Message from the TLAD’07 Workshop Chair

This is the fifth in the series of Workshops on the Teaching, Learning and Assessment in Databases (TLAD’07), which once again will be held as a workshop of the British National Conference on Databases (BNCOD). This year the workshop will be held on the 2nd July at the University of Glasgow, just before BNCOD, and hopes to be just as successful as previous workshops.

The teaching of databases is central to all Computing Science, Software Engineering, Information Systems and Information Technology courses, and this year, the workshop aims to continue the tradition of bringing together both database teachers and researchers, in order to share good learning, teaching and assessment practice and experience, and further the growing community amongst database academics. As well as attracting academics from the UK community, the workshop is also successful in attracting academics from the wider overseas community, both to serve on the programme committee, and to present papers and participate in the workshop. This year, the workshop includes seven refereed papers which cover a number of themes: student issues; assessment issues and the teaching and assessment of database applications. There will also be a discussion session held during the workshop, concentrating on the issue of teaching and learning of databases and its relationship to industry.

Firstly, I would like to thank members of the programme committee for their reviews and their support of this workshop. Many members have had continued involvement since the first TLAD, thus showing the strength of the database teaching community both within the UK and overseas. Next, I would like to thank the organizing committee of BNCOD 24, and in particular John Wilson, who have ensured that TLAD has its place in BNCOD this year. Finally, I would like to thank the Higher Education Academy, and especially Karen Fraser, for her efforts in assisting with the organization of the workshop and for the continued support by the HEA which is key to the success and future growth of TLAD.

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