Message from the Chairs

Greetings and welcome to IWPC '05, the 13th IEEE International Workshop on Program Comprehension. Program comprehension is a vital software engineering and maintenance activity. It is necessary to facilitate reuse, inspection, maintenance, reverse engineering, reengineering, migration, and extension of existing software systems. IWPC provides a high-quality venue for researchers and industry practitioners to present and discuss both the state-of-the-art and the state-of-the-practice in the general area of program comprehension.

IWPC '05 is co-located with the 27th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE) 2005 and held in St. Louis, Missouri, USA. The Organizing Committee of ICSE was very helpful in assisting us with the arrangements for our event. We especially thank ICSE General Chair, Gruia-Catalin Roman, and the Workshops and Co-located-Events Chair, André van der Hoek, for their assistance.

This year there were 54 technical paper submissions (the largest number of submissions to IWPC). Each submission was reviewed by at least three members of the Program Committee, and in many cases four. On the basis of these reviews, the Program Chairs accepted 24 full papers and four short papers for inclusion in the proceedings and presentation in the technical program. We were very pleased that the quality of paper submission was very high and the Program Committee spent a great deal of time deliberating and discussing final decisions. Only papers with a clear majority of reviews in favor of acceptance were accepted as full papers. Short technical papers represent papers with solid potential but lacking in either validation or maturity. Papers with at least two reviews recommending acceptance were considered for this category.

Particular care and attention were given to dealing with conflicts-of-interest and confidentiality during the review process for IWPC '05. All members and chairs were required to declare conflicts-of-interest in accordance with the SIGSOFT conflict-of-interest policy (www.acm.org/sigsoft/about/policies/conflict.htm), which precisely defines and outlines procedures for handling every kind of potential conflict. In all cases, a conflicted committee member or chair could not access any information about the review process (i.e., reviewers, scores, and accept/reject) for those papers. We feel that this level of attention to ethical standards is necessary and appropriate to realizing and sustaining a scientifically sound event, particularly as IWPC matures and transitions into a major international conference.

We are more than pleased that IWPC '05 features two exciting keynote addresses by Doug Smith (Kestrel Institute, Palo Alto, California, USA) and Margaret-Anne Storey (University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada). Invited papers on these presentations are included in the proceedings so that they may be remembered and referenced in the future.

There are two parallel sessions during the entire two-day program (except during the keynotes), allowing for the inclusion of two working sessions and a tool demonstration session. One working session deals with how textual views of source code support program comprehension and the other with the interoperability of reengineering services. Of the 16 tool demonstration proposals submitted, 10 were accepted for inclusion in the program in a hands-on open session.

We are greatly appreciative of all those individuals who helped in the organization and realization of IWPC '05. The Program Committee was extremely diligent and timely during the review process. Their expertise and very high standards are what make IWPC such a successful and high-quality event. Gerald Gannod and Susan Sim both did a wonderful job in organizing and putting together the tool demos and working sessions. We also thank Michael Collard for his tireless efforts in maintaining the Web site and running the submission/reviewing software.

Jonathan I. Maletic, *General Chair*
James R. Cordy, *Program Chair*
Harald Gall, *Program Chair*