

Magnificence Robert Redhammer,
Honorabilities, Spectabilites,
Dear candidate for the honoris causa degree,
Dear members of Scientific Boards,
Dear ladies and gentlemen,
Dear colleagues
and Dear students,

It is my pleasure and a great honour to present this Laudacio to Prof. Imre Rudas on the occasion of granting him the honorary degree of Doctor Honoris Causa on behalf of the Slovak University of Technology and on behalf of me at this ceremonial session of the STU Scientific Board.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Let me now describe the personality, activity and contribution of Prof. Rudas, leading to this festive occasion of awarding Prof. Rudas an honorary degree, that he undoubtedly deserves.

Prof. Imre J. Rudas accomplished his engineering study at the Banki Donat Polytechnic School in Budapest in 1971. After that, he graduated with Master's degree in Mathematics from the Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest. In 1987, he obtained the PhD. degree in the field of robotics at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, where he also became Doctor of Science in 2004. He is winner of three titles of Doctor Honoris Causa awarded by the Technical University of Košice, Polytechnic University of Timisoara, Romania, and Óbuda University of Budapest, Hungary. In 2013, he was awarded an Honorary Professor degree at the University of Wroclaw, Poland.

Prof. Rudas is still an active university professor. Between 2003 and 2010, he was Rector of the Technical University of Budapest and the founder of the Óbuda University, where he was elected the Rector for the years 2010-2014. He was gradually Co-President, President and Honorary President of the Hungarian Rectors' Conference, and a member of the European University Association Steering Committee.

In 2012, he founded the University Research and Innovation Centre including the Antal Bejczy Intelligent Robotics Centre at the University of Óbuda. Currently, he is Chair of the University Research and Innovation Centre Administration Board. Since 2014, he has chaired the Central European Living Lab for Intelligent Robotics.

He is a IEEE fellow, a Senior member of the Industrial Electronics Society (IES) Administrative Committee, where he was Vice-President from 2000 - 2001. He was elected the Vice-President for the membership and student activities within the IEEE system, and the Man and Cybernetics in the period 2015 - 2016. He was President of the IEEE Hungarian section in 2009 - 2013. He is the founder and chairperson of the technical committee for computer cybernetics in the IEEE System, within the Man and Cybernetics Association. He was a "*Distinguished Lecturer*" in the Association for four years, and still works in the same position in the *Industrial Electronics Society*.

For seven years, he worked for the International Fuzzy Systems Association - IFSA as Vice-Chair. He was Chair of the Hungarian Fuzzy Association for ten years. He was also Vice-President of the Hungarian Academy of Engineers for four years.

Prof. Rudas has rich international professional contacts with many academic institutions, including those in Slovakia, such as the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Technical University of Kosice and Slovak Academy of Sciences. The cooperation with STU began many years ago, namely with Prof. Vladimir Bales, then rector of STU, and later with Prof. Alajos Mészáros and others. The common organization of a successful Intelligent Engineering International Conference (INES) within the IEEE series in the STU premises in September 2015 in cooperation with Prof. Robert Redhammer, the STU Rector, was an important event. The Conference attended by dozens of our colleagues launched the promising cooperation, particularly with the STU Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology (FEI) Institute of Robotics and Cybernetics.

Prof. Rudas is the editor of several recognised scientific journals, such as *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics*, a member of the *Journal of Advanced Computational Intelligence* Editorial Board, a founder and editor-in-chief of *Acta Hungarica Polytechnica Hungarica*, as well as a member of several international scientific committees. He is the founder of a series of IEEE international conferences. He has chaired programme committees of many international conferences.

His current research interests include computational cybernetics and robotics with an emphasis on robot control, cloud robotics, Internet of Things, soft computing, fuzzy control and fuzzy sets. He has written and edited 25 books and 803 articles in scientific journals, book chapters or proceedings of international conferences. He has recorded 1509 SCI citations for his scientific work.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Based on the above-mentioned, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology proposes to grant Prof. Imre Rudas the honorary degree of Dr. h. c. for his remarkable contribution to the development of research and science.

Thank you.