Message from the Workshop Chair

International Workshop on Blockchain and Smart Contracts is the 2nd Workshop in this series. The first workshop was held in Beijing, China in Oct. 2015, and the 2nd Workshop was held together with IEEE International Symposium on Service-Oriented System Engineering (SOSE) at Oxford, UK in March-April 2016.

The Workshop was created in recognizing the importance of blockchains in the future as major financial corporations in the world started to fund blockchain projects around Oct. 2015. This trend continues as even central banks in the world such as Bank of England planned to issue CBDC (Central Bank issued Digital Currency) in responding to the new economic environment.

The 2nd Workshop was unique in the sense that while it lasted four days, from March 29 to April 1, 2016, the middle two days were to visit fintech corporations in London. Specifically, the workshop group visited UK Chief Scientific Advisers, City of London Corporation, Z/Yen Group, Barclays Accelerator, Level 39, banking associations, and met many fintech organizations or corporations at these places. The other two days, the group met at Oxford University to have paper presentation and invited talks from University College London and other fintech corporations in UK.

The 2016 Workshop was the results of many people including Robert Blower, Enyan Deng, Teresa Le, and Lian Yu who contributed much of their time in preparing the trip. The coordination of these trips took months of effort, and their effort is greatly appreciated. It was not easy to arrange all these visits and discussed blockchain leaders in UK.

Also, we like to thank the SOSE organizers for their help. Without their help, this workshop will not be possible.

Workshop Chair

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