

**EAA AWARDS  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS • 27 JUNE 2017**



Photo by Klaus Genuit. From left to right: Michael Taroudakis (former president of EAA, current president of ICA), Antonio Perez-Lopez (receiving the EAA AWARD for contributions to the promotion of Acoustics in Europe), Jorge Patricio (president of EAA), Brigitte Schulte-Fortkamp (vice-president of EAA, representing Hugo Fastl who received the EAA AWARD for lifetime achievements in Acoustics but cannot attend the conference for medical reasons) and Michael Vorlaender (president of DEGA).

Read more on these EAA awards & the recipient speeches in the next pages.

**ENCOMIUM FOR HUGO FASTL . . .**  
**EAA AWARD for Lifetime Achievements in Acoustics**

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Hugo Fastl is an expert in the field of psychoacoustics and related fields. He not only has established the foundations of models for various psychoacoustic quantities and sound quality metrics, but he also serves as a very prominent reference and central node in a large network of international research and standardization.

Hugo Fastl first studied music (string bass) at the Music Conservatory Munich (graduated 1969), followed by electrical engineering at Technical University of Munich (graduated 1970), and received his Ph.D. from the Technical University of Munich in 1974 with supervision from Eberhard Zwicker. He then continued his academic career by adding a second doctorate (habilitation) in 1981; both dissertations made outstanding contributions to hearing research, particularly on masking thresholds as a measure for temporal and spectral resolution of the hearing organ. In 1987, he served as visiting professor at the University of Osaka in Japan, and since 1988 he has served as professor and head of the “Technical Acoustics” group at the Technical University of Munich.

His work covers a wide range of topics, including psychoacoustic quantities (masking, loudness, sharpness, roughness, and fluctuation strength), audio communication and speech intelligibility, noise abatement on vehicles and road surfaces, sound quality and sound design, musical acoustics (pitch perception, pitch strength), and audiology (hearing devices, cochlea implants, and the eponymous „Fastl noise“ for speech audiometry). Even with his enormous efforts in fundamental research, Hugo Fastl has always found ways to transfer his results into practical and industrial applications. He has also been key in promoting psycho-acoustical quantities within acoustic engineering, successfully bridging the fields of diverse disciplines. In particular, his book „Psychoacoustics – Facts and Models“, written initially with Eberhard Zwicker and subsequently revised and published under his own name multiple times, has gained very high international recognition lasting until today – the 2013 edition alone scores about 4500 citations on Google Scholar. No education in Psychoacoustics fails to integrate this remarkable work.

For his research, Hugo Fastl followed a strong multidisciplinary approach in collaboration with Japanese researchers and in supervising many joint projects in the field of Psychology. The intercultural difference in multimodal perception was one of the most significant aspects in these projects.

Among various memberships in national and international councils and boards, Hugo Fastl has been active in the German Acoustical Society (as chair of its TC Hearing Acoustics 1991-1997, as treasurer 1996-2004, as conference chair 2005, and finally as president 2004-2007). From 2004 to 2010, he also served as the treasurer of the ICA. He has received various prestigious national and international awards: among them, the 1990 Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, the 1998 Research Award of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, the 2003 Rayleigh Medal of the British Institute of Acoustics, the 2010 Helmholtz Medal of the German Acoustical Society, and in 2014 he was appointed as Distinguished International Member of INCE-USA.

At their core, Hugo Fastl's interests are based in psychological and physiological acoustics. Ultimately, however, a rich balance of academic and applied work characterizes his career. This has enabled his participation in a large number of projects and the support of numerous young researchers in his field. His graduate and postgraduate students carry on his ideas and inspiration, and they do so very successfully in industry and academia alike.

The EAA now honors Hugo with its award for lifetime achievements. This sounds final and complete, especially since in the present case the honorable colleague has already crossed the age limit of university positions in Germany. Not so with Hugo Fastl, who does not even think about resting on his achievements. Anyone who knows him is aware that retirement is by no means a consideration. So we will be happy to meet him again at national and international events, to discuss acoustics, and share a Bavarian beer at DAGA 2017 in Munich. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, we congratulate Hugo Fastl for being awarded the EAA Award for Lifetime Achievements in Acoustics.

