# Tribute to Ivan Stojmenovic

By MILOS STOJMENOVIC

It is with a heavy heart that I serve as guest editor of this commemorative issue of Ad Hoc Sensors & Wireless Networks. My father founded this journal 10 years ago in the field that he loved and contributed most to. Research was his passion, and he conveyed this passion to me throughout his life. We worked in different fields of computer science, mine being computer vision, but always looked for ways to work together. We recently came to the conclusion that our research fields overlapped in the area of robotics since robots need to see their surroundings, and also need to communicate with other robots. We had started to form ideas for projects that we could both contribute to since we worked together quite well. I will continue to pursue the course we set out and hope to achieve even a small part of what he was able to. He tirelessly encouraged me to pursue my research and never give up in the face of challenging or seemingly impossible problems. His perseverance, belief in himself, tireless and even relentless work ethic and ability to question the fundamentals of everything he encountered made him an incredibly successful researcher and a devoted mentor. He taught me how to conduct research, how to write scientific papers, and more importantly, how to be a better person.

I always looked at him as my father, and only recently stepped back to realize all of his scientific achievements. In recent years, he received many awards, and was received warmly in every corner of the globe that he travelled to. He had an endless list of invitations to conduct research in almost any university. Growing up with him got me used to his endless work, his travels and his success, which in my eyes became normal. Only now, when considering the big picture can I begin to measure his achievements. One man truly can change the world if he fully applies himself. Born in a small village in Serbia to parents that didn't attend high school, Ivan Stojmenovic emerged

as one of the most cited authors in Computer Science. At age 57, the fruits of his labor were just beginning to be collected, which makes this loss all the more painful and tragic.

In this special issue, we have collected the personal and professional perspectives, in the form of tributes from the closest friends and collaborators of Ivan. They have been classified according to the type of collaboration the contributors had with my father, which means in the capacity as co-authors, students, or promoters of research. I would like to thank all of my father's closest friends and colleagues for remembering him in this issue.

Milos Stojmenovic Singidunum University, Serbia

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I had the opportunity to work very closely with Prof. Ivan Stojmenovic since 2003 right after I joined University of Ottawa. We had collaborated on quite a few research projects and jointly supervised a number of graduate students. He was a dear friend and a bright scholar with very sharp scientific mind. He always emphasized on quality work and had guidelines on how to write good technical articles. He was a great researcher and published over 300 papers (many with me), and edited seven books (two with me) on wireless, ad hoc, sensor and actuator networks and applied algorithms with Wiley. He had received many awards world-wide and was on Thomson Reuters list of Highly Cited Researchers (from 2013) and had over 15,000 citations.

He had held regular and visiting positions in Serbia, Japan, USA, Canada, France, Mexico, Spain, UK (as Chair in Applied Computing at the University of Birmingham), Hong Kong, Brazil, Taiwan, China, Australia and Saudi Arabia. He was editor-in-chief of IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems (2010-3), and founder and editor-in-chief of three journals. He was editor of over dozen journals (including IEEE Network, IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing, IEEE Transactions on Computers, and ACM Wireless Networks) and steering committee member of IEEE Transactions on Emergent Topics in Computing. He received the Royal Society Research Merit Award, UK (2006), and Humboldt Research Award, Germany (2012). He was Tsinghua 1000 Plan Distinguished Professor (2012-15). He was a Fellow of the IEEE (Communications Society, class 2008), and Canadian Academy of Engineering (since 2012), and Member of the Academia Europaea (The Academy of Europe), from 2012 (section: Informatics). He was IEEE CS Distinguished Visitor 2010-11 and received 2012 Distinguished Service award from IEEE ComSoc Communications Software TC. He had received Excellence in Research Award of the University of Ottawa in 2009.

