Welcome to the ICGSE 2013 Doctoral Symposium! The Doctoral Symposium (DS) provides an opportunity to PhD students to discuss their research plans and ongoing work with experienced researchers and other Ph.D. students. Students participating in the Symposium will present their work to a panel of experts, and also the wider ICGSE community through a poster session during the main conference. The DS panel will provide them with feedback on their work, highlight opportunities that may not have been considered thus far, and possible directions for future work. The poster sessions will offer students an opportunity to meet with researchers from academia and industry.

We received eight submissions and five are included in the ICGSE 2013 DS proceedings. The submissions investigate diverse aspects of Global Software Engineering (GSE). Two of these submissions are concerned with two different aspects agile development, while the other three submissions provide us with three students' early perspectives on global requirements engineering on the Cloud, green IT-outsourcing and a communication maturity model for GSE.

In summary, the five PhD proposals that will be discussed in this year’s DS provide us with an opportunity to preview future directions and complimentary areas of GSE research. We hope that everyone attending will enjoy the presentations and discussions, and that students will receive useful feedback.

Ban Al-Ani and Sarah Beecham
ICGSE 2013 Doctoral Symposium Chairs