

Tribute for Professor Alain Glavieux

We dedicate this special issue on “Turbo Processing” of the EURASIP Journal on Applied Signal Processing to Professor Alain Glavieux who passed away on September 25th, 2004, at the age of 55. After graduating from ENST Paris, he joined ENST Bretagne in 1978 where he set up from scratch the teaching program in digital communications. In the mid 80s, he set up the Signal & Communication Research Laboratory at ENST Bretagne, before being promoted to Director of Industrial Relations in 1998 and Deputy Director in 2003. He created the TAMCIC Laboratory affiliated to the CNRS (UMR 2872) in 2002 and was the Director. He chaired the First International Symposium on Turbo Codes in Brest in 1997 and was involved in the organization of the International Conference on Communications in Paris in 2004 where he served on the executive committee.

Among his numerous achievements, the most famous one will certainly be the invention of “Turbo Codes” with his colleague C. Berrou, in the early 90s. This sparked enormous research activities worldwide and this special issue is a typical illustration of the results of these activities. He and his colleague received many distinctions, among which the prestigious IEEE Hamming Medal in 2003. Alain Glavieux was also an exceptional teacher and those who attended his lectures keep a very pleasant impression engraved in their memory. Beyond his excellent scientific capabilities, his pleasant personality, patience, and generosity contributed a lot to his excellent image within the community. He will always be remembered for his kindness and dedication to the well-being of all those around him.

We express our deep sympathy to his mother, his wife Marie-Louise, his daughter Christelle, his grandchildren, and his relatives. Good-bye to you Alain, we all miss you a lot.

*Ramesh Pyndiah
Alex M. Haimovich
Luc Vandendorpe*