He had chaired and/or organized over 60 workshops and conferences, and served in over 200 program committees. He had presented 34 keynotes and over dozen tutorials. He (co)-supervised 24 PhD and 52 MSc students, and collaborated with over 160 researchers with PhD, from 26 countries. His stateless GFG (Greedy-Face-Greedy) algorithm, which guarantees delivery in a localized manner, assuming a unit graph model and accurate destination information, has changed the way routing algorithms for ad-hoc networks are being designed and has been cited over 1700 times. It was implemented in a number of laboratories worldwide.

Amiya Nayak University of Ottawa, Canada

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I have known Ivan more than 35 years - since the time when both of us unsure of what to do next and how to direct our professional careers. We met in a high school where he was volunteering, as a student, to help talented pupils in studying mathematics and computer science. Since then we were collaborating permanently. Not only during my later undergraduate studies and during my PhD studies, which he had supervised, but also after that, even though he had moved to Canada and I had stayed in Serbia. Under his supervision, doing a PhD thesis was so pleasant, so simple, and if I may say, such an easy task. He had a great impact on my work and my thoughts about science and research. He had always enough time to listen and to advise. I have enjoyed very much our long discussions, either in Canada, Mexico, UK, or in Serbia. Some of these discussions resulted in joint publications, including one that was selected as a Fast Breaking Paper, in computer science, in 2003.

Ivan was simply a genius. There is no another way to explain his brilliant and fast reasoning resulting in great achievements in different research areas, from combinatorics to logic, from algebra to engineering, from geometry to algorithms theory. Such a great potential has given him a nice and enjoyable opportunity to cope, with a relatively small amount of spent energy, with the most difficult scientific and research problems. His talent and achievements were easily recognized by many others, both personally and officially. He has obtained prestigious awards around the globe, and has been quoted by others as an extraordinary scientist and researcher, and a top authority in several research areas.

When we were all expecting more and more extraordinary results and inspiring ideas from him, life brought us a shocking outcome. Instead of celebrating Ivan's new achievements, we are faced with the deepest feelings of sadness, injustice, and tragedy. Ivan's family, relatives, and friends have to be strong enough to find a way to live with such disastrous loss.

**Dr. Jovisa Zunic** University of Exeter, United Kingdom

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I met Ivan Stojmenovic in the late 1980s when he came as a visiting professor to the University of Miami, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. Ivan was already known in the world of computer science as a serious researcher. Since he was my fellow countryman, we found him an apartment next to ours. It was very convenient because we both had small children and our wives had a good time together since they are both from Serbia. Dr. Stojmenovic was instrumental in involving me in the research arena. One of our first joint research papers was about improvement in one of the parallel algorithms already published.

The great thing about Ivan was that he contacted authors and he developed cooperative work with them that he did afterwards. Ivan was a great competitor but also built very healthy relationships with computer scientists and mathematicians.

For Dr. Stojmenovic there was no computer science problem that he could not approach and think of a solution for. At that time personal computers were developing at full speed and I enjoyed programming and running different versions of proposed solutions for parallel computing problems. Of course at that time most of those were done using computer simulation of hypothetical configurations.

It was a great integration of Dr. Stojmenovic's theoretical vision and applied computer science from my side.

After Dr. Stojmenovic moved to Canada we remained close friends, visited each other several times. Ivan will be greatly missed in our private and scientific circle of colleagues and friends.

Dr. Stojmenovic's legacy is going to live on, since his children have developed into real scientists and every time I work on any research paper I remember my dear friend and mentor, Dr. Ivan Stojmenovic.

**Borivoje Djokic** Keiser University, USA

My first reaction to the news of Ivan Stojmenović's passing away was one of utter disbelief. What sort of bad joke is this? It seemed, and still does seem, absurd that a person of Ivan's stature be deprived of his most creative years!

It took reality a long while to sink in.

