



ROMÂNIA
UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI, CLUJ-NAPOCA
FACULTATEA DE MATEMATICĂ ŞI INFORMATICĂ

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Magnifice Rector,
Honoured President of the University Senate,
Illustrious Professors of the University Senate,
Honoured Vice-Rectors and Deans,
Dear colleagues and guests,

Over time, our faculty carried different names, reflecting the evolution and importance of the sciences involved: *Mathematics*, *Mathematics and Physics*, *Mathematics and Mechanics*. Since 1994, it is called the Faculty of *Mathematics and Computer Science*, as a recognition of the fast development of *Computer Science* as a new science, with its own identity.

Regular academic programs in Computer Science started in Babeş-Bolyai University (BBU) in 1971. Today, after more than 40 years, we are proud and honoured to bestow the degree of *Professor Honoris Causa* to an important computer scientist and one of the most important collaborators of our faculty: **Professor Wei-Ngan CHIN** from the National University of Singapore.

Dr. Wei-Ngan CHIN is Professor at the Department of Computer Science, School of Computing, National University of Singapore (NUS). He completed his Computer Science education in the UK: University of Manchester (1979-1983, Bachelor and Master degrees) and Imperial College, University of London (1987-1990), where he defended his PhD thesis titled *Automatic Methods for Program Transformation*.

During his academic career at NUS, Professor CHIN taught a number of 10 different courses, ranging from basic to advanced: *Digital Logic Design*, *Data Structures and Algorithms*, *Programming Language Concepts*, *Comparative Programming Languages*, *Formal Logic and Systems*, *Functional Programming*, *Programming Language Implementation*, *Computer Language Engineering*, *Foundations of Programming Languages*, and *Advanced Topics in Programming Languages*.

Professor Wei-Ngan CHIN's research directions include *software verification* - using verification to build secure software, *automated specification discovery for trusted software*, *automated verification via separation logic*, and *dependable software construction*. According to Google Scholar, his papers (a total of 58 in conference proceedings and 19 in journals, according to his CV) have

2015 citations (H-index 21, i10-index 52). According to Microsoft Research, Professor Chin's work was published in over 35 volumes of international conferences such as *Computer-Aided Verification*, *IEEE International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods*, *ICSE - International Conference on Software Engineering*, and 20 top-ranking journals like *ACM Sigplan Notices*, *Higher-Order and Symbolic Computation*, *Acta Informatica*, *Journal of Functional and Logic Programming*, and *Journal of Symbolic Computation*.

Professor CHIN is also an editor/co-editor of 6 volumes (proceedings of *ACM Partial Evaluation and Semantics-Based Program Manipulation 2014*, *ECOOP Formal Techniques for Java-like Programs 2012*, 8th Intl Symp *Automated Technology for Verification and Analysis 2010 LNCS*, 3rd IEEE Intl Symp *Theoretical Aspects of Software Engineering 2009*, Asian Symp on *Programming Languages and Systems 2004*, LNCS), *Asian Symp on Partial Evaluation and Semantics-Based Program Manipulation, 2002*, ACM Press), as well as a Special Issue (Vol. 17, No. 1-2) of *Journal of Higher Order and Symbolic Computation*, dedicated to *Partial Evaluation and Semantics-Based Program Manipulation*.

Unlike many branches of science, Computer Science has a distinctive feature in considering conferences and books as important as journals for disseminating important research contributions. Some of these conferences are extremely selective and carry more prestige than journals. Professor Wei-Ngan CHIN participated in the selection process of more than 50 such important events, either as general chair, co-chair, or member of the steering/program committees. Among the most important such conferences and workshops we must mention the ACM Intl Conf on *Functional Programming* (2004-2008), ACM Workshop on *Partial Evaluation and Semantics-Based Program Manipulation* (2010, 2014-2016), ACM Symp on *Principles on Programming Languages* POPL (2010 and 2015), ACM Workshop on *Formal Techniques for Java-like Programs* FTfJP (2012), ACM *Object-Oriented Programming Systems, Languages and Applications* OOPSLA/SPLASH (2010), *Asian Symposium on Programming Languages and Systems* APLAS Singapore (2014), *International Colloquium on Automata, Languages, and Programming* ICALP Japan (2015), *International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods* ICFEM (2010, 2012, 2013), Intl Symp on *Theoretical Aspects of Software Engineering* TASE (2012).

As a recognition of his remarkable scientific work, he was invited to give lectures at many important scientific events: 1st *France-Singapore Workshop on Formal Methods and Applications - 2013*, *International Conference on Knowledge and System Engineering* (KSE'12), *Theoretical Aspects of Software Engineering* (TASE'12), *IEEE Conference on Secure Software Integration and Reliability Improvement* (SSIRI'10), *Conference on Advanced Computing and Applications* (ACOMP'10), *JSSST Workshop on Programming and Programming Principles* (2000), *Fuji Workshop on Functional and Logic Programming* (1995), as well as the *Knowledge Engineering: Principles and Techniques* (KEPT'11 and KEPT'15) conference hosted by our University.

His scientific career was enriched by research invitations/visits to important universities and research laboratories: *Verimag* Grenoble, France (2014),

University of Tokyo, Japan (1997), *Hitachi Advanced Research Laboratory Hatoyama* and Tokyo, Japan (1997 and 1995), *Institute of Information Science*, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan (1997), *Imperial College* and *Oxford University*, UK, *University of Nijmegen*, Netherlands (1995), *University of Copenhagen*, Denmark, and *Chalmers University of Technology*, Gothenburg, Sweden (1993).

During his academic career, Professor CHIN received the *University of Manchester Research Studentship Award* (October 1982-December 1983), the *NUS Overseas Graduate Scholarship Award* (January 1987-March 1990) and the *European Commission Grant Award* (May 1995-May 1998). He is a member of the Executive Committee of the *Asian Association on Foundations of Software* since 2004, being elected as co-chair of Executive Committee for 2015-2017.

Professor Wei-Ngan CHIN is a valued partner of Romanian Higher Education institutions. His research group at the Department of Computer Science, NUS School of Computing, includes many PhD students of Romanian origin. As a matter of fact, 4 out of his 8 PhD students who successfully graduated were Romanians, including our colleague, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Florin Crăciun. Since 2001, Professor CHIN paid 6 research visits to our Department, giving 2 plenary conferences (*From Verification to Specification Inference*, February 2013, and *Termination and Non-Termination Reasoning with HIP/SLEEK*, December 2014), and 2 invited lectures at KEPT Intl Conference (2011 and 2015). Also, he is an active member of the Editorial Board of our journal *Studia UBB, Informatica* and is the initiator of a cooperation agreement between NUS and BBU referring to master students mobility to NUS, financially supporting their expenses.

For all these reasons, we consider **Professor Wei-Ngan CHIN** as an honorary member of our Department and today's ceremony is an imperative recognition of his dedicated work for our university.

Thank you very much!
Professor Bazil Pârv, Ph.D.