Welcome to WCRE, the Working Conference on Reverse Engineering! This year’s conference is the most competitive in WCRE’s history. The large number of high-quality submissions made the task of selecting papers very challenging. There were many good papers that we could unfortunately not include in the program, yet we hope that the authors will take advantage of the reviewers’ feedback to make improvements. All submissions went through a rigorous review process as every paper was reviewed in detail by at least three Program Committee members from Industry and Academia. All decisions were open for discussion by the entire Program Committee before finalizing them. In the end, we selected 20 full papers (25.3% acceptance rate) and 11 short papers (39.2% acceptance rate) from a total of 79 submissions, originating from 27 countries.

Authors of the best papers will be invited to submit extended versions of their work to a special issue of the *Science of Computer Programming* (SCP), published by Elsevier.

Given that WCRE is a working conference, papers that are likely to stir discussion and which touch upon non-traditional topics are encouraged and welcomed. Attendees of WCRE want to learn about the exciting and up-coming research opportunities in reverse engineering, not only the past innovative results.

Short papers help touch on important and up-coming areas in our growing and evolving community. Short papers are important to the community and that is why we are not putting the short papers in a separate session, but integrate them into the technical program, creating sessions that contain both short and full papers. This year’s program includes sessions on exciting topics such as dynamic analysis, remodularization and reengineering, program comprehension or empirical software engineering.

As always, WCRE technical sessions foster paper presentations followed by an open and energetic discussion. A trademark of WCRE is that there is much more than a recital of papers — there is vigorous and open discussion so please contribute your ideas and be part of a WCRE tradition!

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the two keynote speakers; we are very fortunate this year to have great keynotes given by two top software engineering researchers: Dr. Margaret-Anne Storey from the University of Victoria (“Beyond the Lone Reverse Engineer: Insourcing, Outsourcing and Crowdsourcing”), and Jean-Luc Hainaut from the Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix, Namur (“Legacy and Future of Data Reverse Engineering”).

WCRE is one of the highly respected and well-cited conferences in Software Engineering. And over the past 16 years our community has come up with some great ideas and innovations. That is why, since WCRE 2008, we are looking back at what the reverse engineering community did in the past, by awarding the most influential paper award from 10 years ago.

This year we are looking back at WCRE 1999, held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, and with a large consensus, the WCRE 2009 Program Committee elected the WCRE 1999 paper titled “Experiments with Clustering as a Software Remodularization Method” as the most influential paper. Nicolas Anquetil and Timothy Lethbridge have provided enormous contributions to our community during their career. We look forward to hear Nicolas Anquetil and Timothy Lethbridge reflect on their previous work in their talk entitled “Ten Years Later: Experiments with Clustering as a Software Remodularization Method.”

The conference program also includes a tool demonstration track featuring six tool demos, a Ph.D. symposium where five promising young reverse engineering scientists will present their work. The WCRE program this year also includes two workshops: the *International Workshop on Reverse Engineering Models from Software Artifacts* (R.E.M. 2009) and *FAMOOSr: 2009 Workshop on FAMIX and Moose in Software Reengineering*.

These events will be highly interactive and build the basis for strong research works and new collaborations among the participants. We would like to thanks the organizer of these workshops for choosing to co-locate with
WCRA this year and we trust that attendees will benefit from increased opportunity of interaction and discussion that these workshops offer.

We would like to thank all the people who helped us to organize this program: Rainer Koschke and Spiros Mancoridis (Ph.D. Forum Chairs), Yann-Gaël Guéhéneuc and Damien Pollet (Workshop Chairs), Martin Pinzger and Bram Adams (Tool Demonstration Chairs), Elliot Chikofsky (Finance and Registration Chair, and father of WCRE), Chanchal Roy (Publicity Chair), and Bob Werner from the IEEE Computer Society for managing the publication process. We would especially like to thank the Program Committee and the additional reviewers. They provided detailed and constructive reviews in time and actively participated in the discussion. Last, but not least, we thank the authors for submitting to WCRE 2009 a set of very high quality papers.

Enjoy the conference!

Andy Zaidman and Giulio Antoniol
WCRA 2009 Program Chairs