For me the news was doubly sad: first, I lost a dear friend and, second, I lost a collaborator and a co-worker. Ivan was a tremendous human being, a close friend to which I often turned for advice; he was, at the same time, a researcher of the highest caliber to which I turned for inspiration and insight. He always brought to the table fresh ideas and novel (often startling) insights into old problems. It was always a pleasure and a privilege to cooperate with him. And how generously he shared his knowledge with others!

Indeed, Ivan was and will remain an immensely influential researcher and a role model for scores of younger colleagues and students. I am convinced that his fundamental work in the area of wireless networking will be profusely cited for decades to come.

I will miss Ivan!

**Stephan Olariu** Old Dominion University, USA

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My collaboration with Ivan started in the early 2000's, when we both worked on the design of localized algorithms (i.e. distributed solutions based on local information that is without or has limited information exchanges among local nodes.) We were collaborators as well as competitors, as we worked on the same problem of finding a small connected dominating set in mobile ad hoc and sensor networks. I have appreciated the time spent with him discussing various technical problems. Ivan was always able to quickly provide intriguing insights to challenging problems. Our happiest moments together, however, were those spent solving problems from the International Mathematical Olympiad in the basement of his home. Ivan, my dear friend and colleague, your passion for research and serving the community will be sorely missed.

**Jie Wu** Temple University, USA My connection with Ivan has mostly been related with the organization of workshops and conferences. He was not only looking for what was fair for him but also what was fair for his collaborator. The organization of any type of research activity with Ivan was always an easy task. His service and dedication to the research was recognized by all of us.

He was always online and he travelled very much. When any of us sent him an e-mail, we could not imagine where he was replying from. All of us noticed that this dedication and generosity implied a personal and a family sacrifice.

We spoke often about research, but I remember a talk once that was enlarged to days, even weeks, where he always came back with comments on how the work can be improved and what should be done to make it better. This work was never finished for him; he was always trying to help in order to improve it, trying to achieve research excellence... That enthusiasm, interest, and passion with his work, even not being his own paper, showed me a human in the service of science, transmitting knowledge and happiness for science.

The research community has lost a very good person, an excellent researcher, a tremendous professional and an icon in computer science. It is a terrible loss. We will deeply miss you.

**Jaime Lloret Mauri** Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain

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The first adjective that comes to mind when we think Ivan Stojmenovic is generous. Because he was not only a great scientist, he was mostly a generous man. Whether in the fields of distributed computing, mobile ad-hoc networks, sensor and actuator networks, everyone knows Ivan's significant contributions but what marks his career was his sense of sharing. He gave a lot to numerous young researchers all around the world - and we were part of these young researchers - to help them to learn the job. Just look at his co-author list, browse the papers like: "How to Write Research Articles in Computing and Engineering Disciplines"... That's Ivan, always in a different country, writing ten papers and books at the same time but always sharing his work with his friends. It was a great honor to work with Ivan but the greatest honor was to be called friends by him. We will never forget the good time we spent together all around the world with him and thanks to him: from Habana to Hong Kong and of course in Novi Sad, his hometown. Computer science has lost a great scientist but our thoughts are with his family.

Isabelle Ryl and David Simplot-Ryl
INRIA, Lille,
France

Ivan Stojmenovic was a dear friend and a wonderful research collaborator. We worked together on many interesting open questions, mostly developing parallel algorithms for computational problems. This included parallel algorithms for computational geometry, and parallel algorithms for a new model of computation I had developed, known as Broadcasting with Selective Reduction. However, our main focus was efficient enumeration of combinatorial objects. Ivan had stumbled upon a paper I had written in the early 1980s and immediately wrote to me showing how to improve on my results. Thus began a collaboration that lasted well over 20 years. Our project was to develop parallel algorithms for nearly all well known combinatorial objects, including permutations, combinations, derangements, compositions, partitions, trees, binary counters, and so on. The algorithms were to run on the simplest possible model of computation, a linear array of elementary processors, and have the property that each object (for example, a permutation) is generated in constant time. Ivan's creativity and inventiveness was instrumental in obtaining these original algorithms. His brilliant mind then raced to discover other situations where his ideas could be applied, as well as other problems that would require the generation of yet more new scintillating insights. I miss him very much.

