



**REPORT  
of  
SUMMER SCHOOL ON ACOUSTICS 2016**

**(Porto; Portugal, June 2016)**

In accordance with the ICA rules for special symposia sponsorship, the Portuguese Acoustical Society presents the following report related to a Summer School on Acoustics, which was funded/supported by ICA with an amount of 1000€ (thousand euros). These funds were used to give travel grants to participants.

The summer school on acoustics was held at the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto (FEUP), in the city of Porto, Portugal, on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. This Summer School was sponsored by the European Acoustics Association (EAA) and was organized by the Portuguese and the Spanish Acoustical Societies (SPA and SEA), in collaboration with the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto.

The EAA Summer School comprised five topic-focused courses and one motivational and more general course, dealing with some of the most actual topics in acoustics, such as:

- ENA - Environmental acoustics and smart cities
- SAVB - Sustainable acoustics and vibrations in buildings
- RMA – Room and Musical acoustics
- 3DVA - 3D virtual acoustics
- NMA - Numerical methods in acoustics
- APA – Approaching Acoustics

Almost 130 participants attended all the Summer School courses, which extended along two days, in two morning sessions and two afternoon sessions.

For many participants, this was the opportunity for learning about important topics related to acoustics, lectured by recognized specialists from different European institutions. In fact, the total number of almost 130 participants can be considered as very interesting. Some of these students also attended the EuroRegio2016 Congress in the three subsequent days, for free.

There were participants coming from 19 countries worldwide, but an important number of students came from Portugal, Spain, Germany, Turkey, United Kingdom and Italy.

A total number of 19 travel Grants was sponsored by SPA, SEA and International Commission for Acoustics (ICA), being offered to a selected group of participants (from 9 different countries) who applied for these grants. The ICA have contributed for 3 of these grants.

On Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, optative Exams in the Summer School courses (exception made to the motivational APA course), were provided to almost one quarter of the total participants. These students had previously registered for this evaluation component and, in case of success, certificates for recommended ECTS credits were issued by the Organizing Committee.

For the EAA Summer School participants different social activities were prepared in a get-together style, namely a dinner on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>, organized by the YAN (Young Acousticians Network, a branch of EAA for young people), and a boat trip along Douro River, at the sunset of Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Both social events were greatly participated and were used to break the ice between Summer School participants.

In order to help with the improvement of future School courses, an anonymous Survey was prepared and distributed to all Summer School 2016 participants. Important, interesting and valuable comments will be analyzed, regarding the organization of the Summer School itself and to get more specific information related to the evaluation of each course, and further suggestions from the participants.

The organizers have the opinion, shared by others (professors and participants), that the School was really important and that this kind of initiative is an excellent way for the promotion of acoustics and future development of research and studies in this scientific area.

For additional information, the following link may be used:  
[http://www.spacustica.pt/EuroRegio2016/english/summer\\_school.html](http://www.spacustica.pt/EuroRegio2016/english/summer_school.html)

On behalf of the Summer School Organizing Committee  
Jorge Patrício  
Paulo Mendes