

## **Central European Conference of Information and Intelligent Systems (CECIIS) turns 30!**

This past October, CECIIS celebrated 30 years since its founding at the University of Zagreb's Faculty of Organization and Informatics (FOI) in Varazdin, Croatia. The aim of this conference is to promote the interface of researchers involved in the development and application of methods and techniques in the field of information and intelligent systems. The FOI is highly focused on decision-making and their faculty and students use AHP/ANP widely in their academic endeavors.

The event was sponsored by the President of Croatia, Mrs. Kolinda Grabar Kitarović, and the Minister of Science and Education, Dr. Blazenko Divjak, who was also the speaker at the opening ceremony. Her talk was about why we need to meet at conferences, and she quoted several thinkers' opinions on the topic. One of the most interesting quotes was the statement that "although great ideas may not be born in these conferences, very bad ones have perished there".

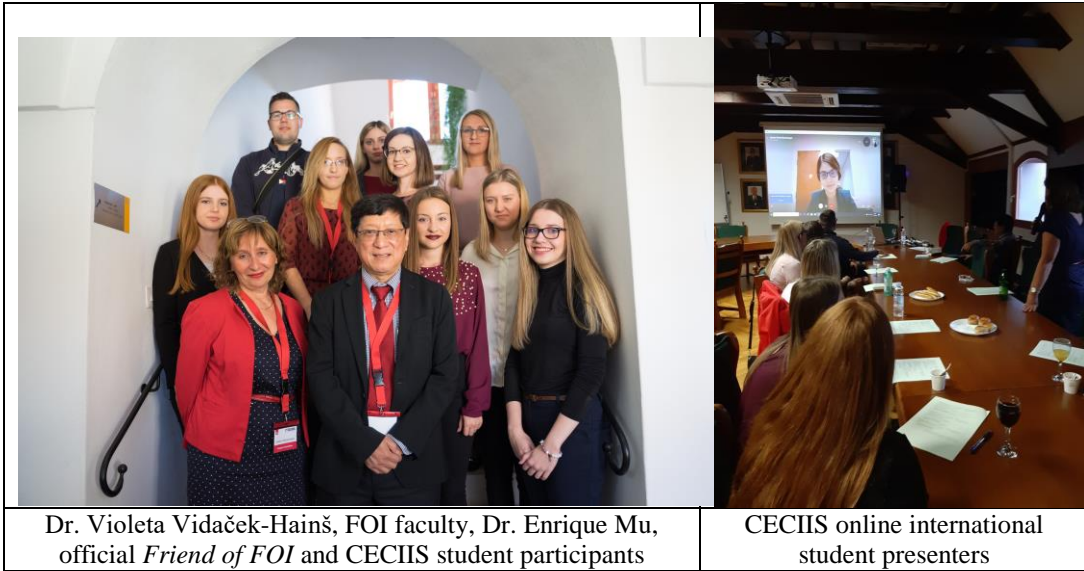


Dr. Slavko Vidović, previous professor of FOI, founder and manager of Infodom company - a gold sponsor of CECIIS talks to Dr. Blazenko Divjak, FOI professor and current Minister of Science and Education



Professor Nina Begicevic, newly elected FOI Dean, addresses CECIIS participants

CECIIS is the most important ICT conference in middle and southeast Europe. This year's main topic was related to digital transformation and its influence on the future. The conference lasted for three days. The invited lectures were delivered by Dr. Wolf Rauch (Karl-Franzens University, Wien, Austria), Dr. Sirje Virkus (University in Tallin, Estonia), and Dr. Günter Müller (University in Freiburg, Germany). At the conference, 43 papers were presented that were evaluated by 78 reviewers. In addition, several other events were organized such as a workshop on DIGITRANS methodology, a computer games conference, an International Doctoral Seminar and a student section with 19 research papers. Dr. Enrique Mu, *IJAHP* Editor-in-Chief and a member of the organizing committee, participated as a panelist for the students' presentations.



During the different social events, participants continued to add other reasons why these conferences are important such as the opportunity to share a glass of wine with an esteemed colleague or simply to give each other a warm friendly embrace, all things that cannot currently be done via Skype.

We wish for CECIIS to keep going strong and send a big thank you to our colleagues for the productive and wonderful experience. Looking forward to CECIIS 2020!