> **Selim Akl** Queens Univeristy, Canada

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Ivan was a relentless force in driving forward some of the most innovative concepts of our times. He has been an incredible figure to science, to staff and students, and to all the people around him in journals for which he has been the Editor in Chief. We have lost a friend, a colleague and a titan of our times.

Mischa Dohler King's College London, United Kingdom

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I had the pleasure to collaborate with Ivan Stojmenovic since 2000, when he invited me to contribute to his Handbook of Wireless Networks and Mobile Computing. During the last 14 years, I had several opportunities to work with Ivan in the areas of wireless networks and mobile computing. We have jointly organized international conferences (e.g., IEEE MASS 2007), and we have

co-edited the Mobile Ad hoc networking book (IEEE Press and John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, 2004), which constitutes a reference point for the scientific community working on MANET. This book has been extensively cited worldwide, and recently we have published a 2nd edition, Mobile Ad hoc networking: the cutting edge technologies (IEEE Press and John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, March 2013) to cover the new research challenges in this field. Ivan was an extremely friendly, kind, and enjoyable person to work with. With innovative ideas, he always inspired and motivated everyone around him.

Ivan was recognized worldwide as an outstanding researcher, and his research activities had, and still have, a great impact in our community. He was a pioneer for his research activities on network layer solutions for ad hoc and sensor networks. Let's remember his works on routing with guaranteed delivery, broadcasting protocols, and localized routing protocols that were published in the most prestigious scientific journals and highly selective conferences, and extensively cited by the scientific community.

In addition to his career as an outstanding researcher, Ivan generously served our research community. He has been the founding editor of scientific journals, and served on the editorial board (also as Editor in chief) of several prestigious journals. He was always available to serve as a member of program/organizing committee of the scientific events of our community and as guest editor of journal special issues.

We will surely miss Ivan, but despite his physical absence he will continue to be in our hearts and minds as a part of our community.

Marco Conti Italian National Research Council, Italy

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I met Ivan for the first time when I was still at Ph.D. student. I was presenting a paper of mine at a workshop in the late 90s, on clustering all-wireless networks. He came to me, introduced himself and asked if we could talk. He bluntly "attacked" my work, defining the methods used in the paper simplistic and not rigorous enough. Although very direct and explicit, his words were full of passion and showed sincere interest to my work. I listened and I believe he saw it: We kept talking and he gave me important advices on how to improve my work, which resulted in my first single-name journal paper on the topic. In the years I had the pleasure to work with Ivan in many different capacities, including event organization and co-editing books. He became a mentor, a collaborator, and an exemplary colleague. Overall, what I remem-

ber the most is his sincere passion for scientific research, the scientific methods, the vivacious interaction with us colleagues for the sake of knowing more, improving the common understanding of a problem and of new technologies. His passion sometimes might have come across quite bluntly, but I have always learned something by sharing and arguing my ideas and visions with him. The news of his passing was quite a brutal blow for me: Ivan, you will be dearly missed. I will take your lesson with me and my work for the years to come. Thank you.

**Stefano Basagni** Northeastern University, USA

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I had the honour and the privilege of working with Ivan in several occasions: we wrote some articles together, two books, we collaborated in editorial activities and in conferences organization.

It's been an amazing privilege to have met him and be involved in such activities with him: he lead his work with vision to find something new, to solve challenges. I always appreciated his thoughtful, smart approach to solving any problem large or small.

It is evident that his dedication to challenges and innovation has made a huge positive impact on the research community and on the research advances.

He has been always so generous with his time, his knowledge, and friend-ship throughout the years.

I feel fortunate to have had a chance to work with him, which is priceless.

