldwide; no special security clearance necessary.

Priv.-Doz. Dr. habil. Gunther Reissig	University of the Armed Forces Munich
Email: gunther2014@reisszig.de	Department of Aerospace Engineering
Subject: PhD ref 1777	Institute of Control Engineering
http://www.reisszig.de/gunther/	Germany

Optimal control under stochastic, impulsive, regime switching and paradigm shifting environments

Between November 23 and December 4, 2016, Prof. Dr. Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber visited Japan and Taiwan as a part of his annual travel program of 2016.

He gave seminars of various subjects at Konan University (Kobe), Kansai University (Osaka), National Taiwan University of Science and Technology and National Taiwan University (Taipei).

The following video may give an impression:

http://ifors.org/developing_countries/index.php?title=Optimal_control_under_stochastic,_impulsive,_regime_switching_and_paradigm_shifting_environments

An international chair to optimise smart grids

Professor Miguel Anjos of the Mathematics and Industrial Engineering Department at Polytechnique Montreal, was awarded an Inria international chair which allows him to collaborate with the Inocs research team of Inria Lille-Nord Europe for a period of five years.

His mission: to study the optimization of smart electrical distribution systems, more commonly known as “smart grids”:

<https://www.inria.fr/en/centre/lille/news/an-international-chair-to-optimise-smart-grids>

Contacts

EUROPT: <http://europt.iam.metu.edu.tr/>

People wishing to send a message to the EUROPT mailing list should contact our web administrator Semih Kuter semihkuter@yahoo.com. The message will then be distributed upon approval by the EUROPT Managing Board.

For specific questions, the members of the Managing Board can be contacted:

- Julius Žilinskas, chair julius.zilinskas@mii.vu.lt
- Giancarlo Bigi, website editor giancarlo.bigi@unipi.it
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- Dmitri Kvasov, events coordinator kvadim@si.dimes.unical.it
- Fabio Schoen, relations coordinator fabio.schoen@unifi.it
- Andreas Grothey, treasurer A.Grothey@ed.ac.uk

Editor's notes

Dear members of EUROPT, dear readers,

In this first Newsletter of 2017 we are pleased to advertise a number of forthcoming events, among which the next EUROPT Workshop that this year will be held in Montréal. You can also find reports of past events and announcements, that we are pleased to share.

Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this issue.

The Newsletter Editor

Sonia Cafieri

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