



# Transnational News

## ***TELSIKS 2007: Eighth International Conference on Telecommunications in Modern Satellite, Cable, and Broadcasting Services***

■ Bratislav Milovanović

The 8th International Conference on Telecommunications in Modern Satellite, Cable, and Broadcasting Services (TELSIKS 2007) was held at the University of Niš Faculty of Electronic Engineering in Niš, Serbia, on 26–28 September 2007. The series of biennial TELSIS conferences started in 1993. The first two conferences had national character, and since 1997 the TELSIS conference has become an international event and has received technical sponsorship from IEEE. The University of Niš Faculty of Electronic Engineering organized the first seven conferences, and in 2007 the National Society for Microwave Technique and Technologies joined with the Faculty of Electronic Engineering in organizing the conference.

TELSIKS 2007 was organized under the technical co-sponsorship of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S), IEEE Communications Society, IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society, and IEEE Region 8, and in cooperation with the IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section, the IEEE MTT-S

Chapter and IEEE Communications Chapter of Serbia and Montenegro as well as with National Society for Telecommunications and Society for ETRAN. The conference was also supported by the Serbian Academy of Science and Art, the Academy of Engineering Science of Serbia and Montenegro, the Ministry of Science, and the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society.

The conference began on 26 September with an opening ceremony. Prof. Bratislav Milovanović, chairman of the conference, gave a welcome speech to the conference participants. Other welcome addresses were given by academician Prof. Aleksandar Marinčić; Prof. Vladimir Katić, chair of the IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section; Prof. Zorica Pantić, Wentworth Institute of Technology, USA; Prof. Dragan Antić, dean of the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, Niš; as well as Prof. Aleksandra Smiljanić, Serbian Minister for Telecommunication and Information Society, who officially opened the conference.

After the opening ceremony, a plenary session was organized that contained two keynote lectures given by

Prof. Steve Maas, Applied Wave Research, Inc., El Segundo, California, USA, and Prof. Mauricio Bozzi, University of Pavia, Italia.

Paper presentations were organized within 12 regular and eight poster sessions. The papers scheduled for presentation were accepted according to the opinion of at least three members of the International Review Board. The papers

covered a wide range of topics: RF and microwave technique, electromagnetic compatibility, antennas and propagation, satellite communications, mobile communications, classical cable

and optical communications, multimedia communications, digital signal processing, broadband wireless access, telecommunication networks, modulation and coding, Internet technologies, new telecommunication technologies and services. In addition to the contributed papers, each session had at least one invited keynote paper. The total number of papers scheduled for presentation was 135.

Authors of the papers were scientists representing the following countries: Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Greece, Egypt,



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*TELSIS 2007 Opening Session: Conference Chair Milovanović is giving the welcome speech. Seated are Chairmen Kim, Maas, Marinčić, and Berceli.*



*Sightseeing: The Skull tower.*



*The "Microwave Technique I" session.*



*The conference dinner: Prof. Maas with his wife, Prof. Milovanović, and Prof. Kim*



*Prof. Berceli gives a lecture during the Advances in Microwave and Optical Technology and Design Workshop.*



*A meeting with some of the invited authors.*

India, Iran, Italia, Libya, Hungary, Macedonia, Montenegro, Germany, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, South Korea, Turkey, Ukraine, Switzerland, Spain, United Kingdom, and United States.

All accepted, contributed, and invited papers were published prior to the conference. The proceedings, composed of two books and accompanied with a CD-ROM version, were distributed to all registered participants. It is important to note that the conference proceedings will also be distributed by the IEEE Conference Publications Program. Almost all members of IEEE MTT-S Serbia and Montenegro Chapter participated in organizing the conference and/or presented their scientific papers.

In addition to the paper presentations, there were many other activities during the conference. On 26 September, a roundtable titled "The Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions and Academic Curricula" took place. The goal of this roundtable was to clarify forthcoming activities of the Commission on Accreditation and Quality Evaluation in the accreditation process of academic curricula and higher education institutions as well as to clarify the role and importance of developed software support to improve the efficiency and quality of accreditation. Another goal was to clarify certain dilemmas in applying adopted standards, especially in the area of academic doctoral studies and study programs realized through distance learning, based on experience from the previous accreditation cycle of vocational studies and international experience.

On 27 September, two workshops took place. The first workshop, "Advances in Microwave and Optical Technology and Design," contained two lectures: "Methods for Nonlinear RF Circuit Design and

Analysis," given by Prof. Steve Maas, and "Optical Generation of Microwave Signals," given by Prof. Tibor Berceli (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary).

The second workshop, held in Serbian, was organized in cooperation with the Serbian Engineering Chamber. Within this workshop members of the Serbian Engineering Chamber presented to the audience recent telecommunication systems in modern business buildings in Serbia. This workshop gathered the attention not only of Serbian conference participants but also of telecommunication engineers and final-year students of the Faculty of Electronic Engineering.

Also on 27 September, a roundtable on the topic of "Digital Radio Broadcasting in the Republic of Serbia Until Year 2015" was held. The aim of this roundtable was to discuss the introduction of digital broadcasting in Serbia, including regulatory aspects and activities on definition and financing of further projects concerning digital broadcasting.

Presentation of scientific journals was given on 26 September. The first journal presented was the newest issue of *Mikrotalasna Revija (Microwave Review)*, published by the National Society for Microwave Technique and Technologies and the IEEE MTT-S Chapter of Serbia and Montenegro. Potential authors were invited to submit papers for the national journal *Telekomunikacije (Telecommunications)*, published in 2007 by the Republic Telecommunication Agency (formerly published by the National Society of Telecommunications). Also on 26 September, meetings of the Executive Committee of the IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section and the IEEE Women in Engineering Chapter of Serbia and Montenegro were held.

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On 27 September, Jovan Filipović from the Serbian Ministry of Diaspora gave a presentation on the Ministry project "Scientific Partnership of Serbia and its Diaspora."

A meeting of Serbian Society of Cable Operators (YU Cable) was held on 28 September.

Also during the conference, presentations of equipment from leading ICT companies Ericsson, Telegroup, and iNova were given.

As in previous years, besides the technical scientific activities, the conference program included several social events. On the first day of the conference, Prof. R. Bujan, the rector of the University of Niš, arranged a meeting with the invited authors at the University building. After the reception, a suitable concert in the Symphonic Orchestra Hall was organized for all conference participants. The concert was given by the Female Choir and Chamber Orchestra of the University of Niš. On the second day, between the morning and afternoon sessions, a sightseeing guided tour was arranged for all interested participants. They visited several interesting archaeological sites from the Roman and Turkish times and saw the modern part of the city. On the same day, a conference banquet in one of the best restaurants in the city was held. The participants and guests enjoyed fine national cuisine, good beverages, and exclusive live music including traditional songs and dances.

TELSIKS 2007 gathered many people who work in the field of telecommunications and provided them with good opportunities for discussions, experience exchange, and making new contacts. The conference attendees emphasized that both the professional part of the conference and the organizational part left very good impressions. TELSIS has been evaluated as a leading scientific conference in the field of modern telecommunication technologies in Central and Southeastern Europe. In addition, the participants have emphasized that they enjoyed a very pleasant atmosphere and outstanding hospitality during the conference. 