Welcome Message from the VISSOFT 2018 Chairs

It is our honor to welcome you to the 6th IEEE Working Conference on Software Visualization (VISSOFT 2018) held in Madrid, Spain. As an established tradition, this year’s VISSOFT is co-located with the IEEE International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME), which is in its 34rd edition. We hope you will enjoy the location as much as the conference.

Two keynote talks by high-profile researchers are part of this year’s VISSOFT program. The first one is given by Dr. Helen Purchase from the University of Glasgow, on the topic of experimental pitfalls in evaluating visualizations; the second is by Prof. Aaron Quigley from the University of St Andrews, who will talk about immersive analytics for software visualization.

The technical program of VISSOFT 2018 is composed of 10 full papers that were accepted out of a total of 18 submissions. Each paper was reviewed by three program committee members; the reviewing process included an author response period. The reviews were lively discussed online for one week, and final decisions were made based on the reviews, the author responses, and the discussions. The authors of accepted papers were also invited to submit to the artifact evaluation track, following the tradition of artifact evaluation started at VISSOFT 2015. Of the accepted papers, 4 were submitted to the artifact evaluation track and 3 were finally accepted by the artifact evaluation committee.

The New Ideas, Emerging Results, and Tool Demonstrations (NIER/TD) track has accepted for presentation and publication 5 NIER papers and 1 TD submission out of a total of 10 submissions; they will all be formally presented at the conference.

This year VISSOFT includes, for the second time, a Most Influential Paper (MIP) award. This year the awardee was selected from the papers published in VISSOFT 2002, 2003, 2005 and SOFTVIS 2003, 2005. The paper being recognized in this edition is “The Paradox of Software Visualization” by Steven Reiss, published at the VISSOFT workshop in 2005.

VISSOFT 2018 is the result of an effort in which many people were involved, and we are thankful for everybody who helped organizing it. First of all, we would like to thank the authors who submitted great quality work and who are keeping the research community of Software Visualization thriving. Your hard work has been essential for the success of this edition of VISSOFT. Another essential thank you goes to the 51 program committee members of all tracks for the high quality reviews they produced and for the insightful discussions on the submitted papers. The names of the program committee are listed on the following pages. In this years’ selection of program committee members, the program co-chairs have tried to improve the diversify of expertise and country of its members. The program committee includes reputed international experts from the Software Visualization community, the Software Engineering community, and the Information Visualization community.
Another thank you goes to the remaining members of the organizing committee. We would like to thank the co-chairs for the NIER/TD track, Katherine Isaacs and Michael Burch, the Artifact Evaluation co-chairs, Johan Fabry and Roberto Minelli, the publicity chair, Manuel Rubio Sánchez, and the web chair, Angel F. Sánchez Granados. A special thank you goes to the co-chairs of the MIP award, Wim De Pauw and Jonathan Maletic.

We also thank the technical sponsors of the conference, the IEEE Computer Society and the IEEE Technical Council on Software Engineering, for their help and support. We extend our thanks to Gregorio Robles, the General Chair of ICSME 2018, for his invaluable support that made the co-location of VISSOFT with ICSME possible. Last but not least, we thank the VISSOFT steering committee for their help and advice.

We hope that you experience a great time in Madrid for VISSOFT 2018. We look forward to engaging many of you in discussions, both in and out of the scheduled sessions, and hope that this year’s event will inspire you for the next year’s edition!

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