MICHAEL VORLAENDER  
BRIGITTE SCHULTE-FORTKAMP

**Acceptance Address at the bestowal of the EAA AWARD For lifetime achievements in acoustics**

Dear colleagues,

I am delighted and deeply honored to accept the 2017

**EAA AWARD For lifetime achievements in acoustics.**

It represents an utmost privilege to be elected in a sequence of such great scientific heroes of our field like

Gunnar Rasmussen, Jens Blauert, or Michel Bruneau.

In your laudatio dear Michael, the notion that my work had an impact on the acoustics community worldwide is rather flattering, but I hear it with great joy.

In my mood of enthusiasm unfortunately I have to realize with sadness that after surgery of both eyes my doctors urge me, to avoid intercontinental flights until the end of the year. Therefore, to my great disappointment it is impossible for me, to receive the prestigious EAA-Award in Boston in person, and I wish to thank Brigitte cordially that she stepped in.

The illustrious **EAA AWARD For lifetime achievements in acoustics** is bestowed upon a single person, but it is always a team which stands behind the achievements. Accordingly, I had like to recognize some of the personalities who contributed substantially to my success:

First of all my mentor, the late Professor Eberhard Zwicker.

Second my former doctoral students who now are university professors themselves or hold leading positions in industry.

Third, I had like to commend international colleagues for stimulating discussions, in particular during coffee breaks of conferences organized by DEGA, EAA, or ASA.

Last but not least I wish to thank my wife Christa for her generous support over several decades.

Although the EAA AWARD is for lifetime achievements, as a dedicated engineer, I plan **not** to stop immediately my engagement in acoustic research. Rather, I had like to continue to push results of basic psychoacoustics into practical applications. And I look forward to attend future scientific meetings, in particular of EAA who bestowed such a great honor upon me.

Thank you very much.

**ENCOMIUM FOR ANTONIO PÉREZ-LÓPEZ . . . EAA AWARD for contributions to  
the promotion of Acoustics in Europe**

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Antonio Perez Lopez is perhaps the person who will be considered in the history of European Acoustics as the most representative of a European Acoustician.

He graduated from the University of Madrid with a degree in Physics and later he got the Diploma in Audiophonology from the same University. He continued his studies in England obtaining a Master D.I.C. by the Imperial College, University of London. He started his career in Acoustics at the Spanish National Research Council in Madrid and served as the Chief of the Noise Lab. Later, he worked as the General Director of the Spanish Branch of the German Group “Rheinhold & Mahla”.

From the very beginning, Antonio showed a unique ability to combine science with education and production. He was able to speak with students at the University presenting, in a professional way, the scientific aspects of sound and noise, to share new ideas with scientists working exclusively in the research sector, and at the same time to decide on the production of new materials related to noise and vibration control. He also demonstrated his administrative skills working in the industry and taking care of its running issues including the working relations of the employees of all ranks.

His involvement in all possible aspects of acoustics, in connection with his personal character and his belief in the necessity for collaboration between people and the dissemination of knowledge, dictated the way he dealt with the scientific unions devoted to science and in particular to acoustics. First, he was involved in Spanish acoustics becoming founding member of the Spanish Acoustical Society (Sociedad Española de Acústica (SEA)) and serving it as General Secretary and later as President, a position he holds until now. Under the leadership of Antonio the SEA has been now widely recognized as a model society in Europe. Checking the activities of the SEA which are rich of innovations and consistent activities, people will soon recognize that Antonio is behind the scenes.

Feeling European, he also dedicated his activities to the European Acoustics Association (EAA). He was the person to resolve the legal status of EAA by registering the association under the Spanish Law and undertaking all the necessary preparatory actions. He, also, offered the headquarters of the Spanish Acoustical Society to host the office of EAA. Thereafter, Antonio was appointed as the Director of the EAA office in Madrid, but being determined to promote the idea of a unified Europe he offered himself as the vital link between all the EAA boards and the National Societies. He was the person to look after all the European National Societies, especially the small or new ones, being in close contact with their boards and trying to show them the road map to success. Being member of the EAA executive council he was the person to ensure the continuation of the function of the EAA and its relation with other international Federations, Commissions, and/or Associations. He was always “pulling the strings” in the background, suggesting and implementing innovations in administrative, educative, and scientific aspects, mitigating conflicts, thinking forward, and giving the EAA a friendly and cooperative spirit.

