Message from the ICNP 2014 Technical Program Chairs

Welcome to IEEE ICNP 2014, the 22nd International Conference on Network Protocols in Raleigh, North Carolina! As a premier conference on computer networks, the technical program this year features 32 outstanding regular papers and 15 concise papers that cover a wide variety of areas including cloud computing & data center networking, cyberphysical systems, Internet monitoring and measurement, routing, security and pricing, network algorithms, forwarding plane, wireless networks, and transport. We are delighted to have two keynote speakers this year: Mike Reiter (ACM Fellow, IEEE Fellow, Lawrence M. Slifkin Distinguished Professor of the Department of Computer Science of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and John C.S. Lui (ACM Fellow, IEEE Fellow, Choh-Ming Li Professor of Computer Science and Engineering of the Chinese University of Hong Kong).

This year, we made the following four major changes to ICNP with approval from the Steering Committee. First, we broadly defined the term “protocol” to include all networking topics that directly or indirectly impact network protocols. Second, we solicited two types of papers: regular papers of at most 12 pages each, and concise papers of at most 6 pages each. A regular paper describes an important research project that has been completed, whereas a concise paper describes a significant contribution in a research project that may still be in progress. Regular papers and concise papers have different submission and notification deadlines. The two types of papers are reviewed by different sets of TPC members, but overseen by the same set Area Chairs. Third, we increased the page limit from 10 to 12 to be relatively consistent with other premier conferences in computer networks. Fourth, we established the collaboration with the IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking journal so that as of this year, up to two of the best papers from ICNP each year will be fast-tracked in the IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking, with a streamlined journal review process.

This year, we received many submissions of high quality; however, due to the limited space, the Technical Program Committee had to make difficult choices. For the regular track, we received 160 submissions (from 22 countries), out of which 32 papers were accepted for publication in the
conference proceedings. For the concise track, we received 79 submissions (from 20 countries), out of which 15 papers were accepted for oral presentation in the conference.

Following ICNP’s tradition of rigorous and double-blind reviewing, both the regular and concise track used the following three-stage reviewing process. In the first stage, we assigned each paper to several TPC members and an Area Chair for reviewing. For regular papers, more than 90% received five or more reviews and more than 70% received six or more reviews. Specifically, the percentages of regular papers receiving four, five, six, seven, and eight reviews, including the Area Chair review, were 5.66%, 20.01%, 40.25%, 30.82%, and 1.26%, respectively. For concise papers, more than 87% received four or more reviews and more than 48% received five reviews. Specifically, the percentages of concise papers receiving three, four, or five reviews, including the Area Chair review, were 12.66%, 39.24%, and 48.1%, respectively. In the second stage, for each paper, the reviewers and the Area Chair discussed the paper online trying to reach a consensus, and then the Area Chair wrote a summary of the reviews and gave an editorial recommendation (directly accept, discuss in the TPC meeting, or directly reject). Based on the TPC and Area Chair reviews and recommendations, we selected 15 regular and 8 concise papers to be directly accepted into the program without discussion in the TPC meetings, and 34 regular and 14 concise papers to be discussed in the TPC meetings. In the third stage, the regular track TPC held a meeting and selected 17 regular papers to be included in the program, and the concise track TPC held a meeting and selected 7 concise papers to be included in the program.

The ICNP program this year would not have been possible without the dedicated effort of a number of people. First, we would like to thank the 86 regular track TPC members and the 31 concise track TPC members for their hard work providing high-quality reviews. Second, we would like to thank the 20 Area Chairs for providing both high-quality reviews and editorial summaries. We especially thank those TPC members and Area Chairs who attended the TPC meetings for their valuable time and passionate debates. Attending such long meetings requires a significant amount of effort. Third, we thank Jonathan Sobel, Carl Bruggeman, and Andy Keep from Cisco for providing and managing the bridges for the whole duration of two long TPC meetings. Fourth, we thank this year’s ICNP General Chairs, Professor Jasleen Kaur (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA) and Professor George Rouskas (North Carolina State University, USA), and the entire ICNP 2014 organizing committee for their generous support. We are grateful to the ICNP Steering Committee for the opportunity to serve as TPC Chairs and their continuous guidance along the way. Finally, we thank all authors for choosing ICNP 2014 as a venue for presenting their work, and all attendees for making ICNP 2014 a premier and exciting forum for exchanging ideas and promoting future research on computing networks.

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