Preface to the CIbSE 2014 Special Issue

Luca Cernuzzi[1], Beatriz Marín[2], Claudia Ayala[3] and Giovanni Giachetti[4]
[1]Universidad Católica "Nuestra Señora de la Asunción", Paraguay,
lcernuzz@uca.edu.py
[2]Universidad Diego Portales, Chile, *beatriz.marin@mail.udp.cl*
[3]Universidade Politécnica de Catalunya, España, *cayala@essi.upc.edu*
[4]Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile, *giovanni.giachetti@unab.cl*

This special issue of the CLEI Electronic Journal consists of extended and revised versions of the Best Paper Nominee articles presented at the XVII Ibero-American Conference on Software Engineering (CIbSE 2014), which took place in Pucón, Chile, in April 2014.

CIbSE is the leading research forum in Software Engineering in the region. It includes three complementary co-located tracks: Software Engineering Track (SET); Experimental Software Engineering Latin American Workshop (ESELAW); Workshop on Requirements Engineering (WER). All of them have indisputable quality and reputation, not just in the Ibero-American software engineering community, but also in the rest of the world.

To give the reader the perception of the rigorous selection of the Best Papers Nominee (which correspond to the second and third best paper from each track) of CIbSE it is relevant to mention some of the numbers of the conference. SET'14 received 68 submissions from 14 different countries and 21 high quality papers were accepted, representing an acceptance rate of 31%. ESELAW'14 received a total of 38 papers from 15 different countries. After a tough revision process, 9 full high-quality scientific works addressing issues on experimentation in software engineering under different perspectives were accepted. It results in an acceptance rate of 23,68%. Finally, WER'14 received 40 paper submissions from different countries and 12 papers were accepted, which corresponds to a 30% of acceptation rate.

The two extended versions of the Best Papers Nominee presented at SET 2014 offered contributions to the cloud computing and ontology topics:

- Paper 1, by Brogi et al., presents context, motivations and objectives of the EU research project SeaClouds, which aims at enabling a seamless adaptive multi-cloud management of complex applications by supporting the distribution, monitoring and migration of application modules over multiple heterogeneous cloud platforms;
- Paper 2, by Becker, Papa and Olsina, specifies a generic ontology for the process domain that contributes to enrich semantically the terms for the (previously developed) measurement and evaluation domain ontology by means of stereotypes. The augmented conceptual framework has also a positive impact on the GOCAME (Goal-Oriented Context-Aware Measurement and Evaluation) strategy capabilities since ensures terminological uniformity, consistency and verifiability to its process and method specifications.

The Best Papers Nominee presented at ESELAW 2014 and included in this special

issue are:

- Paper 3, by Grau et al., introduces Tape Mbo'e, an approach aimed to support the development of service-based applications, considering a sustainable perspective required for developing countries. The study focuses on the application, and the corresponding evaluation process, of Tape Mbo'e in different public agencies in Paraguay. The obtained results show relevant improvements in the participant organizations.
- Paper 4, by França and Travassos, identifies potential threats to validity in Simulation Based Studies in software engineering, and suggests different means and makes available an improved set of guidelines to mitigate them.

Finally, the article from WER 2014 deals with :

- Paper 5, by Sousa and Silva, proposes a process for requirements elicitation and documentation of mobile learning environments. This process is based on the concepts of the Design Thinking process that provides a methodology to elicit customer needs, producing simple prototypes that eventually converge to innovative solutions. The experimental results suggest that the proposed process contributes to identify assertively the needs and desires of the users and generate more innovative mobile learning environments solutions than using traditional elicitation techniques.

We are convinced that these articles will offer interesting contributions to the Software Engineering community.

We would like to thank to all the people involved in this undertaking, from the authors to the reviewers for their effort and work; specially to Monalessa Perini Barcellos for their support on the ESELAW best paper nominee review and selection, as well as the CIbSE steering committee and CLEIej for offering us the opportunity of preparing this special issue.

Finally, we hope you enjoy the reading!

Luca Cernuzzi, Beatriz Marín, Claudia Ayala, and Giovanni Giachetti, special issue editors