



**Formal Methods Europe
Minutes of the 64th meeting
Held at the University of Torino, Turin, Italy
20 September 2017**
www.fmeurope.org

Present at the meeting were:

FME members:

- Ana Cavalcanti (Chair) [U. York]
- Bernhard Beckert [Karlsruhe Institute of Technology]
- Ferruccio Damiani [U. Torino]
- John Derrick [U. of Sheffield]
- Erik de Vink [TU Eindhoven]
- Lars-Henrik Eriksson (Secretary) [Uppsala U.]
- Alessandro Fantechi [U. Firenze]
- Carlo A. Furia [Chalmers U. of Technology]
- Stefania Gnesi [CNR-ISTI]
- Einar Broch Johnsen [U. Oslo]
- Guy Katz [Hebrew U. of Jerusalem]
- Dino Mandrioli [Politecnico di Milano]
- Tiziana Margaria [U. of Limerick]
- José Nuno Oliveira [U. of Minho]
- Pedro Ribeiro [U. York]
- Maurice ter Beek [ISTI-CNR]
- Heike Wehrheim [U. of Paderborn]

Others:

- Mario Gleirscher [TU München]
- Mihai Herda [Karlsruhe Institute of Technology]
- Gurvan Le Guernic [Direction général de l'armement]
- Sven Linker [U. of Liverpool]
- Marcel Oliveira [UFRN – Brazil]
- Steve Schneider [U. of Surrey]
- Mark Utting [U. of the Sunshine Coast]

Apologies had been received from: Jonathan Bowen, Eerke Boiten, John Cooke, Randy Johnson, Cliff Jones, Peter Gorm Larsen, Nico Plat, Matteo Rossi, Marcel Verhoef, Bruce Watson and Jim Woodcock.

1 Welcome and agree upon agenda

Ana Cavalcanti welcomed the members present. The agenda was agreed upon with the addition of "FME fellowship award".

2 Invitation to join FME

All non-members present were invited to join FME.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting and review of actions

The minutes of the Limassol meeting were approved.

Action 61/6: Erik de Vink to investigate the consequences of offering FME members a discount on the FM'18 registration fee.
In progress. Action continues.

Action 61/7: Ana Cavalcanti and Lars-Henrik Eriksson to contact members of the SE community about FME through FormaliSE.
In progress. Action continues.

Action 62/1: The Board to revise the Symposium Guidelines considering the recommendations given by the FM'16 Chairs.
In progress. Action continues.

Action 62/4: Lars-Henrik Eriksson to ensure that the Book Review Committee members are or become FME members.
In progress. Action continues.

Action 63/1: Lars-Henrik Eriksson to make reports from the Book Review Committee a standing agenda item on Business Meetings.
Done.

Action 63/2: Lars-Henrik Eriksson and Einar Broch Johnsen to arrange an online membership application system when the FME web site moves from Graz to Oslo.
In progress. Action continues.

Action 63/3: Ana Cavalcanti and Lars-Henrik Eriksson to produce a report on the membership consultation (on hold until 2018).
In progress. Action continues.

Action 63/4: Ana Cavalcanti to identify members interested in supporting the teaching and industry-related activities of FME.
In progress. Action continues.

Action 63/5: Stefania Gnesi to discuss with Nico Plat the relationship of FormaliSE to FME.
Done.

Action 63/6: Erik de Vink to reply to Marcel Verhoef to address the concerns in his Examiner Report.
Done.

4 Status report on FM'18

Stefania Gnesi reported on the progress on FM'18 in Oxford (part of FLoC'18). Organisation is going according to plan.

5 Status report on FM'19

José Nuno Oliveira presented the plans for FM2019 World Congress on Formal Methods, to be held in Porto, Portugal, the week starting October 7, 2019. (See Statement of Intent attached to the minutes.) The plans were well received by the membership.

6 FormaliSE

Stefania Gnesi recalled the goal of FormaliSE to integrate the Software Engineering and Formal Methods communities. While FormaliSE has been successful in attracting good papers, this goal has not been achieved. Stefania asked that more people from the FM community contribute to FormaliSE.

Ana Cavalcanti added that FormaliSE will now be fully promoted as an FME event, like the Symposium. Much of the FME sponsoring budget is used on FormaliSE. This is in line with the comments in the Membership Consultation that we should reach out to the SE community.

