Message from the Program Chairs

WCRE 2007

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 14th Working Conference on Reverse Engineering (WCRE 2007). This year’s theme, *Using Evolution History for Reverse Engineering*, reflects a current trend in reverse engineering activities. Data mined from software repositories is now starting to play a crucial role in software analysis, and the historical analysis constitutes a great complement to static and dynamic analyses.

WCRE is a very healthy and appealing conference: This year we received a total of 87 submissions, which represents a record for WCRE. Out of these, we accepted 27 papers for inclusion in the technical program, giving us an acceptance rate of 31%. The selection process was very rigorous; each paper was reviewed by at least three reviewers and a discussion was triggered for those papers without initial consensus. There were many good papers that we could not include in the program and we hope the authors will take advantage of reviewers’ feedbacks to make improvements. This year’s program includes sessions on exciting topics such as program analysis, clone detection, software clustering, data reverse engineering, program comprehension, protocol recovery, user interface reengineering, visualization, and, of course, mining software repositories. Authors of the best papers will be invited to submit extended versions of their work to a special issue of the *Software Quality Journal* (SQJ) edited by Springer.

This year’s keynotes come from two distinguished, well-known reverse engineering practitioners: Ira D. Baxter from Semantic Designs, Inc., and Donald J. Reifer from Reifer Consultants, Inc. Ira D. Baxter is very well known in the reverse engineering community. He is the cofounder of Semantic Designs, Inc., and a few of his contributions include the Design Maintenance System™ (DMS) and the Abstract Syntax Tree based clone detector CloneDR™. Donald J. Reifer is one of the leading figures in the field of systems/software engineering and management. He has broad experience in academia, industry, and government. We hope the two keynotes will provide an industrial perspective to the reverse engineering research community and stimulate interesting discussion.

The conference program also includes a tool demonstration track with four tools and a Ph.D. symposium where five promising young reverse engineering scientists will present their thesis work. Daniel German from the University of Victoria will give a tutorial on “Intellectual Property for Software (Re)Engineers and Researchers.” The WCRE program this year also includes four stimulating workshops: Code Based Software Security Assessments (CoBaSSA), Program Comprehension through Dynamic Analysis (PCODA), Performance Engineering and Reverse Engineering (PERE), and an Industrial and Applications Forum hosted by the Reengineering Forum (REF) industry association. These events will be highly interactive and build the basis for strong research work and new collaborations among the participants.