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The title is not a correct e-mail address..., but for sure Grzegorz has a lot to do with the University of Bologna. All started when for the first time I met him, during the Petri net conference in Gjern, Denmark, in June 1991; at those times, I just finished my Ph.D. in Pisa and I was going to start my service as assistant professor at Unibo. Grzegorz was very friendly with me and gave me advice for the continuation of my research on Petri nets. Then, we met occasionally, especially at various ICALPs (I remember ICALP in Jerusalem in 1994, when he acted as a magician at the conference banquet, and in Szeged in 1995), continuing our friendly relationship. In 1997 I organized ICALP in Bologna and, on that occasion, Grzegorz was involved in the celebrations of the silver jubilee of EATCS.

In 2004 Grzegorz came again to Bologna for ICATPN, the annual Petri net Conference. In that circumstance, I thought it would be a great idea to ask the Dean of the Faculty of Science and the Rector of the University of Bologna, the oldest university of western world (established in 1088), to bestow a Laurea Honoris Causa on Grzegorz Rozenberg for his



many scientific achievements and enormous influence in the organisation of the scientific community of theoretical computer science, especially in Europe. One year later, precisely on 17th June 2005, the formal ceremony was held, in the same suggestive location where ICALP'97 was organised. The picture above shows Grzegorz on the left, followed by Masatoshi Koshiha, a Nobel laureate in Physics in 2002, who also received a Laurea Honoris Causa in Astronomy during the same ceremony; then, the Dean of the Faculty of Sciences Lorenzo Donatiello; in the middle, the Rector Pier Ugo Calzolari. The right-most person is me, reading my short laudatio for Grzegorz; an introductory sentence of my speech was: “This ceremony is a form of tribute (i) first of all, to the eminent scientist, who obtained significant results (detailed later in the Dean’s speech), (ii) to the magnificent politician,

who with energy promoted research in theoretical computer science, especially in Europe, but also (iii) to the great man, who leads by example for a whole class of European researchers.” The various introductory speeches ended with the final sentence of the Rector. “To conclude, we are content that also the University of Bologna recognizes the scientific and organizational merits of Prof. Rozenberg, granting him a Laurea ad Honorem in Informatica.” Finally, Grzegorz gave his illuminating talk titled “On the Nature of Computation and on Computation in Nature”. At the Unibo web site http://www.almanews.unibo.it/04_05/Html/kosroz.htm you can find a 15 minutes video (unfortunately not in high definition) of his speech.

The pictures below show him (on the left) during the speech, and the audience (on the right), just before the start of the ceremony.



The picture below shows Grzegorz Rozenberg just after receiving from the Rector Pier Ugo Calzolari the formal parchment paper of his Laurea Honoris Causa in Computer Science.



Acknowledgements The pictures and the speech extracts are reproduced here by courtesy of Archivio Storico dell’Università di Bologna.