# Silvia Giordano

University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Italian Switzerland, Switzerland

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I met Prof. Ivan Stojmenovic for the first time during the *International Workshop on Wireless Networks and Mobile Computing held at* Toronto, Canada, from August 21-24, 2000 and I found him very sincere and hardworking. He was the Workshop co-chair along with Prof. Stephan Olariu and both managed the workshop very effectively and professionally. At that time, they had planned to co-edit a text book on Handbook of Wireless Networks and Mobile Computing that was eventually published by John Wiley & Sons in 2002. As I was new to this area, he was sort of hesitant in talking to me to contribute a

chapter. After this event, we became very close family friends and had many interactions, including meeting his wife Natasha. I met him in Spain, Beijing, Macau, and Denver Colorado. I was very impressed with his diversity in research interests while keeping his approach simple and honest. The most important aspect that influenced me was his dedication and devotion and I did not hesitate nominating him for the EIC of the IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems. He made many people mad at him for being straight forward and to the point. But, I admired him for his courage, sincerity, wisdom, versatility, and honesty. I always wondered about his ever-lasting energy for extensive world-wide travel schedule and un-parallel patience in answering questions during his well-planned presentations. We will simply miss him.

**Dharma P. Agrawal** University of Cincinnati, USA

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My name is Rafael Falcon and I had the great privilege of being supervised by Professor Ivan Stojmenovic in my doctoral studies from 2008 – 2012. It is my honor to say a few words today about Professor Stojmenovic, a pioneer in so many ways, on behalf of all the students whose lives he generously touched throughout his brilliant career.

I have to confess that preparing this brief note of tribute to Professor Stojmenovic has been quite demanding intellectually and emotionally. Many of us here today, who have faced rigorous educational challenges such as comprehensive examinations or thesis defenses, know that in such situations there is usually very limited time to describe something much bigger, and deeper, and meaningful than what our modest presentation skills can actually convey. In the same way, attempting to capture in a few sentences the life and ideals of a visionary and a man who rose above all the challenges of his time to leave a lasting legacy in the hearts of many is a quite difficult endeavour.

Professor Stojmenovic will be remembered for his passion. He was someone who embraced the impossible in his career and who would instill in his students a deep sense of confidence in themselves and their potential, casting out all fears and insecurities that naturally arise in the early stages of graduate school life. Knowing that he trusted you and he saw value in you as a researcher helped establish a very important foundation in the student – supervisor relationship.

Ivan will also be cherished as a man of excellence. His unwavering commitment to the highest standards of scientific work clearly permeated his entire lifestyle and was duly recognized through the many awards and insti-

tutional appointments he held at nearly a dozen countries during his remarkably fruitful profession. Furthermore, he pursued the same standards for all his students and never ceased to encourage and challenge them in many ways to help us become stronger scholars and insightful researchers.

Last but not least, the frequent displays of genuine affection and care that Professor Stojmenovic showed to his students will also accompany us for the rest of our lives. His gentle handshake, his warm smile, his memorable stories of the beloved Yugoslavia, the silver coin he gave as a gift, the bag of groceries and the pair of winter boots he provided a new international student, the reminder to bundle up well during the OCTranspo bus strike before walking under -35 degrees in a cold snap, and the delights of Indian food, they all speak highly about the personality and charisma of the individual whose life and heritage we celebrate today, with sorrow yet with joy as well.

Sir Isaac Newton left us with a remarkable thought that well applies to those who have been instructed and taught, both in academia and in life, by generous spirits like Professor Stojmenovic. Sir Newton said: "If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants". Ivan, you are one of those giants upon whose shoulders we, and countless others, stood. We bid you farewell and thank you for your life and your example. Your name and legacy will endure for many generations. Rest in peace, dear friend.

