Welcome Message from the Program Chairs of ICSA 2017

The International Conference on Software Architecture (ICSA 2017) integrates and extends WICSA (Working IEEE/IFIP Conference on Software Architecture) and CompArch, that, in turn, was composed of CBSE (SIGSOFT Symposium on Component-Based Software Engineering) and QoSA (International ACM SIGSOFT Conference on the Quality of Software Architectures).

ICSA is the premier gathering of practitioners and researchers interested in software architecture, in component-based software engineering, and in quality aspects of software and how these relate to the design of software architectures.

ICSA is a working conference, where researchers meet practitioners and where practicing software architects can discuss the problems that they face in their day-to-day work and thereby to influence the future of the field. In addition to traditional conference keynotes and paper sessions ICSA includes interactive working sessions where practitioners and researchers discuss their experiences to understand the current state of the field and to identify opportunities that have the promise of making a difference in the future.

The theme of ICSA 2017 is “continuous architecting” – exploring the role, importance, and characteristics of architecture in continuous software engineering development processes. The increasing size of software systems and the emergence of increasingly autonomous systems is asking for innovative software engineering practices. The way software is developed and maintained is rapidly changing and must take into account multifaceted constraints like fast-changing and unpredictable markets, complex and changing customer requirements, pressures of shorter time-to-market, rapidly advancing information technologies, just to name a few of these new aspects. To cope with such constraints, software is increasingly produced according to rapid continuous software engineering development processes.

This year, the call for papers for the technical track of ICSA has attracted 95 long paper submissions and 12 short paper submissions. Each paper has been carefully reviewed and discussed by at least three reviewers. The outcome of the evaluation and discussion phases led to the acceptance of 21 long technical papers and 5 short technical papers. Additionally, we accepted 8 (out of 95) long technical papers as short technical papers.

The technical sessions of ICSA will give the opportunity to the conference attendees to see 34 presentations in 13 technical sessions. Some of these will be working sessions with time slots dedicated to extended open discussions.
Besides the technical track, ICSA will also host the following tracks:

- **Industry track** – this track will gather high-qualified industrial and research participants that are eager to communicate and share common practical challenges in software architecture,
- **New and emerging ideas track** – this track will capture new software architecture research directions that may lead to disruptive innovation,
- **Tool demo track** – this track will present innovations and findings in the field of software architecture by means of tool demonstrations,
- **Young Researchers Forum** – this track will in a friendly environment give a feedback to young researcher on their work, enable exchanging experience, setting questions, and explore pathways open to them.

Additionally, as part of the conference program, the conference will host tutorials and workshop sessions.

The three main days of the conference will be opened by three keynotes given by top researchers and highly estimated industrial representatives. Specifically, (i) the keynote of Wednesday April 5 2017, will be Brendan Bank, Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Booking.com, (ii) the keynote of Thursday April 6 2017 will be Frances Paulisch, senior principal key expert for software and digitalization at Siemens Corporate Technology, and (iii) the keynote of Friday April 7 2017 will be Sam Malek, Associate Professor at the University of California, USA. Moreover, in the afternoon of Wednesday there will be an additional keynote, namely Martin Hiller, Technical Leader in Logical Design Elements and Software Architecture at Volvo Cars, Gothenburg, Sweden. More information about the keynotes can be found below.

Finally, the program chairs of ICSA would like to thank the program committee members for their precious contribution to the selection process of the conference, and the conference organisers for their devoted work which makes it possible to make the conference an memorable event.

**Patrizio Pelliccione, Program Co-Chair of ICSA 2017**

**Marija Mikic, Program Co-Chair of ICSA 2017**

**Ivica Crnkovic, General Chair of ICSA 2017**