Message from the Chairs

We cordially welcome you to RE’06, the 14th IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference. We gather this year from September 11-15, in the vibrant city of Minneapolis in Minnesota, the “Land of 10,000 Lakes”.

The conference theme, “Understanding the Stakeholders’ Desires and Needs” reflects the fact that, at its core, requirements engineering is about satisfying the stakeholders. It also illustrates the growing importance of requirements engineering in software and systems development: we cannot build useful systems if we do not know the stakeholders’ desires and needs.

The conference offers a strong technical program with broad appeal to researchers, industrial practitioners, students, and educators in the field of requirements engineering.

The research paper sessions give participants the opportunity to hear and discuss innovative results and evaluations in requirements engineering research. In three panels, experts discuss current RE problems as well as look into the future of requirements engineering. A session with four vision papers explores what is ahead in RE. The poster session previews innovative requirements engineering research, and demonstrations of research tools highlight new developments and offerings.

RE’06 also features a full practitioner track to address key issues faced by requirements engineering professionals in industry. The practitioner track contains refereed industrial practice and experience papers, invited practice and experience talks, two mini-tutorials, and a meet-the-expert session.

As a highlight for all participants, we are pleased to have three excellent keynote speakers. Mary Beth Rosson from Pennsylvania State University (USA) looks at requirements from an end-user perspective. Dorothy Graham, a founder and principal of Grove Consulting (UK), describes the relationship between requirements and testing from a practitioner’s viewpoint. Lastly, John Mylopoulos, University of Toronto (Canada) and Trento (Italy), a researcher deeply involved in shaping the field of requirements engineering, will talk about the future of goal-oriented requirements engineering.

Two days of tutorials and workshops, plus a doctoral symposium, precede the main conference. Tutorials provide a popular and efficient way to learn about new topics in RE. The associated workshops, three of which are on-going from previous RE conferences, serve as forums for presenting current work and discussing shared interests. The RE’06 Doctoral Symposium gives doctoral students an opportunity to present their research and receive feedback from international experts in an open and constructive atmosphere.

RE’06 has been advertised as the Premier Requirements Engineering Conference. This is not just a slogan; it is our mission and commitment: all members of the RE’06 Organizing Committee, the Program Board and the Program Committee have worked hard and done their best to make RE’06 a truly premier event.

A total of 179 papers were submitted by authors from 28 countries, spanning every continent. Each paper was reviewed by multiple members of the Program Committee. Their reviews were then used by the Program Board to make the final selections. In all, 21 full research papers, seven short papers, four vision papers and seven industrial practice and experience papers were accepted to appear in the proceedings. The high quality of these authors’ work is a key contribution to the overall quality of the conference.

We thank all members of the conference committee for their dedication and effort and our corporate donors for their generous support. And we hope that you, the participants of RE’06, will enjoy and find useful what we have prepared for you. Welcome to RE’06!

Martin Glinz, RE’06 Program Chair
Robyn Lutz, RE’06 General Chair