

Preface

This special edition of *Fundamenta Informaticae* has been prepared in tribute to Peter Ernst Lauer on the occasion of his retirement. It is devoted to his pioneering and fruitful scientific work as well as to his outstanding personality. Peter E. Lauer was born in 1934 in what is now part of Czech Republic. He graduated from the University of Alabama with Honours in Philosophy; in 1960, he obtained his Master degree in Philosophy from the Emory University in 1963, and his Ph. D. in Computer Science from the Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1971. He entered the field of computing in 1966 when he began to work at the prestigious IBM Laboratory in Vienna. He stayed in Vienna until 1972, when he moved to academia, at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, U.K. In 1985 he was offered a chair at McMaster University, Ontario, Canada, where he is currently a Professor Emeritus.

His contributions include formal logic ([4, 5]), formal semantics ([1, 3, 6] and concurrency theory ([2]). His early results may be considered as foundations of what later become known as VDM - Vienna Definition Method([6]). His very substantial contributions to concurrency theory are the subject of the next chapter of this volume.

This special edition consists of one invited address on Peter's contributions to concurrency theory and seven refereed papers, loosely connected to Peter's research interests. The refereed papers have been selected from a much larger volume of submissions. Many good papers have been submitted, unfortunately, due to space limit, only some of them could be accepted. The order of refereed contributions is alphabetical.

I am very honoured by having had the opportunity to edit this volume and wish to express my gratitude to all contributors and referees.

References

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