Rafael Falcon Larus Technologies, Canada

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Ivan was my co-supervisor for my PhD and post-doc studies from 2005 to 2009. And, since then we had been in close collaboration on many projects and activities. I am deeply saddened by his sudden, abrupt, tragic death. Ivan was a prominent researcher who made many significant achievements with almost impossible efficiency. I learned many things from him, from how to conduct scientific research, to how to organize scholarly events, and to how to deal with conflicting situations; I have been practicing them in the past 10 years and will keep doing so in the coming years. Ivan, my dear friend, you will be missed by the research community. Your legacy will live in your students like me and will last for decades.

Xu Li Huawei Technologies, Canada I met Ivan Stojmenovic for the first time in 2006 in Ottawa, Canada. In this meeting we went straight to the business: scientific problems and research challenges that waited to be solved. The first impression gave me an idea about his extraordinary dedication and commitment to research, which I found confirmed when I came back to Ottawa as postdoc in 2007. During my stay in Ottawa, I cannot remember to have waited longer than a day for qualified feedback to an eMail I wrote. He was always open to new ideas, gave guidance without commanding, and shared his valuable experience with us young researchers. His tragic death is a loss to his family, his friends and to the scientific community. But we will not forget his work and his ideas, which inspired so many people and for which we all can be grateful.

# Stefan Ruehrup

Forschungszentrum Telekommunikation Wien, Austria

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Ivan strongly encouraged me to foster my algorithmic research of my dissertation. During my dissertation and postdoctoral time Ivan was an important mentor to me. I am thankful for all academic workshop, conference and editor jobs Ivan provided to me, and I am pleased about all our joint papers we have been working at. All this was very helpful for my academic career. Ivan's recent visits here at my research group in Koblenz were very inspiring and I was looking forward to his next visits we had already planned. In sorrow I say goodbye Ivan, I will always remember you as a brilliant researcher and as a friend.

Hannes Frey Univeristy of Koblenz, Germany

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I am deeply saddened to hear of Ivan's passing. Ivan was a bright, hardworking and devoted researcher. Whenever we met and discussed about research, he always showed his enthusiasm and made earnest effort for addressing the problem and discovering the solutions. Just weeks before his death, Ivan came to visit our department and we shared our ideas and preliminary work on DSN for vehicular networks. Only a day later, he sent back several pages of detailed comments. We had planned collaboration on this topic, but what a

great pity it is now. I feel deep sorrow at the loss of a very dear friend and the pain never goes away.

**Jiannong Cao** Hong Kong Polytechnic University, China

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I have been extremely fortunate to have worked with Prof. Ivan Stojmenovic for seven years. Prof. Stojmenovic was my supervisor when I did postdoc in Ottawa. He was a great researcher and I was highly impressed with his rigorous scholarship. For every research article that we worked together, he always gets into details of technical issues and gives concrete suggestions to me. As an editor of several journals in which Prof. Stojemnovic is the EIC, I was also impressed with his great insight and enthusiasm in serving academic community. Prof. Stojmenovic helped many young researchers and devoted his life to the computer science.

Hai Liu Hong Kong Baptist University, China

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We have lost a dear colleague, friend, and very successful scientist leader. We hope that the many happy memories that Ivan is leaving behind will contribute to ease some of our pain during these difficult times.

I had the great privilege of working with Ivan since I joined Carleton University in 2007. As the capital city in Canada, Ottawa has two universities, Carleton University and the University of Ottawa (uOttawa), with 3Km distance between them. Many programs in these two universities are joint programs, including our ECE and CS programs. According to the regulations of the joint programs, in a Master/PhD thesis defense, a professor from Carleton is needed in the committee if the student is from uOttawa, and vice versa. Since we are working on the similar areas, I had attended many defenses of the students supervised by Ivan, and Ivan had attended many of my students' defenses.

Over the years, I have been so impressed by his commitment to the highest standards of scientific work, which has been duly recognized through his many awards and institutional appointments he held at nearly a dozen countries during his remarkably fruitful profession. Furthermore, he pursued the same standards for all his students to help them become stronger scholars and insightful researchers. His technical insight, steadfast support, wonderful supervision, and on-going encouragement have been a constant source of motivation for the students. Ivan instilled in the students a deep sense of confidence in themselves and their potential, casting out all fears and insecurities that naturally arise in the stages of graduate study. His gentle handshake, his warm smile, and his memorable stories of the beloved Yugoslavia will be forever missed, but never forgotten. May his soul rest in peace.

