Greetings from the General Chair

COMPSAC 2009

The rapid development of computing, software, and applications revolutionized the contemporary society and greatly influenced its economic and social progress in the last century. Nowadays, the exponential emergence of innovative computing products and systems is due to the diligent work of both researchers and practitioners and the great synergy in research and implementation across disciplines and geographical boundaries attributed substantially to the breakthrough in computer, telecommunication and Internet. Even so, nothing can replace face-to-face meetings where we meet with old friends, get acquainted with new colleagues, and exchange ideas and share experience under one roof. COMPSAC has been playing this role of a flagship international conference for 33 years thus contributing directly and significantly to the ongoing information revolution. I was therefore very happy to accept the responsibility to serve as the General Chair in 2009 for a meeting with such a long and successful tenure.

Scientific conferences provide the primary meeting ground for researchers and practitioners from both academia and industry in order to define the key path of innovation in the broader space of computer science and engineering. However, not all conferences are created equal and COMPSAC guarantees the superior meeting ground for the key leaders in computer science research and technology. As it has matured into an esteemed venue for publication and discussion of knowledge in the corresponding areas, in recent years COMPSAC has been recognised as the IEEE Computer Society’s signature conference on computers, software and applications.

The theme for this year’s instance of the conference is Harmonizing Humans, Computers, and Software in Services Environments. Especially considering the fact that the conference is organized in Seattle, the home of Microsoft, the theme is particularly appropriate. The field of computer software and applications has been changing drastically and dramatically over the last decade with the huge growth of the Internet, the proliferation of mobile devices and systems, the emergence of services computing, and the globalization of software engineering. In response to the theme, the conference provides a very exciting technical program, as detailed in the welcome message from the Program Chairs.

In conclusion, I would like to express sincerest thanks to my fellow conference organizers, the Steering Committee and the Program Committee. The Program Committee, led by the three Program Chairs – Elisa Bertino, Vladimir Getov, and Lin Liu, and the reviewers all deserve credits for developing such an excellent technical program that resulted from a thorough and detailed selection process based on all submissions. Special thanks are extended to Carl Chang for his enthusiastic leadership of the entire conference planning and development process and for his serving as the Standing Committee Chair. It is a joy and an honor to work with such committed, talented, and insightful colleagues. We are all indebted to the numerous volunteers for their contributions to making COMPSAC 2009 a big success.

Thank you for your high quality contributions to this unique international meeting. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy the presentations and discussions, use the opportunity to meet interesting researchers, and appreciate the wonderful settings that the Seattle area offers to this conference.

I look forward to your participation and meeting you at the IEEE COMPSAC 2009 in Seattle, July 21-24, 2009.

Tony Hey