

# ACP SUB-COMMITTEE FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING

Final strategic document

# ACP



- International representative body for CP researchers
  - ▣ CP conference (since 1995)
  - ▣ Summer school (since 2005)
  - ▣ Doctoral program (since 2001)
  - ▣ Awards
    - Research excellence (since 2005)
    - Doctoral (since 2008)
    - Distinguished service (since 2010)

# Why a strategic planning committee?



- To ensure the CP community takes full advantage of the many lines of research, to maximize impact on **science** and **society**
- Overall strategic plan
- EC appointed a committee on strategic planning

# Main goals



- Reflect upon achievements to date
- Identify a core mission
- Define values and objectives for the future
- Develop a strategy to help The CP community to achieve them
- Propose metrics to measure performance towards objectives
- Produce a reference document

All in consultation with the CP community

Initial findings reported at CPAIOR 2014

Online questionnaire

# Members of the committee



- Proposers/organizers
  - ▣ Francesca Rossi
  - ▣ Barry O'Sullivan
  - ▣ Pascal Van Hentenryck
- EC representative
  - ▣ Pierre Flener
- Other members
  - ▣ Michela Milano
  - ▣ Christine Solnon
  - ▣ Mike Trick
  - ▣ Toby Walsh

# Timeframe



- EC establishing committee in Q4 2013
  - ▣ Announced to the whole ACP membership at start of 2014
- Committee formed and discussion in March-May 2014
- Discussion and consultation with CP community in April-May 2014
- Presentation of state of the discussion at CPAIOR 2014
- Community feedback and additional discussion within committee in June-July-August 2014
- Final report at CP 2014

# Starting point

## (as assessed by the committee)



- Core mission
  - ▣ To promote the CP community, increase impact in other disciplines and in industry
- Status quo
  - ▣ Conference
    - Narrowing scope every year (very multi-disciplinary at the start, now mostly core, safe, incremental work)
    - Almost no companies present
    - Acceptance rate lowered over the years
    - Applications under-represented
  - ▣ Journal
    - Struggling to attract many good submissions and having a high enough impact factor

# Objectives



- Conference submissions and attendance from academia and industry to increase
- Status of journal to rise
- Constraints to have wider application



# Metrics to check progress



- Number of conference submissions (posters/papers/multi-disciplinary/applications)
- Number of conference delegates (academic/industry)
- Number of journal submissions
- Impact factor of journal
- Number of CP courses in universities
- Number of PhD thesis in CP

# Questionnaire: level of satisfaction with ...

- State/scope of CP research ..... 3.08 over 5
- CP conference ..... 3.62 over 5
- ACP summer school ..... 4.25 over 5
- CP doctoral program .....3.82 over 5
- ACP ..... 3.17 over 5

# Suggestions on strategies to achieve objectives: CP conference

- More diversified and external invited talks
- Tutorials mostly from outside
- Poster track
- Posters for CP papers presented at other conferences
- Multi-disciplinary track with a separate open-minded PC
- Application track (with suitable reviewing criteria)
- More colocations (SAT, INFORMS, FLOC, ML, ...)
- Accept more risky research, new ideas that bridge fields
- Advertise conference in other fields (especially journal track)
- Workshops on application areas (smart cities, computational sustainability, ...)
- Thematic multi-disciplinary tracks (CP and data mining, CP and sustainability, ...)
- Better integration with DP
- Better coordination between CP and CPAIOR?
- Reconsider author feedback and senior PC?
- Low cost publisher?

# Suggestions on strategies to achieve objectives: ACP EC

- More visibility to CP in other areas
- Build CP-wiki for resources
  - ▣ Tools, institutions, blogs, initiatives, success stories, pictures, ...
- ACP web site
  - ▣ Job openings
  - ▣ PhD theses
- Use funds for
  - ▣ Educational material about CP for CS or OR people
  - ▣ CSPLib
  - ▣ Design benchmarks for CP
  - ▣ NEOS-style server for CP solvers
- Tighter cooperation with CPAIOR (time, venue, colocation, ...)
- Contract with publisher for ACP award theses
- Prestigious application prize (David Waltz?)
  - ▣ In the style of the OR Edelman prize