**F. Richard Yu** Carleton University, Canada

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Prof. Ivan Stojmenovic is the greatest educator that I have ever met. The earliest chance that I got his guidance was dated back to 2002, when I was in my second year of PhD program and he was on my comprehensive exam committee at University of Ottawa, Canada. After I completed my PhD program and sometime confused about the future, it was him that encouraged me to pursue academic career and always served as a strong reference. Without his insightful advise and consistent support in the past years, many of us will not be what we are. Ivan Stojmenovic will be missed and remembered as a great scholar, educator and friend forever.

**Song Guo** University of Aizu, Japan

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I am saddened by the loss of our dear Canadian colleague and fellow member of the networking research community, Prof. Ivan Stojmenovic. He will forever be remembered for his great technical contributions to mobile ad hoc networks and wireless sensor networks, and for being a great individual who was always collegial and helpful.

Victor Leung University of British Columbia, Canada

Dr. Ivan Stojmenovic started his research career in early 1980's. His early research interests included programming languages and computer science education, computational chemistry, multiple-valued logic, and computational geometry. During 1990's, he shifted his research to image analysis and pattern recognition, combinatorial algorithms, interconnection networks and parallel algorithms, and bioinspired algorithms and applications. His main research interests since late 1990's are mainly in ad hoc networks, wireless networks, sensor networks, pervasive computing, peer-to-peer systems, Internet, and publish-subscribe systems.

He has published more than 300 different papers. His scientific research has significant impact. According to Google Scholar, his publications have 16871 total citations and his h-index is 64. His paper "Routing with guaranteed delivery in ad hoc wireless networks" published on Wireless Networks in 2001 has been cited by 1863 researchers. His most recent work in cloud computing "Optimal power allocation and load distribution for multiple heterogeneous multicore server processors across clouds and data centers" published on IEEE Transactions on Computers in 2014 was highlighted by the Editor-in-Chief of IEEE-TC as a "Spotlight on Transactions" of IEEE Computer.

Keqin Li State University of New York at New Paltz, USA

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Ivan was a very great researcher around the world, very active in the scientific community and remarkable as well for the quantity than for the quality of his work. But for me, he was much more. I first met Ivan in 2004 in a summer school in computer science. I was still a PhD student at that time. And then several times in Lille during his visits to our team through our different collaborations. Ivan was a wonderful person, very considerate, always providing valuable advice and a strong support in my scientific life. We co-authored several papers together and organize some joint workshops. Each discussion with Ivan was enriching. It was always a real pleasure to work with him from both personal and scientific points of view. He has this unique humor that characterized him, every joke said with this special side smile. Ivan was about to join our team as tenure of an Inria International chair and I was really looking forward to his next visit.

I will always remember Ivan as a marvelous and awesome person. Ivan, may you rest in peace.

Nathalie Mitton Inria, France I met with Ivan for the first time in the spring of 2000 at a PhD oral examination in Carleton University in Ottawa. I had recently made a career move to Ottawa from Japan, and I wanted to collaborate with Canadian researchers in the field of wireless networks. In the fall of 2000, I made a second career move to the University of Waterloo. The initial contact in the examination room with Ivan was short, but it bloomed into good friendship and productive research collaboration over the next 15 years. While developing a joint research proposal on vehicular networks, I learned about his dedication to the mathematical details of efficient operation of network protocols. I had the privilege of working with him as Associate Editors for International Journal of Distributed Sensor Networks and IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Processing. As the Editor-in-Chief of those two journals, Ivan strived to communicate decisions to the authors of manuscripts within 2-3 months – and I was very much impressed by his great desire to shorten review cycles thereby significantly benefiting the research community. All those who have read Ivan's articles will undoubtedly say that the research community has lost an outstanding researcher, but for all those who did not have an opportunity to meet with Ivan, he amalgamated human touch with everything that he did. Borrowing a concept from his favorite graph theoretic modeling, the research community has lost an edge, but he will continue to be remembered through extensive citations of his valued contributions to the computer science discipline.

