Forward

Welcome to L’Aquila and the 23rd IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE), the major conference concerning the theory and practice of automating the software development process. The location of this year’s ASE is quite special. Surrounded by the Apennine Mountains and shrouded within medieval walls, L’Aquila is a cultural and scenic gem of central Italy, not many conferences can boast of an 11th Century venue!

The papers appearing in these proceedings were subjected to a rigorous and high quality reviewing process. A total of 280 papers were submitted to the conference. Each paper was reviewed by at least 3 members of the Program Committee and Expert Review Panel. The committee accepted 34 for presentation as talks and publication as full papers, and 31 for presentation as posters and publication as short papers.

In addition to the technical papers, the conference includes a Doctoral Symposium and a Tool Demonstrations track. A total of 17 tool papers were selected by review for publication within the proceedings, while 6 doctoral symposium papers were accepted. The Doctoral Symposium is a one day forum that seeks to bring together PhD students working on foundations, techniques, tools and applications of automated software engineering. Specifically, the symposium aims to provide a setting whereby students receive feedback on their research and guidance on future directions from a broad group of advisors, foster a supportive community of scholars and a spirit of collaborative research, and contribute to the conference goals through interaction with other researchers and conference events.

Several workshops are co-located with ASE 2008: 4th International ERCIM Workshop on Software Evolution and Evolvability (Evol); 1st International Workshop on Social Software Engineering and Applications (SoSEA); Automated Engineering of Autonomic and Run-time Evolving Systems (ARAMIS); 13th International Workshop on Formal Methods for Industrial Critical Systems (FMICS 2008) and GIIS 2008. In addition, 4 tutorials as well as the GII Doctoral School in Computer Engineering 2008 are also co-located with ASE 2008.

We offer our sincere thanks to the many individuals and organizations who helped make this year’s conference possible, including the Association for Computing Machinery; the IEEE Computer Society; the Associazione Italiana per l’Informatica ed il Calcolo Automatico; the ASE Program Committee and Additional Reviewers; the ASE Conference Committee; the ASE Steering Committee; the supporting institutions and companies.

Finally, we would like to thank the invited speakers, authors and conference participants for making ASE 2008 an interesting and stimulating event for the Software Engineering Community.

Paola Inverardi            Andrew Ireland            Willem Visser
ASE 2008 General Chair    ASE 2008 Co-Program Chair    ASE 2008 Co-Program Chair