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EDITORIAL

This issue makes good the preview given in issue no. 6 with one exception: Our hope to report on the SWIIS Workshop, proved to be a lost hope due mainly to the weight of material; the three days of action having produced no fewer than 30 papers, running to 223 pages of typescript.

We predicted in issue no. 5 that we expected to see a lot more of AI and find ourselves with nearly a full page Progress Report only a few short months later.

Liking statistics as a source of meaningful information, we have analysed „coverage“ in column inches, for the first six issues:

IFSR 45% — ASCS 15% — SGSR 13% — NS 11% — VARIOUS 16%.

MICROELECTRONIC FOR THE PEOPLE

Opportunities and Perspectives for Economy, Education and Medicine.

Sept. 11—13, 1984

Kepler University, Linz.

The Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria is organizing this event with the aim „To offset the menace implied by G. Orwell’s ‘1984’“.

The main points are:

- Changes and opportunities for middle-class economy: New markets and occupations, microcomputers in small and medium-sized enterprises, the office of the future.
Use and consequences of microelectronics in communications, especially videotext: A new medium in education, new learning by playing, decentralization of teaching, and advances in the postal services.
Microelectronics and informatics: Patient care and supervisory systems, sensors, artificial limbs, microelectronics for the handicapped.
Fear of and hope in law and sociology: The linked-together society, problems and opportunities of microelectronics as seen by employers, employees and trade unions.
Microelectronics and environmental issues: Measuring, controlling, and automatic warning systems, sensors, optimizing systems.

The conference languages will be German and English (no translation facilities available).

All correspondences should be sent to Prof. J. Mühlbacher, Research Institute for Microprocessor Technology, Kepler University Linz, A-4040 Linz, Austria. Final papers are due by June 10th 1984.

UNIV.-DOZ. DR. HEINZ FISCHER — FEDERAL MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies is one of the many smaller groups of scientists which greatly benefit from the support of the Austrian Ministry of Science and Research.

We have great pleasure in announcing and welcoming the appointment of Dr. Heinz Fischer to succeed Frau Bundesminister Dr. Hertha Firnberg as Austrian Federal Minister for Science and Research, an appointment the latter held since that Ministry was first established in 1971.

„Dozent“ in political sciences at the University of Innsbruck, Dr. Fischer had the benefit of a classical education before taking up academic work in law and political science.

He gained his Doctorate at the University of Vienna in 1961.

He soon entered politics, having been appointed Secretary to the Group of Socialist Members of Parliament in 1963.

He was elected a Member of Parliament by one of the Vienna Electoral Districts in 1971.

From 1975 to 1983 Dr. Heinz Fischer held the high rank of „Klubobmann“ (‘‘Speaker’’) of the Socialist Members of Parliament in the National Council.

Since 1979 Dr. Heinz Fischer is holding the office of Deputy Chairman of the Austrian Socialist Party.

His appointment as Federal Minister of Science and Research dates from May 1983.

His private personal interests include the chairmanship of the „Gesellschaft der Naturfreunde“ (Society of Friends of Nature), which he assumed in 1972.

Born in Graz, Austria in 1938, Dr. Heinz Fischer is married to his charming wife, Margit, and has two children.

Cybernetics — Theory and Applications

Edited by Robert Trappl, University of Vienna, Austria

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