Foreword

Ever faster changing technology cycles, the need to leverage existing IT investments and the expanding global economy which calls for flexible and adaptive business collaborations are only some of the driving forces that motivate the shift from monolithic and static systems development to the construction of dynamic and evolving systems and systems of systems, built through the composition of existing custom-made, COTS, Open Source and other software components.

The challenges arising from planning, building, maintaining, and governing such composite systems of systems, though multi-faceted, are principally concerned with the problem of integrating such systems and ensuring the interoperability of their constituent parts.

The 7th IEEE International Conference on Composition-Based Software Systems (ICCBSS 2008), taking place in the beautiful and multicultural metropolis Madrid, where business and pleasure are inseparable, will, under this year’s conference theme “Weaving Composite Systems,” focus on these issues and provide a forum for discussing and exchanging new and emerging ideas, research areas, and development approaches addressing these challenges, both from a technological and an organizational perspective.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the team of volunteers I had the pleasure of working with while organizing the conference. Particularly the Steering, Organizing, and Program Committees, IMDEA through their support with local arrangements, the keynote speakers, and last but not least, the authors of the submitted and accepted papers, workshops, tutorials, and posters have contributed outstanding work to making this conference a success.

My gratitude goes also to the sponsoring organizations, Software Engineering Institute, National Research Council Canada, European Software Institute, and the IEEE Computer Society’s Technical Council on Software Engineering, which with their help and support made this latest in a series of conferences possible.

I hope you enjoy this 7th ICCBSS as a stimulating, instructive, and enlightening event and find the conference proceedings to be a commendable source of information.

Stefan Schuster
General Chair, ICCBSS 2008