Message from the Standing Committee Chair

COMPSAC 2012

Continuing its proud and long-standing tradition, COMPSAC 2012 is the 36th instance of this international conference, the IEEE signature conference on computer software and applications. Many of you will speak about your cutting-edge research work; some of you are prepared to share proven or emerging industrial practices; and some graduate students are about to take a deep breath and sustain the constructive criticism they need in order to complete their thesis research work. Regardless of your role, together we are here to build the future of computing around the theme of this year: Trustworthy Software Systems for the Digital Society. My special thanks go to the presidents of two prominent sponsoring professional associations – John Walz for the IEEE Computer Society (IEEE-CS) and Kazuo Furukawa for the Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ). After all, modern technologies still cannot match the genuine sense of collegiality within and belonging to a great community that comes together to meet face-to-face. It is doubly precious that we—members of two great computing societies—have the unique opportunity to meet with two presidents in one great event!

This is the first time we move this genuinely international conference to a region where East truly meets the West – Izmir, Turkey. Turkey, holding the 15th largest world economy (World Bank GDP/PPP, 2005-2010), is a fast emerging nation with an interesting, rich and diverse past. We are particularly grateful for the strong support by the Izmir Chamber of Commerce, Izmir Metropolitan Municipality and The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK). Other strong supporters include IBM, STM and CARDTEK. Also to be acknowledged are NETSIS, iDivino and CMA for their supports that contribute to the overall success of this unique event.

We are very pleased to have our partner conference since 2008, the International Symposium on Applications and the Internet (SAINT), to be co-located with COMPSAC again. Conference organizers from both communities have worked together to develop the Turku edition (2008), the Seattle Edition (2009), the Seoul Edition (2010), the Munich Edition (2011) and now the Izmir Edition in 2012. It is no longer a secret that two communities will soon be integrated into one. Beginning 2013 we will have only one conference (COMSPAC) whereas the SAINT organizers and participants will mingle with the COMPSAC group to co-develop future editions of COMSPAC for years to come.

As in every year, I am happy to thank our leading organizers and volunteers. Elisa Bettino and Fevzi Belli, COMPSAC 2012 General Chairs, jointly provided leadership and guidance to lead the development of this year’s program. Program Chairs Xiaoying Bai, Atilla Elçi and Mohammad Zulkernine have all worked especially hard to produce an outstanding program. Cristina Seceleanu is instrumental to the successful development of a very vibrant workshop program to continue broadening the COMSPAC participation base. All other organizing chairs are to be commended for their individual dedicated work in each segment of this multi-faced international conference and they are our future hopes. Thank you to our track chairs and our workshop organizers for their assistance. Special thanks to Simanta Mitra for serving as both COMPSAC and SAINT Finance Chair, owing to his unparalleled expertise in the conference financial matters. Once again, the magic work done by Laurel Tweed the Organization Chair becomes indispensable and covers many critical dimensions from head to toe. We also have a number of students serving as volunteers in critical roles, in training to be our future faculty, industry experts and of course COMPSAC program committee members! Thank you to Haihua Xie, Liping Wu, and Liyuan Xiao for their valuable contributions, and other student volunteers at the conference to help with logistics.
I am deeply indebted to the hosting institution, the Izmir Institute of Technology, and our local host, Dr. Tugkan Tuglular. Tugkan is the man for this year! Finally, I would like to thank all authors, speakers and participants for making COMPSAC 2012 a success. Enjoy your visit to Izmir and do explore its historically, culturally and geographically rich surroundings!

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