> Kshirasagar Naik University of Waterloo, Canada

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I have been working very closely with Dr. Ivan Stojmenovic in the past four to five years, both professionally and personally. Ivan impressed me deeply from many aspects: (i) He was always available, day or night. Regardless the time you sent him emails, he always got back to you promptly. It even made me wondering when and whether he would sleep. (ii) He was extraordinarily energetic. He organized many technical conferences. Recently I worked together with him for Trustcom 2014. He served as the general chair and I worked as a program co-chair. He was deeply involved in all the tasks: from TPC selection to registration and program organization, from paper review to the best paper selection. (iii) He was extremely diligent. Four years ago, he was invited to give a talk to our department (ECE at Michigan State University) as a distinguished speaker. He worked on his research all the way from Ottawa to East Lansing while his wife was driving. (iv) Ivan was very kind to everyone, especially young people. He was always supportive and willing

to mentor and nurture young people to become successful in their careers, and got them involved in the services to our research community. (v) He had a very happy family. His wife called him as their family's guardian angel. He was always a reliable, and seemed endless resource for his kids. He taught them how to ride and drive as other fathers, but also guided them on how to become excellent researchers. (vi) He made fundamental contributions to data communication algorithms and protocols for wireless sensor networks and ad hoc networks.

Ivan must have been very tired. He needs time to take a break. He contributed his 57 years to the fullest extent to his research, to the community and to his family. Even though he has left us physically, he will live in my heart and be remembered forever. May Ivan rest in peace.

**Jian Ren**Michigan State University,
USA

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I have known Professor Ivan Stojmenovic as a mentor, advisor and colleague for over a decade. I first met Professor Stojmenovic during my doctoral studies in Canada. As a young researcher, you will be intimidated by this towering figure but quickly discover that he is humble and quite friendly. He has a natural quality to make you feel welcome and his first class knowledge in algorithmic development is an inspiration to scientists. Prof. Stojmenovic was instrumental in establishing many international journals and I have worked with him as associate editor on some of these journals. He was very committed to each journal and always ensured selection of high-quality research articles and prepared each issue with great passion and enthusiasm. I have also chaired several conferences with Prof. Stojmenovic and I enjoyed working with him thoroughly. He was very meticulous in his work and the quality of the results. He has very high standards and expectations. For me, it was a great privilege to work with such prolific scientist yet humble person. Professor Stojmenovic's far too premature death has robbed the world a gifted scientist and a great academic. Surely, he will be forever missed but never forgotten.

> **Jemal Abawajy** Deakin University, Australia

I first met Ivan in 2005 in a conference in Wuhan, China. He was invited as a keynote speaker. When we shook hands and started talking, I found he has strong Yugoslavia accent. Amazingly, he is such a nice person and could get along with everyone in an instant moment. Since then, we became good friends. He was willing to help whenever it is in need in our computer society. In 2008, I served as a conference chair held in Canada but could not participate due to an emergence issue. He voluntarily served as the chair and the conference went smoothly. While he served as TPDS EiC, we had discussed the scopes of TPDS. When I suggested narrowing down its scope, he concerned that many submissions might get administratively rejected. He mentioned to me that he would like to involve many services in addition to the research engagements. Later I invited him to visit my lab and started the collaborations on network research. He showed a great interest in the implementations of camera networks in my lab. He expressed that he had engaged much theoretical research on sensor networks and was excited to see further collaborations on implementation aspects. Sadly, this became a mission impossible.

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