

Foreword

Letter from the General Chair

Welcome to ICSE 2002, the Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Software Engineering!

This year, besides the 3 keynotes, 48 papers, 3 panels, 9 industry papers, 2 invited industry presentations, 2 state-of-the-art talks, 3 impact talks, 8 posters, and 3 informal demonstrations in the main ICSE conference, we have 16 tutorials, 14 workshops, 2 symposia and 1 co-located event. These proceedings represent a snapshot in history on the state of the art and state of the practice of software engineering.

While the road to ICSE was complicated by events taking place around the world, the unfortunate need to relocate does not detract from the outstanding opportunity we all have to share ideas and experiences and to foster new relationships with members of our profession.

"It Takes 2 to Tango"

While all software engineers may be accused of dancing to the beat of different drummers, one could speculate which dance partner they might want to select:

- industrial applied software engineers and academic researchers in software engineering?
- software engineers and systems engineers?
- software engineers and information technologists?
- software engineers and computer scientists?

The point I am trying to make is that this year's ICSE brings together all of the above combinations and facilitates a synergistic environment for all attendees.

Acknowledgments

The contents of these proceedings represent thousands of hours effort from a handful of tireless volunteers. I would especially like to acknowledge the contributions of the Local Arrangement's chair, Viviana Rubinstein, who along with Pilar Suter and Hector Monteverde did a superb job in helping me plan not one, but two conferences. Pilar, Hector and all the staff at SADIO, the co-sponsoring organization in Buenos Aires, Argentina did a truly outstanding job in publicity, registration, student volunteers, AV, reception planning and overall logistics. I am looking forward to the time when ICSE will be in Buenos Aires because I know it will be a truly successful event, thanks to their professionalism and support.

The second person that I must thank, more than for the number of hours he has invested, but for his cheerfulness and "can do" attitude is Ken Anderson. Every web page and every bit of publicity that went out in print and across the net was the result of Ken's dedication and creativity. The next person in line for hero worship is Gregg Rothermel, who seemed to make the integration of over 110 separate contributions that appear in this proceedings easy. I know that it wasn't easy having to deal with over 110 separate authors (some of whom thought that instructions were optional). Great job Ken/Gregg!

Next, ICSE would not be a success without Workshops and Tutorials. With close to 70 tutorial and 30 workshop proposals Kurt Wellnau (tutorial chair) and Kevin Sullivan (workshop chair) did an unenviable job of sorting and classifying submissions in order to make the job of selecting the right mix of introductory and advanced tutorials and emerging and established workshops easy. Did I say easy? Nothing was easy, but having these two guys to bounce ideas off was a small step to at least reducing the effort and instilling some confidence in the eventual selections.

The next group of individuals I would like to acknowledge are those who I would consider, the "frosting on the cake." Thanks to their efforts, we have added opportunities for students and faculty as well as industrial practitioners to participate in ICSE. Steve Easterbrook was responsible for organizing the Doctoral Symposium. Martina Marré handled both the posters and the informal demonstrations. Bashar Nuseibeh helped with the panel selection. Neno Medvidovic coordinated the State-of-the-Art and Impact presentations and Jorge Boria worked with me on the Industry speakers and presentations.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Hal Hart. The fruits of his labors as Editor-In-Chief of the conference newspaper, *The Window On the World - WOW*, along with his staff have continually raised the level of awareness of conference attendees (as well as giving them something to read each morning while waiting for the plenary session to begin).

In closing I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the efforts to the two individuals who are directly responsible for the ICSE technical program, Jeff Magee and Michal Young. After hundreds of hours of telecons and a couple thousand email messages, I know the real reason behind ICSE's success is strong technical leadership like that found in Jeff and Michal.

In closing, let me say that it was a personal honor and privilege to have had this opportunity to serve as general chair of ICSE 2002. I am glad to have been part of it.

Sincerely,

Will Tracz

Lockheed Martin Systems Integration - Owego
General Chair ICSE 2002

Letter from the Program Chairs

Research is a community endeavor. ICSE is the premier generalist conference in software engineering research, encompassing all major subfields of software engineering. It plays a vital role in maintaining and developing the research community through exchange of ideas, development of a research agenda and setting standards for quality research.

303 full research papers were submitted to ICSE 2002, of which 45 (less than 15 reviewing and selectivity make publication in ICSE an honor for authors of selected papers, and ensures attendees and readers a selection of the best current research in software engineering.

A program committee of experts drawn from around the world and across the spectrum of software engineering research were responsible for selecting a program of high quality technical papers and providing constructive criticism to authors of all submissions, whether selected or not. ICSE program committee members commit to a very heavy load of reviewing, made heavier this year by a review period that was shortened when we postponed the paper submission deadline by a week due to the tragic events of September 11. Each submitted paper was reviewed by three or more members of the program committee. The final selection was made in a lively two day, face-to-face meeting of the full committee. We are grateful to the ICSE 2002 program committee for magnificent work under difficult conditions, and we are proud of the result they have achieved.

While technical papers and presentations may be the heart of a research conference, there is much more to a major conference like ICSE. The organizational task undertaken by Will Tracz, General Chair of ICSE 2002, was immense. It encompassed everything from negotiating hotel contracts to determining how many copies of proceedings to print to apportioning time in the conference program — and then doing it all again when a change of venue became necessary. Will has invested incredible energy in ICSE 2002, and we feel fortunate and grateful for the opportunity to work with him.

Sincerely,

Jeff Magee, Imperial College
Michal Young, University of Oregon
Program Co-Chairs for ICSE 2002