It is my pleasure to introduce the inaugural COMPSAC Doctoral Symposium, which is a forum for doctoral students to interact with other students, industry and government practitioners, and faculty mentors. The Doctoral Symposium seeks to bring together PhD Students working in computer software and applications, and related fields. Selected students will have the opportunity to present and discuss their research goals, methodology, and results within a constructive and diverse atmosphere.

The Symposium organizers will strive to provide useful guidance for completion of the dissertation research and motivation for a research career. The Symposium is intended for students who have already decided on a specific research problem, and have derived preliminary results, but have enough time remaining before their final defense to benefit from the discussions and feedback.

The Symposium itself is a day-long session. Each student gives a formal presentation, which is then discussed by the faculty, practitioners, and students in attendance. The discussion will be led by a specific mentor assigned to the student. All invited participants have been asked to provide a poster, which will be displayed throughout the conference, providing further opportunity for additional feedback and experience in communicating with other researchers. We invite constructive criticism on the current work, as well as advice and encouragement for future directions and focus.

Extended abstracts submitted to the Symposium were judged on originality, overall contribution, technical merit, presentation quality and relevance to the conference topics. The following eight applicants were selected to present their work at the Symposium. Their dissertation abstracts will be published in the 2006 COMPSAC Proceedings.

- Ryan Babbitt Information Privacy Management in Smart Home Environments: Modeling, Verification, and Implementation
- Paskorn Champrasert SymbioticSphere: A Biologically-Inspired Autonomic Architecture for Self-Managing Network Systems
- Ayman Faza A General Purpose Framework for Wireless Sensor Network Applications
- Hsinyi Jiang Can the Genetic Algorithm Be a Good Tool for Software Engineering Searching Problems?
- Scott David Miller A Control-Theoretic Aid to Managing the Construction Phase in Incremental Software Development
- Hiroshi Wada A Model-Driven Framework for Domain-Specific Software Development and Domain-Specific Language for Secure Applications
- Xia Wang Intrusion Detection Techniques in Wireless Ad-hoc Networks
- Summer Xia QoS-Based Service Composition

I would like to extend a warm welcome to these students and everyone participating in the Symposium. Special gratitude is due to João W. Cangussu and Tien Nguyen for their help in reviewing submissions and providing feedback to the authors.

Sahra Sedigh-Ali
Doctoral Symposium and Fast Abstract Chair