Opening Remarks

Welcome to the proceedings of the 2002 Software Engineering Workshop (SEW-27). Now in its 28th year, for the second time the SEW was sponsored both by NASA Goddard’s Software Engineering Laboratory (SEL) and the Technical Council on Software Engineering of the IEEE Computer Society, and once again was held at the Greenbelt Marriott Hotel.

SEW aims to bring together NASA technical staff, contractors, academics, and industrial practitioners interested in the advancement of software engineering principles and techniques. The workshop provides a forum for reporting on past experiences for describing new and emerging results and techniques, and for exchanging ideas on best practice and future directions. Of particular importance is relevance to NASA’s mission and goals, and how techniques might be applied, or adapted for use, at NASA, or how NASA’s techniques might be used or adapted for more generic use.

In spite of the heaviest single-day snowfall in Washington D.C. since records began, our authors made valiant efforts, and our full program was presented, albeit with some minor timing adjustments. The result is a high-quality program that showcases NASA’s current interests in the software engineering area, and highlights issues that will be of significance in the future.

This year’s workshop was co-located with IEEE ICECCS, the International Conference on Engineering of Complex Computer Systems, and for the second year included a full day of tutorials. A separate proceedings is available for the tutorials. Our sincere thanks to Mike Stark, the Tutorials Chair, for his work in preparing a top-class tutorials program.

Our thanks also go to Don Jamison (Finance Chair), John Cook (Registration Chair), and to the entire Program Committee for their hard work in reviewing the large number of submissions. The task of choosing the most appropriate papers is always a difficult one, but we think you will agree that this proceedings presents a number of very interesting topics in a very interesting forum.

Sincere thanks to all of those at IEEE Computer Society who worked so hard on helping to organize the event, and to prepare these proceedings. Special mention is due to Nikki Nasabzadeh, Maggie Johnson, Mary-Kate Rada, Anne Jacobs, Danielle Martin, and Tom Baldwin. Our thanks also go to Amy Killian and Bailey Shields of the Greenbelt Marriott Hotel for taking such good care of us.

The Software Engineering Laboratory is looking to collaborate with both industry and academia in advancing the state-of-the-art in Software Engineering and in making NASA software world class. SEW will continue as a point-of-contact for NASA and the software engineering community as a whole. We hope to add new activities and to expand the range of topics to encompass the interests of a greater percentage of the community. We hope to see you at SEW-28, 2-4 December 2003, at the Greenbelt Marriot Hotel. More information is available via http://sel.gsfc.nasa.gov

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Margaret Caulfield, Program Chair
Mike Hinchey, General Chair

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