Preface

Welcome to the 16th IEEE International Conference on Automated Software Engineering. We are fortunate to be able to hold it here at the beautiful Loew’s Coronado Bay Resort on Coronado Island near San Diego, California (and Tijuana, Mexico). We hope you will take the time to enjoy the surroundings, but not at the expense of attending the engaging program sessions we have been able to put together with your participation.

The Automated Software Engineering conference was formerly known as Knowledge-Based Software Engineering (KBSE). In conjunction with the name change, in 1997, the conference expanded to encourage worldwide participation and to reach other scientific communities concerned with formal methods, software process support, human–computer interaction support, requirements engineering, reverse engineering, testing, and verification & validation, while still including an active artificial intelligence (AI) and knowledge-based component. The conference has evolved into an international meeting place to share ideas on the foundations, techniques, tools, and applications of automated software engineering technology. At ASE, experts with different backgrounds in software practice and theory present and discuss promising results of their research and experience. Traditional topics at ASE include both automatic systems and systems that support and cooperate with people, as well as models of software and software engineering activities.

This year, 32 long papers have been selected for presentation from 164 complete submissions, grouped into sessions having the broad topics of testing, transformation/construction, verification & validation, structure, analysis, reverse engineering and integration, model checking, and specification and model engineering. We expect these sessions to be quite exciting and broad enough to have something for everyone.

In addition, 28 short papers will be presented and discussed in a special poster session. These represent work the program committee feels is interesting and novel, but not yet fully mature. Previous conferences have shown that some of the most interesting and entertaining topics are discussed in the less formal and highly interactive short paper sessions. Colocated with the short paper poster session will be demonstrations of ASE-related software tools.

The conference kicks off on Monday with a Doctoral Symposium, led by the program cochairs for ASE’2002, Wolfgang Emmerich and Dave Wile. Tutorials are also held on Monday, organized by next year’s general chair, Julian Richardson. The ASE Steering Committee has decided to make this a tradition—that is, the following year’s general chair and program cochairs will work in these roles on the ASE Organizing Committee (for the year prior to their taking the reins). ASE’2002 will be held September 23–27, 2002, in Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom.

Finally, we are very lucky to have Bob Balzer, a founding member of this community, delivering the keynote address. We expect his view of automated software engineering will be novel and stimulating.

Our warmest thanks go to the many individuals and organizations that have helped with this year’s conference. The Steering Committee, Organizing Committee and Program Committee all worked steadfastly to create a special conference. We extend special thanks to the IEEE Computer Society for their sponsorship, particularly to Tom Baldwin and Maggie Johnson for organizational help; to Randy Bilof, Lorretta Palagi, and Danielle Young for producing the proceedings. We are also grateful to the ACM Special Interest Groups on Software Engineering (SIGSoft) and Artificial Intelligence (SIGArt) for their cosponsorship. If you are not currently a member of these fine organizations, we urge you to join. Our thanks also go to Carole Mann and Registration Systems Labs for handling registration, and to the doctoral students who helped out. Furthermore, we thank our various assistants: Cathy Kick, Margaret Wyvill, and Leslie Pearlman at UC Irvine, who helped with various organizational and administrative activities; Michelle Williams, also of UC Irvine, who lent a creative hand with the cover art; and Uwe Zdun at University of Essen, who created and supported the review system.

Please enjoy ASE’2001, the sessions and these proceedings. We are confident you will find the program both stimulating and entertaining.