MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL CHAIR

Willkommen in Stuttgart. Welcome to the 8th Working Conference on Reverse Engineering (WCRE), the premier research conference on the theory and practice of recovering information from existing software and systems. WCRE is truly a working conference. WCRE is renowned for its unique format that leaves enough time for serious and in-depth discussion of each paper. These discussions shape our future research. Many initiatives that are pushing our research in the area of reverse engineering and reengineering have originally started at WCRE. The reengineering infrastructure projects,\(^1\) the online bibliography on reengineering,\(^2\) and our current initiatives toward interoperability among reengineering tools (whose most prominent outcome today is GXL\(^3\)) are just a few successful examples.

Here in Stuttgart we will continue the good traditions of WCRE and might even start new traditions. Beyond the main conference, this year’s WCRE features three new workshops with their own rigorously reviewed papers that are also published in these proceedings and two additional discussion forums, in which we will have lively discussions on important areas in reverse engineering. With the two discussion forums on Dynamic Analysis and Architecture Recovery together with the three workshops on Analysis, Slicing, and Transformation (AST), Data Reverse Engineering (DRE), and Decompilation Techniques (Decomp) we will cover all aspects of reverse engineering from the binary to the architectural level, from source code to data - giving WCRE attendees the chance to broaden their understanding in diverse areas.

Former attendees of WCRE know that WCRE is truly a working conference with very active attendees. Yet, WCRE is also known as a conference that is a lot of fun, too. We made sure that we will have enough time for informal discussions, which are so important. And beyond a high-quality technical program, Stuttgart will give account of its cozy and also of its wilder sides (for those who dare). I hope you will enjoy WCRE as much as I enjoyed past WCREs and wish you a pleasant stay in Stuttgart.

I want to thank all the program chairs for the main conference and the workshops, namely, Elizabeth Burd and Peter Aiken, Ralf Lämmel and Harry Sneed, Kathy Davis and Jens Jahnke, and last but not least Cristina Cifuentes and Mike van Emmerik for their contribution to a successful WCRE 2001. I also want to thank Arie van Deursen, Margaret-Anne Storey, Claudio Riva, Eleni Stroulia, and Tarja Systä for organizing the discussion forums and Elliot Chikofsky for his help in the general organization. Special thanks goes to my colleague, Thomas Eisenbarth, who greatly served as publication chair.

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\(^1\) http://www.tcse.org/revengr
\(^2\) http://www.informatik.uni-stuttgart.de/ifi/ps/reengineering
\(^3\) http://www.gupro.de/GXL