Welcome from the General Chairs

As the Program Chairs and on behalf of the organizing committee of ESEM13, we are happy to welcome you to Baltimore for the premier international empirical software engineering event of 2013!

This year saw a record number of requests for events to be co-located with ESEM, and we are very pleased with the final schedule. We suspect that, whatever your area of interest, you will be able to find events, technical articles, and conversations with other attendees that will be on target and thought-provoking. The fact that the co-located events include some new workshops that have not joined us before attests to the continued growth and vibrancy of our discipline.

These events enable us 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, and their application to a variety of problems of contemporary relevance. Due to the prevalence of software and other high-tech industry here in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, we have made a special effort this year to reach out to industry, through a dedicated program track as well as highlighting topics of practical and industrial relevance throughout the week. To add new voices to this discussion, we were pleased this year to work with the National Science Foundation to provide travel support that allows more students to participate in our events. As in other years, we aim for an open and constructive discussion among participants that can explore the strengths and weaknesses of research methods from an empirical viewpoint, and can provide learning and training opportunities so that attendees may benefit from the experiences of others.

We would like to thank the Program Committee for their dedication to rigorous and timely peer review, which allows us to highlight the very best research from the empirical community. This year’s symposium had the following acceptance rates:

- Full papers: 24 out of 86 = 28%
- Short papers: 16 out of 39 = 41%
- Industry experience reports: 10 out of 20 = 50%

The exciting week we have prepared would not have been possible without our sponsors: the Experimental Software Engineering Group at COPPE/Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, the Fraunhofer Center for Experimental Software Engineering, IEEE Software, Microsoft Research, the US National Science Foundation, the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and the University of Maryland University College. Nor would this have been possible without the support from ACM, IEEE, the IEEE Computer Society, and SIGSOFT.

Our thanks go as well to all of the people who helped so much in preparing this event. It really does take a team to manage the logistics of the symposium, and the final experience reflects the hard work of many, many volunteers. But in addition, we’d like to thank you, the attendees – Without your willingness to come and discuss, share, reflect and enjoy, none of this effort would be worthwhile. We strongly urge you to take full advantage of this opportunity, and we look forward to a fruitful exchange and many new exciting collaborations to come.

Carolyn Seaman and Forrest Shull (General Chairs)