Message from the QATWBA’05 Program Co-Chairs

Welcome to QATWBA’05 – the 2nd International Workshop on Quality Assurance and Testing of Web-Based Applications at the 29th IEEE International Computer Software and Applications Conference (COMPSAC’05). As the Internet is rapidly expanding into all sectors of our society and becoming an indispensable platform of information systems and other computer applications as well, the quality of web-based software systems becomes a major concern in software development. Web-based applications are complex, ever evolving and rapidly updated software systems. Testing and maintaining web-based applications are notoriously difficult because of their complexity as well as new features, such as heterogeneous, distributed, multiplatform, multilingual, multimedia, autonomous, cooperative wide area network computing environment, etc. Traditional quality models, testing methods and tools are not adequate for web-based applications because they do not address problems associated with the new features of web-based applications. At present, web-based applications testing and maintenance are still an unexplored area and rely on ad hoc testing processes. Little has been reported on systematic testing methods and techniques, quality metrics, and dependability of web-based applications, to mention just a few. The workshop aims at providing a forum for researchers, practitioners and tools vendors to exchange ideas, research results, practical experiences and lessons learned on quality assurance and testing of web-based applications.

The first workshop on quality assurance and testing of web-based applications was successfully held at IEEE 28th Annual International Computer Software and Applications Conference (COMPSAC’04) in Hong Kong, Sept. 30, 2004. Eight high quality research works were presented at the workshop and published in the proceedings by IEEE Computer Society Press. This is the second workshop of the series. This year, we have 5 papers accepted for presentation at the workshop in two sessions and publication in the proceedings. They cover a wide range of topics in the area. A special issue in the Journal of Information and Software Technology has been scheduled to publish extended and revised papers of a selection of the works presented at the first two QATWBA workshops.

We would like to thank all the authors for sharing their ideas and results with us, and all the members of Programme Committee for their excellent jobs in evaluating and selecting high quality papers and their detailed constructive comments on the submissions. Without their participation, the success of the workshop would not be possible. Special thanks also go to the Chair of COMPSAC Standing Committee Stephen S. Yau, the COMPSAC’05 Conference Program Co-chairs Ing-Ray Chen, Roland N. Ibbett, and Hong Mei, and COMPSAC’05 Workshop Chair Eric Wong, for their continuous support.

Hong Zhu and David Kung
Program Co-Chairs
QATWBA’05