

>> *Iain S. Duff* (STFC-RAL, UK, and CERFACS, France); *Francisco Facchinei* (Sapienza University, Italy); *David M. Gay* (AMPL Optimization, Inc., USA); *Desmond J. Higham* (University of Edinburgh, UK); *Michael Hintermüller* (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany); *Sven Leyffer* (Argonne National Laboratory, USA); *Nezam Mahdavi-Amiri* (Sharif University of Technology, Iran); *Pammy Manchanda* (Guru Nanak Dev University, India); *Dominique Orban* (Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal, Canada); *Michael Overton* (New York University, USA); *Amiya Kumar Pani* (Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India); *Janos D. Pinter* (Lehigh University, USA); *Cornelis Roos* (Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands); *Ekkehard W. Sachs* (University of Trier, Germany, and North Carolina State University (SAMS), USA); *Jesús María Sanz-Serna* (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain); *Michael Saunders* (Stanford University, USA); *Abulhasan Siddiqi* (Sharda University, India); *Trond Steihaug* (University of Bergen, Norway); *Philippe L. Toint* (University of Namur, Belgium); *Maria Teresa Vespucci* (University of Bergamo, Italy); *Andrew Wathen* (Oxford University, UK) and *YaXiang Yuan* (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China).

Some selected papers based on the invited talks presented at the conference *NAOV-2020* will be peer-reviewed for possible publication in an edited book of conference proceedings to be published by Springer as a series of the Springer Proceedings in Mathematics and Statistics (PROMS – website: <https://www.springer.com/series/10533>), and some selected papers from the contributed talks will be peer-reviewed for possible publication in a special issue of the following international journals: *Optimization Methods and Software – OMS* (website: <http://www.tandfonline.com/goms20>); *Springer Nature Operations Research Forum – SN ORFO* (website: <https://www.springer.com/journal/43069>); and *SQU Journal*



▲ Opening Ceremony of the Conference NAOV-2020, from the right: Professors Desmond Higham, Mehiddin Al-Baali, Iain Duff, Ahmed Al-Salman, Ahmed Al-Rawas, Ali bin Saud Al-Bimani, Nasser Al-Salti, Magda Al-Hinai, Mrs. Pinter, Janos Pinter and Adil Bagirov.

for Science (website: <https://journals.squ.edu.om/index.php/squjs/index>).

The publications from the previous NAO conference series include an edited book of Springer series on Proceedings in Mathematics and Statistics, Volume 134 (2015): <https://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319176888> and Volume 235 (2018): <https://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319900254>; special edited issues of SQU Journal for Science, volume 17 (2012) part 1 on Numerical Optimization: <https://journals.squ.edu.om/index.php/squjs/issue/view/44> and volume 17 (2012) part 2 on Numerical Analysis: <https://journals.squ.edu.om/index.php/squjs/issue/view/45>; volume 20 (2015): <https://journals.squ.edu.om/index.php/squjs/issue/view/50> and volume 23 (2018): <https://journals.squ.edu.om/index.php/squjs/issue/view/197>. 🌐

## OPTIMA NOVEMBER 2019 IN SANTA CRUZ, CHILE: CELEBRATING THREE DECADES OF OR CONFERENCE TRADITION

**Víctor M. Albornoz** <[victor.albornoz@usm.cl](mailto:victor.albornoz@usm.cl)>; **Oscar C. Vasquez** <[oscar.vasquez@usach.cl](mailto:oscar.vasquez@usach.cl)>

Since nearly three decades, *OPTIMA* has been the traditional bi-annual event organized by *ICHIO* (The Chilean Institute of Operational Research) jointly with a Chilean university. This event aimed to gather senior and young researchers (undergraduate and graduate students), mainly from Chile, in order to promote research activities and networking in the OR community.

**OPTIMA 2019 - XIII Chilean Conference on Operations Research** (<http://www.optima2019.cl/>) took place in Santa Cruz, a beautiful city located 177 km south of Santiago, Chile, from 25th to 27th of November, organized by the Industrial Engineering Department of the Universidad de Santiago de Chile (<http://www.ingenieriaindustrial-usach.cl/>).



▲ Prof. Dr. Mauricio Camargo, Keynote Speaker at OPTIMA 2019.

