Brussels, 1972
Where, when and why EATCS and ICALP started

In those years

Informatics or computer science was seen by other disciplines and by many governments as simply a technology to support other enterprises. It was already clear however that to improve the correctness and efficiency of large-scale programs, theoretical studies were needed to investigate the principles and properties of computing. At the time, such work in Europe tended to be local and national. New funding for inter-European collaboration would be required.

First ICALP

On July 3-7, 1972, at IRIA (Rocquencourt, Paris) the first ICALP takes place. The Program Committee is C. Böhm, E. Bracciale, G. Fischer, G. Ausiello (I), M. Nivat, L. Nolin, M. Paterson, and M. Schützenberger (the latter two are from the UK and France respectively).

The program includes six accepted papers (in English; in French, 3 in total) on automata theory, theory of programming languages, of formal languages, and complexity of algorithms.

First Bulletin

On December 1973, Maurice Nivat proposes the First Bulletin of EATCS at IRIA, Rocquencourt, which includes the minutes of the first general assembly and council meeting, reports on the second EATCS congress, and provides activity reports of the MFCS and the first general assembly and council meeting.

EATCS Awards

Awarded annually since 2000, this honours scientists from the community of Theoretical Computer Science in acknowledgment of their extensive and widely recognized contributions over a lifetime scientific career.