The Chairs of ESEM 2011 wish to jointly welcome you to the premier international empirical software engineering event of 2011. ESEM is located at the beautiful Banff Conference Centre. We are fortunate to be able to benefit from such an inspirational location in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. It is a sign of the health and vibrancy of the discipline that ESEM is growing in scope and the number of co-located events.

Our overall objective has been to provide a forum where researchers and practitioners can report and discuss recent research results in the areas of empirical software engineering and software measurement. We also seek to explore strengths and weaknesses of research methods from an empirical viewpoint and to provide learning and training opportunities so that attendees may benefit from the experiences of others. In addition, through rigorous review we can showcase the very best of our research for the rest of the world. This year’s symposium has had the following acceptance rates:

- full papers of 33/103 = 32%
- short papers 17/43 = 40%

We gratefully acknowledge support from the following sponsors: Microsoft Research, Alberta Innovates, Siemens, the University of Calgary, the University of Alberta, RIM, AT&T, NTT Data and support from the IEEE, the ACM, SIGSOFT and IEEE Software.

We are very conscious this is a community-wide event and that it would not have been possible without the help of so many people. In particular our thanks go to the Organizing Committees, local arrangements people, the website manager, reviewers, keynote speakers and authors. However, most of all we’d like to thank the attendees. Without your support this week of special events could not happen.

This symposium provides an unprecedented opportunity for the international empirical community to meet and discuss their research and its implications for industry. We strongly urge you to take full advantage of this unique opportunity and we look forward to next year reading the results of the collaborations that started in Banff, September 2011.

So welcome to Banff. We hope you all have a fruitful and enjoyable time.

James Miller, Guenther Ruhe, Brian Robinson, Martin Shepperd, Forrest Shull, Jonathan Sillito, Ayse Tosun and Stefan Wagner