The Agile Conference series has become the premier place for bringing to the international community the results of scientific research on agile software development processes and practices. Our objectives are to enrich the collective body of knowledge, influence the line of thought in the field, encourage debate, and bring innovative ideas, while applying rigorous scientific approaches.

There were 27 research submissions this year, which seems to be fewer than the last year (41). However, if the introduction of the new Research-in-progress workshop is taken into consideration (with 23 submissions), it becomes clear that the level of interest and contributions from the research community has increased. All research papers underwent thorough scientific peer review process with a minimum of 3 reviews per paper. The quality of the submissions was extremely high. Nine top-ranked papers with significant portion of new material formed a strong research program of the conference. It consists of four main areas: 1) empirical evaluation of test-driven development; 2) social aspects of agile teams; 3) agile usability; 4) impact of agile practices. Many submissions offered balanced perspectives and addressed both benefits and limitations of the techniques discussed.

Research on agile approaches is important because it helps to distinguish the hype from reality and is instrumental in moving the software industry towards a sound body of knowledge. That is why the research papers continue to have a prominent place in the Agile conference. This would be impossible without the dedicated work of the members of our international program committee:

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