

International Conference on Semigroups and Automata (CSA 2016) Celebrating the 60th Birthdays of Jorge Almeida and Gracinda Gomes

Mário Branco* and Pedro V. Silva**



The *International Conference on Semigroups and Automata (CSA 2016)* was held in *The Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisboa*, from the 20th to the 24th June 2016. CIM assumed the role of host institution.

This conference was organized with the purpose of celebrating the 60th birthdays of Professors Jorge Almeida (Univ. Porto) and Gracinda Gomes (Univ. Lisboa) for their extraordinary role over the years in the development of semigroup theory, in Portugal and abroad. Recognition of their work by the international community contributed decisively to achieve a record number of 117 participants for a semigroup conference and to the high quality of the program.

Some financial support was available for students and young researchers, which were encouraged to participate. The program included 19 invited talks and 33 contributed

talks. They illustrated recent trends of semigroup theory, and connections to automata theory and many other areas: category theory, combinatorics, computational algebra, dynamical systems, geometry, group theory, logic, operator theory, probability theory, ring theory, topology. The detailed program and the slides of many talks can be found on

<http://ciencias.ulisboa.pt/en/conferencia/csa-2016>.

We present next some basic information:

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE: Karl Auinger, Peter Cameron, Volker Diekert, John Fountain, Mark Lawson, Stuart Margolis, John Meakin, Jean-Eric Pin, Benjamin Steinberg, Mikhail Volkov.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: Mário Branco, Alfredo Costa, Manuel Delgado, Vítor Hugo Fernandes, António Malheiro, Ana Moura, Catarina Santa-Clara, Pedro Silva.

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INVITED SPEAKERS: João Araújo, Karl Auinger, José Carlos Costa, Volker Diekert, Ruy Exel, Victoria Gould, Robert Gray, Mark Kambites, Ganna Kudryavtseva, Mark Lawson, Markus Lohrey, Volodymyr Mazorchuk, Jean-Eric Pin, John Rhodes, Emanuele Rodaro, Anne Schilling, Benjamin Steinberg, Mária Szendrei, Marc Zeitoun.

SPONSORS: CIM, CEMAT, CMA (with NOVA.ID.FCT), CMUC, CMUP, FCT (with COMPETE, QREN, UE), FCT-UNL, FCUL, UP.

We include some comments from two members of the Scientific Committee which are experts in both semigroup and automata theory:

Jean-Eric Pin (CNRS/Univ. Paris-Diderot): “(. . .) Thanks to the efforts of a mixed team from Porto and Lisbon, the conference was perfectly organised and both the scientific and the social aspects were a great success. The conference attracted about 120 people from all over the world. The programme covered most of the major current research topic

on semigroups and automata.

“The high quality of the scientific programme and the birthday celebrations of our colleagues made this conference a unique moment in the history of semigroup theory.”

Mikhail Volkov (Ural Federal Univ.): “CSA 2016 was a clear scientific success. As a member of the Scientific Committee I had been involved in the process of selecting invited speakers and contributed talks, and the presentations held at the conference confirmed that the selection had been done properly. The conference was very representative in many senses: first, all leading groups in semigroup theory were involved, second, all major directions of the theory and its applications to various parts of mathematics and computer science were shown, and last but not least, both renowned specialists and young researchers were given the opportunity to present their achievements. (. . .)”