

Jülich's Bernd Mohr to Chair SC17



Jülich Superscomputing Centre is extremely happy to announce that the SC Steering Committee elected Jülich scientist Dr.-Ing. Bernd Mohr as General Chair of the SC17 Conference in Denver, Colorado. It is the first time ever that the most important conference for High Performance Computing, networking, storage and analysis – the Supercomputing Conference (SC) in the USA – will be chaired by a non-American. Shortly after the announcement, the portal HPCwire listed Mohr as one of the people to watch in 2015. See: www.hpcwire.com/peoplewatch-2015/

Bernd Mohr started to design and develop tools for performance analysis of parallel programs already with his diploma thesis (1987) at the University of Erlangen in Germany, and continued this in his Ph.D. work (1987 to 1992). During his PostDoc position at the University of Oregon, he designed and implemented the original TAU performance analysis framework. Since 1996 he has been a senior scientist at Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany's largest multidisciplinary research center. He now acts as team leader for the group "Programming Environments and Performance Optimization" and serves as deputy

head for the JSC division "Application support". Besides being responsible for user support and training in regard to performance tools at the Jülich Supercomputing Centre (JSC), he is leading the Scalasca performance tools effort in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Felix Wolf, now at TU Darmstadt.

His first visits to SC were 1993 in Portland and 1994 in Washington, D.C., during his PostDoc days at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Later, in 1999, he was among a small team which was responsible for setting up and staffing the research exhibits booth of the Jülich Supercomputing Centre for a few years. Dr.-Ing. Mohr also gave 11 SC tutorials between 1999 and 2009. Finally, he got involved in helping organize the conference as a research paper reviewer for SCO3 and worked his way up serving various roles in the technical program committee. In 2011, he became the first European to be elected to the SC Steering Committee.

Established in 1988, the annual SC conference attracts scientists and users from all over the world who come together to discuss current developments. More than 10,000 people now participate in SC each year. The conference is sponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

The work for SC17 is already well under way. One of the most important tasks is to build his core organization team, around which some 500 volunteers will gather in the coming year. He also started to think about fine-tuning the topics for 2017: Besides an even stronger international focus for the conference, potential directions will be linking HPC more closely to topics such as big data analytics and pre- and post-processing including visualization.

I am personally very proud of working with Bernd at Jülich Supercomputing Centre. He was the person promoting the international reputation of JSC's computer science research most profoundly. His personality and enthusiasm have encouraged many international researchers to cooperate with JSC and have helped to create numerous personal relationships between JSC and international experts.

• Thomas Lippert

Jülich
Supercomputing
Centre (JSC),
Germany