Message from the Chairs

Welcome to IWPSE 2004, the International Workshop on Principles of Software Evolution, held in conjunction with the 12th IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference, RE 2004!

IWPSE is dedicated to the discussion of both the theory and the experience of software evolution and is a yearly international workshop since 1998. Software evolution, recognized as an essential aspect of software systems, has become an emerging research subject in recent years and is attracting the attention of researchers and practitioners. The intent of IWPSE is to provide a forum to discuss a wide range of topics in software evolution, to foster a better understanding of the nature of software evolution, and to accelerate research activities on the subject.

Software evolution research already spans a large area: theory of software evolution, evolution of requirements and environments, evolution of architecture, software process and evolution, methodologies for evolutionary design and development, validation and verification of evolution, metrics and evaluation of evolution, configuration and change management for evolution, environments for evolutionary design, co-evolution of software and organization, and agile software development. Of course, experience reports and lessons learned from evolutionary software systems are essential ingredients for applicable and relevant research works.

The co-location with RE 2004 should also inspire and help to provide a broader perspective on our field and stimulate new ideas for important and interesting research and experimental studies.

As with every conference or workshop, it is the papers and their authors that form the technical basis. Of the 27 submissions, the international Program Committee selected 8 full papers, 7 short papers, and 2 position papers. On top of the papers that will be presented, we are honored to have two excellent keynote speakers for IWPSE: Professor Kiyoshi Agusa, Nagoya University, Japan, and Professor Gerardo Canfora, Research Center on Software Technology, University of Sannio, Italy, who are both leading researchers in software evolution.

As general chair and program chairs, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who helped to organize IWPSE 2004. We want to thank the authors for submitting their papers to the workshop and the members of the Program Committee for their detailed reviews of the submitted papers within such a tight schedule and for promoting the workshop. We are also grateful to Michael Fischer, who acted as Electronic Submissions Chair and provided the necessary support for handling papers and reviews, and Yuuki Mamiyu for the cover design of the proceedings.

We wish you all a pleasant time in Kyoto and hope that you will enjoy IWPSE 2004!

Katsuro Inoue, *General Chair*
Osaka University, Japan

Tsuneo Ajisaka, *Program Co-Chair*
Wakayama University, Japan

Harald Gall, *Program Co-Chair*
University of Zurich, Switzerland