Antonio has many beliefs: He believes in Science, in Solidarity, in Europe, in People, in Cooperation. He treats everybody as if he or she is a member of his family, trying to educate, comfort, introduce motivations, discuss future plans, and resolve current issues. He is always a good friend, “father” or “brother” to his collaborators. He is a real volunteer in life and science. He likes and believes in youth. He is able to communicate effectively with the young people. Among the many activities he has devoted to the youth, one may mention the production of educational material for young students aiming at their introduction to sound and noise, his support to the Young Acousticians Network of the EAA always suggesting the Presidents and the board to invest on the young scientists, and his continuous efforts to organize seminars and special courses for young acousticians.

Antonio is well known worldwide for his activities, having served the science of acoustics from different posts. He is a Member of the board of the International Commission for Acoustics since 2007 and Treasurer since 2010. He has been President of the FIA (Ibero-American Federation of Acoustics), currently being member of the board. He has organized many International Conferences and Symposia which remain in history of acoustics for their success. He has established good relations with many non-european countries for instance Morocco, Tunisia, Nigeria, and Algeria bringing to them the air of European acoustics and asking them to actively participate in European acoustics events.

Antonio will keep going, showing the way to all his friends and fellow acousticians.

MICHAEL TAROUDAKIS

**EAA AWARD**  
**To Antonio Pérez-López**  
**for contributions to the promotion of Acoustics in Europe**  
BOSTON, USA  
June 2017

Dear Presidents of the American Acoustical Society and the European Acoustical Association,  
Dear colleagues,  
Dear friends,

Let me first of all thank Prof. Michael Taurodakis for his extremely nice introduction, he exaggerated my merits.

Thank you very much as well to EAA for this Award and in particular to the German and Italian acoustical societies and their presidents, Michael Vorländer and Luigi Maffei, for proposing my name for this very distinguished Award.

Of course my earliest thoughts go to my dearest wife and my large family, my five sons and daughters and ten grandchildren, my strongest supporters.

I started in Acoustics during my last year at the University with Professor Andres Lara in Madrid. There were very few of us then working on this field in Spain –*actually, I was the second one...* I am happy to see now how this area has developed and increased in importance in our country.

Soon after university, I had the opportunity to work with Prof. Grützmacher at the PTB, Braunschweig, and with Dr. Raymond R. Stephens at the Imperial College of London. For a young physicist like me, from a country where research was so difficult, these were really great opportunities that marked my life.

In 1969, almost fifty years ago, I cofounded with Prof. Lara the Spanish Acoustical Society. Today I remain very grateful for the excellent work and progress done by the Spanish Acousticians. Many thanks to all of them and especially to Antonio Calvo-Manzano, Ana Delgado and Salvador Santiago, for their hard work and commitment.

I have always enjoyed the international relationship among acoustic societies. But I must thank Prof. Jens Blauert, who inspired me twenty years ago, during our Spanish Congress in Oviedo, he has convinced me that *“to build a Europe in peace, we cannot let politicians alone do it; scientists and technicians, we have to contribute as well”*. I must recognize that the Jens’ midnight speech was supported with a bottle of “cider”, and the following morning, after two big coffees, I started to get intensively involved with the European and International Acoustics Associations. Jens many thanks.

To conclude, I would like to thank all colleagues of the large acoustics community paraphrasing the Former President Obama on his farewell speech: ***“All that I’ve learnt in my professional time, I have learnt it from you. You made me a better man”...***

***Many thanks...***

To conclude the ASA/EAA  
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award ceremony,

ASA has delivered the following diploma to EAA for its 25-year anniversary.



Thanks ASA.