

Germany recognises Professor Zoran Salcic with Humboldt award

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Professor Zoran Salcic has earned a prestigious Humboldt Research Award from Germany, for the fundamental contributions he has made to the field of computer systems engineering.

Awarded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, it is reserved for academics whose fundamental discoveries, new theories, or insights have had a significant impact on their own discipline, and who are expected to continue producing cutting-edge academic achievements in future. He is only the fourth New Zealander to receive the award in 40 years, and the first from an engineering discipline.

Professor Salcic, of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is known worldwide for his pioneering work in embedded systems. His work resulted in new approaches for the design of embedded computing systems, new language for their programming and new types of computer processors, based on a reactive processor, which is the basis for new work on the future "intelligent" generation of computing systems.

Award winners are invited to conduct a research project of their own choosing in Germany in close collaboration with a specialist colleague. His primary host will be Professor Juergen Teich at the Friedrich-Alexander University in Erlangen-Nuremberg, where he will contribute to research into next generation computing systems.

" Future computing systems will consist of thousands of computers interconnected on a single chip. Such computing systems will be used to control next-generation factory, farm, office and home automation systems and collaborating robots or used in conjunction with natural environment with future sensor networks," Professor Salcic says.

" Engineering such 'embedded systems' presents the grand challenge of future computing as current technology and mathematical models for computing will face a number of barriers. The research that will be undertaken addresses some of those barriers and will propose new computing paradigms."

Professor Salcic has also pioneered work on semiconductor technologies and reconfigurable systems in the form of customisable microprocessors, and on linking electronic semiconductor systems with optical and micromechanical systems. He has supervised nearly 100 postgraduate and 200 undergraduate students, and his work has been published in around 200 refereed journal and conference papers, seven books, 20 book chapters, and numerous technical reports. He was elected fellow of the Royal Society (Academy of Science) New Zealand in 2007.

Up to 100 Humboldt Research Awards are granted each year to internationally renowned academics from outside of Germany. More on the [Alexander von Humboldt Foundation](#)

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