Foreword

Welcome to the 8th IEEE International Conference and Workshops on the Engineering of Autonomic and Autonomous Systems (EASE 2011) which has technical sponsorship by the IEEE Technical Committee on Autonomous and Autonomic Systems (TC-AAS). Following EASE-2010’s Europe-side technical meeting at the renowned historic seat of learning, Oxford, we return State-side to Las Vegas.

The meeting continues our communities efforts to advance research in Systems and Software Engineering methods for the realization of Autonomic and Autonomous (and related paradigms of adaptive, organic, proactive) Computing and Communications, to conquer complexity and costs inherent in today’s computer-based systems while preparing the self-managing and self-directing infrastructure for tomorrow’s full realization of next generation paradigms of Cloud, Ubiquitous; Pervasive; Invisible; Utility; On-Demand, Grid-based; Ambient; Computing and Communications environments.

In this issue we have included one of our TC’s Letters & Technical Notes, actually back from when we were TF-AAS (Task Force), the proceedings of a small workshop on AI & Autonomic Communications “Developing a research agenda for Self-Managing Networks and the Knowledge Plane” at the prestigious IJCAI conference in August 2005, Edinburgh, Scotland. Recently upon re-reviewing this volume struck home that the research issues still remain and that perhaps we should be reincarnating this workshop at EASE next year. We are presenting it here for wider distribution to restart that debate instead of it just languishing on our TC’s website.

EASE’11 is once again co-located with the IEEE International Conference on the Engineering of Computer-Based Systems (18th ECBS) and IEEE International Conference on the Engineering of Complex Computer Systems (16th ICECCS); as we continue to believe every CBS should be self-managing in order to cope with the inherent complexity in today’s system. These co-locations continue to be key to establish autonomicity and autonomy as integral parts of all CBS through exploring engineering techniques, tools, methodologies, and applications, with our ECBS and CX colleagues. The spectrum and implications of the AAS vision are so wide that we need experts from all research communities to make this grand challenge a reality. Co-locating with these exceptional events, as is our tradition, presents yet again an excellent opportunity for cross-cutting interactions and further advancements to address our common goals.

We are indebted to many volunteers for their invaluable assistance in reviewing the submissions and making local arrangements in particular Jonathan Sprinkle from the University of Arizona. On the CS staff side thanks must go to Lisa O’Conner for outstanding work on our proceedings and special thanks to E. Brookes Little for taking on the arrangements of the three joint technical meetings and forming a single event. Last and far from least, thanks to all the authors whose papers and presentations make the event yet again what it truly is — an exciting forum to learn, exchange ideas, meet old friends, and make new ones! Although what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas – hopefully these proceedings will at least provide you with memories of the technical content!! ☺

Roy Sterritt
TC-AAS Chair