Preface

The 9th European Conference on Web Services (ECOWS 2011) was held in Lugano, Switzerland, on September 14-16, 2011. The aim of the ECOWS conference series is to provide a forum where researchers and practitioners can discuss the latest advances in Web services, which constitute the main technology available to date for implementing service-oriented systems. The previous editions of the conference were held in Erfurt (Germany, 2003 and 2004), Växjö (Sweden, 2005), Zurich (Switzerland, 2006), Halle (Germany, 2007), Dublin (Ireland, 2008), Eindhoven (The Netherlands, 2009), and Ayia Napa (Cyprus, 2010).

The program of the main conference was structured in two days (September 15th and 16th, 2011), with the presentation of selected research papers and of three invited keynote talks by Wil van der Aalst (Technische Universität Eindhoven, The Netherlands), Carlo Ghezzi (Politecnico di Milano, Italy), and Stephan Murer (Credit Suisse AG, Switzerland). 75 submissions of research papers were received and, after a rigorous peer review process, only 18 papers were accepted, yielding an acceptance rate of 24%. This allowed us to select a high quality program with interesting papers giving important insights on Web services research. A key aspect getting special emphasis at this conference is service management, represented mainly by two sessions about service level agreements and planning. Other focal points are service workflows, service description, discovery, composition and service security as well as non-functional requirements in general.

The conference hosted also an industrial track, which featured 6 presentations – four accepted after a peer review process led by the industrial track chairs, and two invited talks.

ECOWS 2011 also hosted a Ph.D. symposium and on September 14th 2011 four satellite workshops:
- 6th Workshop on Enhanced Web Service Technologies (WEWST 2011),
- 5th International Workshop on Web APIs and Services Mashups (Mashups 2011),
- 2nd International Workshop on DATA Visualization and Integration on data-centric Web Services (DATAVIEW 2011),

The success of ECOWS 2011 was the result of the work of many people, whom we would like to warmly thank for their efforts and dedication: The General Chair Cesare Pautasso and all the local organization committee, the Industrial Track Chair Olaf Zimmermann, the Workshop Chair Flavio de Paoli, the Ph.D. Symposium Chair Wolf Zimmermann, the Steering Committee, the Program Committee, the Industry Track Program Committee, as well as the additional reviewers. We intend also to express our gratitude to the ECOWS 2011 sponsors: Faculty of Informatics, University of Lugano (USI), IEEE Technical Committee on Services Computing, IBM, City of Lugano, Swiss Informatics Society, Doodle AG, Associazione Ticinese Elaborazione Dati, ATOMIKOS, and RedHat JBoss. Last but not least, we would like to thank all of the authors of the accepted papers for their great presentations.

We do hope that the contributions reported in this volume will be valuable and inspiring for your work, and perhaps also encourage you to participate in the next editions of ECOWS.

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