

Sorin Istrail's Faculty Notes for Conduit (August 5, 2024)

On March 14, 2024, an episode of the podcast "De la om la om," hosted by Prof. Dr. Emanuel Balan, featured an interview with Sorin.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KNRjUY5JgM>

On April 10-12, 2024, Sorin attended the 9th Probabilistic Modeling in Genomics Conference (ProbGen24), held in Vienna, Austria, at the Gregor Mendel Institute of Molecular Plant Biology. At the conference, Sorin was interviewed by Maria Tillich, director and producer at TV Rom 1, about his scientific life. The filmed interview, which took place in the office of Professor Magnus Nordborg, director of the Mendel Institute, was featured as a two-part episode in the documentary series "Universal Romanians," anchored by Cristian Tabara, director of the Film Department at TV Rom 1. Part 1 aired May 20; Part 2 aired May 27. TV Rom 1 is the main channel of TVR, the Romanian public television network.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pyue9y4Dmow&t=59s> Part 1

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2lHoqyf_08&t=416s Part 2

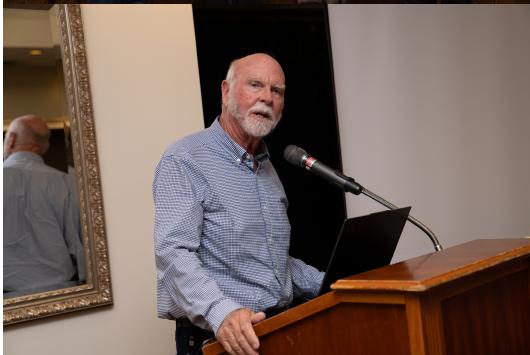
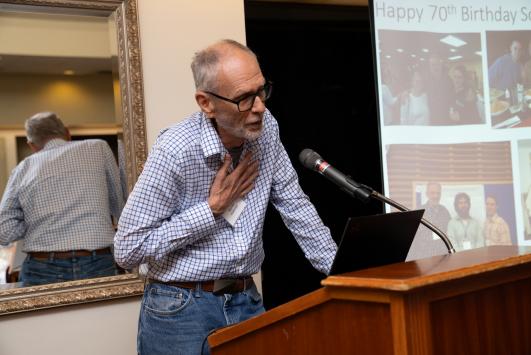
On June 11-14, 2024, Sorin attended the doctoral computer science summer school, Evolutionary Computing in Optimization Data Mining (ECODAM), at the University "Al. I. Cuza", Iasi, Romania, where he gave a lecture titled "Combinatorial and Statistical Prediction of Gene Expression from Haplotype Sequence." Graduate students attending were from Moldova, Ukraine, and Romania.

On June 17, 2024, at Colegiul National "Stefan Cel Mare" Targu-Neamt (Sorin's high school in Tg. Neamt, Romania), Sorin presented a short lecture as part of an event organized in his honor by Professors Emanuel Balan and Elena Preda. A Q&A session followed, with discussion about his career, challenges faced by today's students, and the didactical ideas and initiatives needed to inspire current high school students to excel.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek_CXZt77t8

Brown University's Department of Computer Science and Center for Computational Molecular Biology presented a conference upon the occasion of Sorin Istrail's seventieth birthday. *SorinFest: Phase Transitions in Computer Science and Computational Biology* was held Oct. 6-7, 2023, in the University's Thomas J. Watson Sr. Center for Information Technology. You can read about the conference's speakers in a separate article in this issue of Conduit. Videos of all lecture and dinner remarks are available at <https://cs.brown.edu/events/sorinfest/> and <https://istraillab.github.io/sorinfest/>





1. Sorin receives a present from the organizing committee member Derek Aguiar; Michael Waterman to his left.
2. Meg Lopez Meenan and husband; Sohini Ramachandran; David Rand; Kristi Wharton; Sorin; Andy Clark; Daniel Weinreich; Ritambhara Singh and husband
3. Ugur Cetintemel, Roberto Tamassia, Sorin, Eli Upfal
4. Michael Waterman
5. J. Craig Venter
6. Sorin, Ken Dill
7. Bjarni Halldorsson, Chair of the organizing committee
8. Derek Aguiar, member of the organizing committee
9. Ernie Brickell, Serafim Batzoglou, Bill Camp, Sorin, Gene Myers, Andy Clark, Bonnie Berger, Ken Dill, Caleb "Tuck" Finch and wife, Michael Waterman
10. Russell Schwartz (member of the organizing committee), Roberto Tamassia, Vineet Bafna (member of the organizing committee), Giuseppe Lancia, Sorin, Titti Guerra, Laxmi Parida
11. Sorin and Suzanne Alden