Message from the Program Chairs

Welcome to APSEC 2014, the 21st Asia-Pacific Software Engineering Conference in Jeju-si, Korea. Jeju-si is located in the island-province of Jeju-do in the south of the Korean peninsula, which is known as the “Island of the Gods”. The city counts 435,413 inhabitants (as of 2012), which makes it one of the largest cities of Korea. Jeju-do is well known for its warm and mild climate all year long, its resorts, with prestigious hotels and public casino facilities. Jeju-do is also famous for its orange and mandarin farms and its UNESCO World Heritage sites.

APSEC 2014 as a whole is the result of the tremendous effort of the many people composing its Organising Committee, who take care of everything, from finding a location to making sure that the food is delicious. In their effort this year, they were helped by people of Se-jong Convention Services, who provided amazing services, in particular a beautiful, professional Web site. Organising a conference is often done in addition to all the other duties of a professor with no prospect of rewards but the acknowledgment of the participants and of the community as a whole. It requires solving dozens of small but time-consuming problems while balancing the books and attending to the participants’ needs. This year, participants and presenters are particularly pampered. Thank you!

The APSEC technical program is the result of the amazing work of the 72 dedicated members of its Program Committee (PC) and their 22 sub-reviewers, chaired by its two Program Co-chairs. The PC is representative of the Asia-Pacific region but also follows the well-known 80-20 rule with 20% of its members from Europe and North-America and 80% from Asia. It also includes about one-third of new members when compared to the previous edition. The PC members received help from many additional reviewers, thus further enforcing the mission of APSEC: it is a place to share knowledge and to learn new skills. We would like to thank all reviewers warmly and commend them for the timeliness, thoroughness, and quality of their reviews.

From the initial 237 submitted abstracts, the PC collectively reviewed 226 high-quality papers, writing more than 480 reviews, 960 comments, and 200 revisions. Finally, it accepted 67 full papers (55 research papers and 12 industry papers) and 4 short papers, corresponding to an acceptance rate of 30% for the full papers. Of these 67 papers, 10 were invited for a special section of the Elsevier journal of Information and Software Technology. One of these 10 papers received the best paper award during the conference banquet.

The APSEC technical program is exciting and spans many aspects of software engineering, including the usual suspects: analysis, architecture and requirements, design, testing but also “cross-cutting” topics such as empirical studies, modelling, project management, and quality. These proceedings contain the 67 full research papers and 4 short papers spread across 13 3-paper sessions, seven 4-paper sessions, and one short-paper session.
The conference program also features three keynotes by leaders in the field of software engineering: Jeong-han Kim (Korea) who is Senior Vice President of Samsung, Director of Software R&D Center of Device Solution Division who describes the challenges met by companies dealing with software systems and the Internet of Things; Mike Howe (Canada) who works for the Mozilla Foundation and discusses the gap between academia and practice in software engineering and proposes concrete step to bridge this gap; and, Hans van Vliet (The Netherlands) who is professor in software engineering at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and presents the evolution of our thinking on software architecture and its relation to decision making.

Co-located with ASPEC 2014 are the 2nd International Workshop on Quantitative Approaches to Software Quality (QuASoQ) and the 2nd Software Engineering Education Workshop (SEEW). APSEC 2014 also features three tutorials by Tsong Yueh Chen on Metamorphic Testing, by Richa Sharma on Using Artificial Intelligence Techniques for Requirements Engineering Research, and by Soon-hoi Ha on Embedded Software Design in the Hardware/Software Codesign Methodology.

All-in-all, you will certainly discover in these proceedings new research results, techniques, and technologies that will be food for thought for the coming years of research.

Happy reading!

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