Foreword

On behalf of the program committee for Metrics 2001, we wish to welcome you to London, United Kingdom, for the Seventh International Symposium on Software Metrics.

The program of Metrics 2001 includes 30 papers selected from 67 submitted papers by an international program committee during a two day meeting held in Washington D.C. The selection was based on more than 275 reviews. All papers had at least three reviewers, but most papers had four independent reviewers. The committee had a difficult task and it is our sincere belief that the work resulted in 30 high quality papers being accepted. A selection of the very best papers has been invited in an extended form to IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering. In addition to paper sessions, we have two keynotes, one panel and a special session devoted to state-of-the-art seminars covering important issues such as global software development and object orientation.

The conference provides a blend of papers covering a broad range of software development aspects, as well as practice and theory. Papers report on measurement, empirical studies and other quantitative and qualitative methods applied to software development, management and quality assurance.

We hope that all participants find some papers of interest and that you have an inspiring conference, and that you identify some new ideas that will have an impact on your research or practice activities back home.

This year, we are collocated with ESCOM (European Software Control and Metrics conference), which together with Metrics 2001 make up the Software Metrics week in London in 2001. The collocation of the two conferences will hopefully provide an interesting blend of practical and theoretical approaches to software metrics.

Finally, we extend our sincere thanks to the program committee for their work ensuring a good selection of papers. Special thanks to Adrian Cowderoy for coordinating Metrics with ESCOM and being responsible for the local arrangements in London.

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