In this edition, **OPTIMA 2019** had the pleasure to organize two plenary sessions by OR specialists **Mauricio Camargo**, Director of the Research Team on Innovative Processes and Full Professor of Industrial Engineering School, University of Lorraine, Nancy, France, and **Safia Kedad-Sidhoum**, Co-Director of Parisian Master of Operational Research, Paris Saclay, and Full Professor of Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, Paris, France.

In addition, 72 research works were presented and discussed in different parallel sessions in the most important OR topics. Two student awards were granted for outstanding presentations, to **Ana Ulloa**, a postgraduate student from Universidad de la Santísima Concepción, Chile, and **Juan Carlos Piña**, a postgraduate student from Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Chile.

**OPTIMA 2019** also included three social events: a *Welcome Reception*, a *Closing Reception* and a visit to Santa Cruz Vineyard, where a *Social Banquet* and some *tourist activities* were carried out. All social events were successful, especially the social banquet in the vineyard, an exceptional meeting point where



▲ Ana Ulloa, who received a Student Award, Prof. Dr. Víctor M. Alborno (President of ICHIO) and Prof. Dr. Óscar C. Vásquez (Chair of OPTIMA 2019), from left to right.

professional and human relationships of OR community were established in a very nice environment. 🌍



## OR WORKSHOP IN POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, POLAND, OCTOBER 2019, AVENUES OF MODERN OR

Joanna Majchrzak <joanna.majchrzak@put.poznan.pl>; Arkadiusz Kalemba <arkadiusz.kalemba@put.poznan.pl>

In October 2019, Poznan University of Technology, PUT ([put.poznan.pl/en](http://put.poznan.pl/en)) hosted astrophysics, associate professorship at the University of Florida in Gainesville Prof. Dr. Josef Kallrath ([users.astro.ufl.edu/~kallrath/](mailto:users.astro.ufl.edu/~kallrath/)) in the form of a **small Workshop**. Prof. Kallrath spent three days and discussed with representatives from Faculty of Computer Science, PUT ([fc.put.poznan.pl/en](http://fc.put.poznan.pl/en)), and from Faculty of Engineering Management, PUT ([fem.put.poznan.pl/en](http://fem.put.poznan.pl/en)). During the visit, there was the time for not only scientific exchange and consultations during the official meetings, but also for social programs and exchange of general ideas on life. Before the scientific program started, a Poznan Old Town sightseeing and a visit to another city of Greater Poland, the first capital (along with Poznan) of Poland, Gniezno, took place. The broad range of scientific interests which relate Prof. Dr. Josef Kallrath with PUT researchers was considered in a "session" of meeting with Prof. Dr. hab. inż. Roman Słowiński (Faculty of Computing and Institute of Computing Science, Laboratory of Intelligent Decision Support Systems, PUT).

During his **seminar** at Institute of Computing Science, Poznan University of Technology, Prof. Dr. Josef Kallrath (University of Florida, Gainesville, FL), presented his studies on Arrangements of Circles and Spheres leading to Convex Hulls with Minimal Boundaries. The presentation was related with cutting, packing, and minimal convex hulls in 2D and 3D, with a rich diversity of illustrations and valuable remarks. During the seminar, there was the chance for discussions related with a wide scope of Prof. Dr. Josef Kallrath's research interests, on

subjects of *large-scale optimization problem, decomposition methods, column generation techniques, and hybrid methods, parameter estimation in massive datasets from astronomical surveys, combining computational geometry and mathematical optimization*. The professional experience of the visitor, especially in solving industrial problems with a broad spectrum of scientific computing methods that range from physical modelling to decision process support, as well as production planning and scheduling by mathematical optimization, contributed a lot to the discussion among the researchers from hosting Faculty of Computing, PUT, and from Faculty of Engineering Management, PUT.



▲ Reception and discussions in the "Informatics Institute" (from left to right): Prof. Dr. hab. inż. Roman Słowiński (Faculty of Computing and Institute of Computing Science, Laboratory of Intelligent Decision Support Systems, PUT) with Prof. Dr. Josef Kallrath, Prof. Dr. hab. rer. nat. Gerhard-Wilhelm Weber, and Dr. inż. Joanna Majchrzak.