7 Book Review Committee report

Matteo Rossi had sent a report by e-mail, which was summarised by Lars-Henrik Eriksson (attached to these minutes).

8 FME Fellowship Award

Ana Cavalcanti announced the Call for Nominations of the 2018 FME Fellowship Award. The deadline is December 1, 2017. Details will be sent to all FME members by e-mail.

9 Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting, held sometime in February, in Braga, Portugal, as a full-day event.

[Note: After the meeting, the Board has determined that for several reasons including cost, holding a full-day AGM in Braga in February is not appropriate. Instead the AGM will be held in connection with FormaliSE 2018, in Gothenburg, Sweden, on June 2, 2018.]



Summary of open actions

- Action 61/6: Erik de Vink to investigate the consequences of offering FME members a discount on the FM'18 registration fee.
- Action 61/7: Ana Cavalcanti and Lars-Henrik Eriksson to contact members of the SE community about FME through FormaliSE.
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- Action 63/4: Ana Cavalcanti to identify members interested in supporting the teaching and industry-related activities of FME.

FM 2019 World Congress on Formal Methods

STATEMENT OF INTENT

CONTACT PERSON

- Name José Nuno Oliveira
- Affiliation HASLab / INESC TEC & University of Minho, Braga, Portugal
- Web www.haslab.uminho.pt/jno
- Contact Email: jno@di.uminho.pt; Skypeid: josenunooliveira

DATES

- This document April 2017 (updated: September 2017)
- Date of the event The week starting on October the 7th, 2019.

HOST COUNTRY / INSTITUTION

- Host country We propose Portugal as host country for the FM'19 World Congress on Formal Methods. Portugal is a touristic country with affordable cost of living reachable from all major air hubs, e.g. London, Frankfurt, Amsterdam etc in Europe. Located in the South-West of Europe, it is also accessible to North Africa, South America and North America destinations. Tourism in Portugal is increasing every year and has received several nominations and awards, see e.g. [World Travel Awards](#). In 2016 the country was ranked 5th most peaceful in the world by the [IEP](#) (Institute for Economics & Peace).
- Hosting Institution We propose the [University of Minho](#) (UMinho) as host institution of FM'19. Founded in 1973, UMinho is among the elite of the best "young" universities according to the Times Higher Education (THE) 150 Under 50 2016. It has climbed almost 200 places since 2010 in the SCIMAGO ranking. UMinho currently comprises three campi: the Gualtar Campus in [Braga](#) and the Azurém and Couros Campi, in [Guimarães](#).¹ The latter hosts [UNU-EGOV](#), the United Nations University Operating Unit on Policy-Driven Electronic Governance.

PROPONENT TEAM

- The lab We propose that FM'19 be organized by the High Assurance Software Laboratory ([HASLab](#)), a research subunit of UMinho integrated as a R&D center of [INESC TEC](#), a leading national research laboratory. The motto of HASLab — "*Improving practice through theory*" — is indicative of the concern for formal foundations in the lab. Research is organized in 3 main streams — distributed systems, security and software engineering. The formal methods group of HASLab belongs to the latter R&D stream and inherits more than 30 years of research in applied formal methods.
- The proponent This proposal is lead by José Nuno Oliveira ([JNO](#)), senior research staff member of HASLab and full professor at UMinho's CS department. JNO teaches formal methods at UMinho since 1984. His work has been influential in setting up formal methods as a research topic in Portugal. JNO is a member of the FME association and of IFIP WG2.1. He was leader of FME's Subgroup of Education in the period 2002-04.

¹The distance between the two towns is 25 kms (A11 motorway).

