

## Wrap up PRACE@ISC 2017

A wide range of activities took place at the PRACE booth at ISC 2017. PRACE signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CHPC, South Africa. PRACE sponsored the PRACE-ISC Research Poster Award this year for the first time. The PRACE booth team welcomed more than 300 ISC visitors and had interesting talks about PRACE activities. A novelty was the dedicated booth space for the EXDCI project.



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### Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between PRACE and CHPC (Centre for High Performance Computing, South Africa)

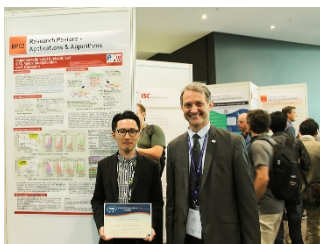
Serge Bogaerts, PRACE Managing Director, and Happy Sithole, CHPC Director, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between their two organisations, on 20 June 2017 at the PRACE booth at ISC 2017. The inspiration for this MoU came from informal meetings between PRACE and CHPC at the International Conference on Research Infrastructure (ICRI), in October 2016 in Cape Town, South Africa. Read more [here](#).



l to r: F. Berberich, A. Osseyran, H. Sithole (CHPC) S. Bogaerts, W. Van Rensburg (CHPC)

### PRACE-ISC Research Poster Award 2017

For the first time PRACE sponsored the PRACE-ISC Research Poster Award.



D. Mukunoki (l); S. Bogaerts

Serge Bogaerts, PRACE Managing Director, was delighted to present the award on behalf of Erik Lindahl, Chair of the PRACE Scientific Steering Committee (SSC), to Daichi Mukunoki of RIKEN Advanced Institute for Computational Science, Japan. The award was presented during the reception at the ISC Research Poster Award session on Tuesday 20 June 2017, for the poster entitled [Implementation and Evaluation of 2.5D Matrix Multiplication on K Computer](#) co-authored by Toshiyuki Imamura. Erik Lindahl commented that “*this research work for proves a practical very high-performing implementation of a new matrix multiplication algorithm that goes significantly beyond the state of the art.*” **Congratulations to the winning team!**



## PRACE booth activities

The PRACE booth was officially opened with a welcome from Serge Bogaerts on Monday 19 June evening. The following 2 days PRACE experts gave short presentations on different PRACE activities to the ISC exhibition visitors.

On Tuesday morning, Stephane Requena, Member of the PRACE Board of Directors, started with an in-depth talk on PRACE support to industry. Stelios Erotokritou, Computing support specialist followed with an overview of PRACE training activities including seasonal schools, advanced training centres, and much more. On Tuesday afternoon, John Clifford, PRACE Peer Review officer explained the PRACE Peer Review process to an interested audience.

The third ISC exhibition day started at the PRACE booth with a panel discussion on “How Diversity Impacts Horizon 2020 projects.” The aim of the panel was to discuss what has already been achieved, how diversity is addressed in Horizon 2020, and how this needs to be considered in future Horizon 2020 projects. Toni Collis, co-founder of [Women in HPC \(WHPC\)](#), moderated the panel composed of Serge Bogaerts (PRACE), Nick Brown (EPCC, and INTERTWinE Project), and Veronica Teodor (Forschungszentrum Juelich GmbH and PRACE-IP Projects). For the first time PRACE sponsored the Women in HPC Networking lunch at ISC 2017 which offered the opportunity to network with industry leaders, representatives of the HPC community and sciences.

“STEM students” was the motto for Wednesday afternoon. The PRACE booth team welcomed two groups of STEM students, and Stelios Erotokritou gave an enthusiastic overview of PRACE training and activities for students. The STEM students day concluded with a gala event including keynote speeches and information desks from the sponsors. PRACE sponsored this new activity at ISC for the first time and provided further information to the students on what PRACE has to offer them.

## PRACE workshops at ISC 2017

### HPC Access Workshop:

The HPC Resource Allocation Workshop was an opportunity for HPC professionals to share processes, experiences, best practices and lessons learned for allocation of resources at major HPC centres worldwide. Several organisations, from USA, Australia, and Europe, presented overviews of their allocation models and processes. Oriol Pineda, Member of the PRACE Board of Directors, presented the PRACE Peer Review Process. The audience engaged in a lively discussion on multiple topics related to providing access to HPC resources, and actively networked for future collaboration and exchange.

### PRACE Training Workshop

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> time a PRACE training workshop offered an opportunity to exchange experiences and achievements with the invited speakers from PRACE training centres and international partners. This year the workshop highlighted the current education and training R&D of the PRACE partners. One of the challenges of the PRACE training centres is to support a growing base of HPC users from science and industry with little or no HPC experience. The workshop provided a platform to discuss how to handle this challenge. Since March 2017, PRACE has been providing MOOC's via FutureLearn. A short presentation gave an overview of the experience with this so far. In addition, the



workshop addressed the clearly observed convergence of Data Science and Computational Science research methods, which has an impact on HPC education as a whole.

## About PRACE

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The Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe (PRACE) is an international non-profit association with its seat in Brussels. The PRACE Research Infrastructure provides a persistent world-class high performance computing service for scientists and researchers from academia and industry in Europe. The computer systems and their operations accessible through PRACE are provided and funded by 5 PRACE members (BSC representing Spain, CINECA representing Italy, CSCS representing Switzerland, GCS representing Germany and GENCI representing France). The Implementation Phase of PRACE receives funding from the EU's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement RI-312763 and from the EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme (2014-2020) under grant agreements 653838 and 730913. For more information, see [www.prace-ri.eu](http://www.prace-ri.eu)

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