WET ICE 2006
Organizer’s Report

WETICE-2006 (the Fifteenth WETICE) was successfully held on June 26-28, 2006 at the Manchester University, UK. This venue is historically very significant as Alan Turing, the father of modern Computer Science, worked here. We had five ongoing workshops: ACEC (fourth year), COPS (second year), DMC (fourth year), ETNGRID (third year) and ST (eleventh year, formerly known as the ES workshop). In addition, we had four new workshops PINCET, PROFLEX, STICA, and TICE. All nine workshops of WETICE focused on various aspects of collaboration technologies — the superglue that binds all the workshops together. WETICE participants came from 21 different countries; thus keeping the same tradition of the international nature of WETICE. Please note the colors of the cover of the Proceedings — they represent the colors of the Union Jack, the national flag of the host country: United Kingdom.

This year a total of 100 papers were submitted, and 55 full papers (55% acceptance) and 8 short papers were selected for publication in the WETICE Proceedings. The format of the WETICE was same as before consisting of joint sessions and parallel sessions. The joint sessions were devoted to the plenary speeches, panel discussions, individual workshop summary reports (by the workshop chairs), and also for the opening and closing of WETICE. The parallel sessions were designated for conducting each individual workshop where the authors presented their papers and discussions took place on the topics of the workshop. In the Table of Contents of the Proceedings, the best paper from each workshop is marked with an asterisk. A short version of each of these papers was presented at the joint session either by the author or by the workshop chair for the benefit of all the participants of WETICE.

I would like to thank the plenary speakers Professor Paul Grefen of Eindhoven University of Technology and Isidro Laso of The European Commission for delivering very stimulating talks; the reviewers of the papers for their diligence; the Steering Committee members for reviewing the new workshop proposals; the authors for participating and for their interest in WETICE; Ms. Jill Lee-Borrett for administering the registration; Janice Baxendale, Rosemary Hurley, Joann Slater, and Sarah Riley for numerous activities regarding the conference; and the IEEE for co-sponsoring WETICE. Very special thanks go to all the workshop chairs for ensuring the high quality of the workshops, for managing and conducting the workshops, and also for the panel discussions. Finally, my heartfelt thanks go to the WETICE General Chair Dr. Nikolay Mehandjiev for hosting and for taking care of all the necessary details before and during the conference. The reception held in the magnificent Sackville Street Building, and the conference dinner at Whitworth Building were truly memorable. We are very grateful to the outstanding support provided by the Head of School of Informatics: Professor Bob Wood, and Associate Dean for Research, Faculty of Humanities: Professor Luke Georgiou for the success of WETICE.

WETICE-2007 will be held in Paris, the City of Lights, in France on June 18-20, 2007. Dr. Samir Tata of Institut des National Télécommunications (INT) will be the General Chair. The Call for New Workshop Proposals and the Call for Papers will be released soon. Please share them with your colleagues and others who may be interested. I look forward to seeing you all in Paris at the WETICE-2007.

Sumitra Mitra Reddy
Organizer, WETICE-2006