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience 	<p>The proponent team has been involved in organizing several scientific events in the past, including ETAPS 2007 (Braga), EGOV 2016 (Guimarães), RAMICS 2015 (Braga), FACS 2010 (Guimarães), MPC 2000 (Ponte de Lima), AFP 1998 (Braga), etc. Members of the team have also been engaged in the GTTSE series of Summer Schools since 2005. EUROSYS'18 shall be organized by HASLab too, dates and place to be announced soon.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logistics 	<p>We plan to hire the services of Viagens ABREU, a business tourism company that has extensive experience and tradition in organizing events and conferences.</p>
<p>SUGGESTED VENUE</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The city 	<p>We propose Porto as host city of FM'19. Porto has been voted European Best Destination several times (2012, 2014 and 2017). Never has the choice of the winning city – the <i>Cidade Invicta</i> (unvanquished city) — been so unanimous among travellers from all other the world as in 2017. Porto's architecture, culture, gastronomy, trade, encounters and discoveries seduce travellers. The historic center of Porto is listed as UNESCO World Heritage Site 755 since 1996, in recognition for being “<i>an outstanding urban landscape with a 2,000-year history (...) linked to the sea (the Romans gave it the name Portus, or port)</i>” in Europe.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel 	<p>Porto airport (OPO) is well connected to many international destinations. Many airline companies fly to Porto, including low cost (see e.g. the airport website). Porto airport reached the 8 million passenger mark in 2015. In 2016, it was considered best European airport in its category (5-15million/year) by ASQ (Airport Service Quality).</p> <p>From the airport, travellers can reach Porto's town center through line E of the underground — a 25 min trip every 1/2 hour.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conference site 	<p>We suggest that FM'19 be held at the <i>Alfândega Porto Congress Center (APCC²)</i> in Porto, by the river Douro. This is the old building of the warehouse and customs house of Porto which, built in the 14c, has been since subject to many amplification and reconstruction projects. The current building was finished in 1869 and was operational until 1987. Later converted into a Museum of Transportation, in 1992 it was renovated by the architect Souto Moura³ to become a modern 36000 m² conference center with 22 multifunctional spaces and a 400 parking space.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation 	<p>There is plenty of choice concerning accommodation in the city of Porto, as can be checked by visiting booking websites such as e.g. https://www.airbnb.com, http://www.booking.com etc.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The social program 	<p>Among other alternatives, we envisage an excursion visiting the Port Wine caves in Gaia, on the other bank of the river, as part of a cruise upstream ending in the conference banquet in a hotel-boat operating on river Douro. A cheaper alternative could be a trip through Alto Minho inland.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The weather 	<p>According to the weather averages published by HolidayWeather, average temperatures around 14°C are expected in Northern Portugal in October.</p>

²Google maps: 41.143928, -8.621688

³Awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2011 and the Wolf Prize in Arts in 2013.



APCC seen from the other bank of river Douro (on the left) and the Ribeira of Porto (on the right)

FORMAT OF THE EVENT

- Template

FM'19 will be the 3rd World Congress on Formal Methods, following FM'99 (Toulouse, France, September 1999) and FM'09 (Eindhoven, NL, November 2009). By default, we assume the format of these events as working template, meaning an 'FM Week' including

- a 3 day main conference (one plenary invited talk per day)
- around 10/12 workshops and tutorials
- a doctoral symposium
- a tools exhibition (and possibly a tools competition, as in FM'99)
- an industry day.

- Fees

Our preliminary indication of a base fee for attending the event will be 450 euros, to be framed in the usual cost scheme, see e.g. FM'09.

ORGANIZATION

- Organizing committee

The OC will be selected by the proponent. It will include researchers from the host institution who will work in close cooperation with the FME board (in particular with conference coordinator Stefania Gnesi) and with the organizers of the various events of the congress.

- Sponsorship

Sponsorship for the congress will be sought from local sources including Porto Municipality, UMinho, INESC TEC, governmental sources, local companies as well as international software houses, research centers, computer science associations and publishers.

SIGNATURE

- Univ. of Minho, Braga, April 2017

(J.N. Oliveira)

Book Review Committee — Summary of report by Matteo Rossi

Sorting out issues with the publication of reviews in FAoC:

- Copyright issues with co-publication on the FME web site?
- Most likely no problem but no confirmation yet.
- Dominique Mery will be contact at FAoC.

Collecting comments concerning the review of
"Concrete Semantics" (Tobias Nipkow and Gerwin Klein)

Contact with MIT Press to ask for a few books to review.

We plan to have the following books reviewed:

- Modeling and Analysis of Communicating Systems (Jan Friso Groote, Mohammad Reza Mousavi)
- Logic in Games (Johan van Benthem)
- Principles of Cyber-Physical Systems (Rajeev Alur)
- Reasoning about Uncertainty, Second Edition (Joseph Y. Halpern)