Welcome to the 20th Australian Software Engineering Conference on the Gold Coast! In 2009, we have continued the efforts to make ASWEC a conference that appeals to both academics and practitioners. This is a daunting task given the different expectations and reward systems of both groups. In putting the conference together, we have received great support from local universities and industry in terms of sponsorship and organisational support, and the Australian Computer Society and Engineers Australia, who provide backing for the ASWEC conference series through their Joint Board on Software Engineering.

The resulting program contains a mix of keynotes, invited presentations, research and industry papers, as well as tutorials and workshops. We have also added a poster and tool demonstration session to provide a more interactive forum for the exchange of ideas. We have chosen the topic “Agile, the New Mainstream” as the theme of the conference, and this theme is supported through keynote and invited presentations, several technical paper sessions, and two tutorials.

As indicated above, organising a conference such as ASWEC takes a lot of effort. We would like to thank the many volunteers who have helped with this year's conference, including the Organising Committee, who have done a lot of the day-to-day planning and organising, and the Steering Committee, who have provided valuable guidance. This year we have engaged Eventcorp as a professional conference organiser to assist in managing and running the conference, and they have provided a level of professionalism that would be difficult to achieve otherwise. The most significant part of the conference is the technical program, so we thank everyone who has contributed to the program, including keynote and invited speakers, authors and presenters of technical papers, program committee members and reviewers of papers, workshop organisers and tutorial presenters. Last but not least, we wish to thank our sponsors, who have supported the conference financially, despite the current economic climate.

We hope that you find the program and the conference an enjoyable and rewarding experience, and that you get a chance to enjoy the Gold Coast as well.

Paul Strooper and David Carrington
General Chairs, ASWEC 2009