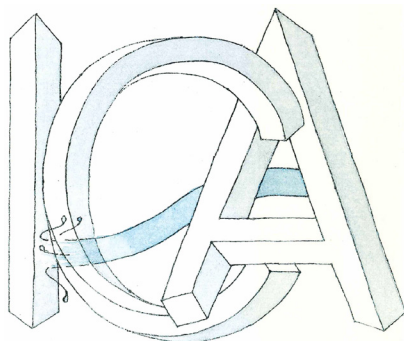


Gustaf Olsson, ICA and me

Eveline Volcke

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It was in 2001 that I had the pleasure to meet Gustaf Olsson for the first time, at the IWA conference on Instrumentation, Control and Automation (ICA) in Malmö, Sweden. I was a starting PhD student, this was my very first conference, and I did not know many people around. At the conference dinner, I ended up sitting on the same table with Gustaf Olsson and his wife Kirsti. I will never forget how they made a really pleasant conversation, genuinely interested in me and in the other young researchers around the table. Gustaf was kind and most modest – I am not even sure if it was mentioned that he was the conference chair, or the chairman of the ICA specialist group.



I still have this souvenir from the Malmö 2001 conference: an original drawing for each participant (132/220).

The Malmö conference was the first in a series of ICA conferences, on which it was always a pleasure meeting Gustaf.

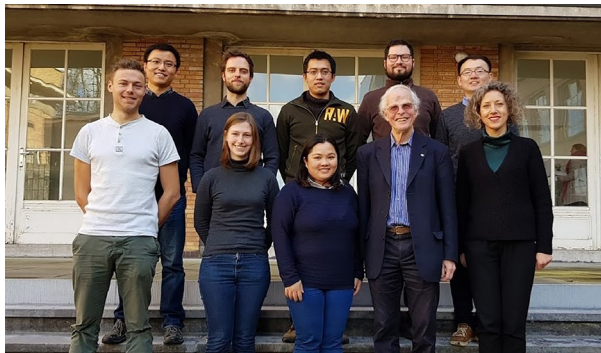
© 2022 The Editors. This is an Open Access book chapter distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Licence (CC BY 4.0), which permits copying, adaptation and redistribution, provided the original work is properly cited (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). The chapter is from the book *Celebrating passion for Water, Science and Technology: Festschrift in Honour of Gustaf Olsson*, Wolfgang Rauch and Pernille Ingildsen (Eds).

Years later, I myself became member and also chair of the ICA specialist group management committee.



This picture unites the ICA specialist group chairs in historical order (from right to left): Gustaf Olsson, ZhiGuo Yuan, Alejandro Vargas, me and Juan Baeza. It was taken at the ICA conference in Québec 2017. That was also the conference where Gustaf gave a live piano concert.

In March 2018, Gustaf paid a visit to Ghent University, where he gave a lecture on 'Water-Energy-Food-Climate: they are all connected', for the Centre of Environmental Science & Technology.



On that occasion, Gustaf also took the time to listen to the talks of the young researchers in my BioCo research group and give them some feedback on their research. As always, he was very open, interested, and encouraging.

So, dear Gustaf, besides the bright insights on ICA, that attitude is what I would like to take from you.

Thanks for everything!

Eveline