ECSCW 2005

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From the editors

Welcome to the proceedings of ECSCW 2005, the 9th European Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work.

Founded in 1989, ECSCW was always a forum for researchers from a variety of disciplines and perspectives, and it has long since become one of the most respected venues for publishing research on the technical, empirical, and conceptual aspects of supporting collaboration by means of computer systems. Furthermore, as an international conference, ECSCW attracts high quality submissions from all over the world — this year from authors representing a record 30 countries.

ECSCW'05 received 125 submissions, a notable increase over previous years, which posed a significant challenge to the members of the Program Committee who had to spend countless hours assessing manuscripts and offering guidance in order to put together the final program. Each paper was initially reviewed by three members of the Program Committee, and in a second phase discussed among its reviewers so as to reach consensus as to its merit. By the end of the review process, we had 413 reviews on file, as well as extensive email discussion threads for each submission. At the end of this process, the top–rated papers, as well as those that were deemed controversial, were selected for discussion at the PC meeting and read by an additional PC member to ensure an informed discussion. Finally, in the two-day PC meeting, 24 papers were selected for our single–track paper program, a highly competitive 19% acceptance rate.

We hope that, as a result of the review process we adopted, all authors received detailed and constructive comments to their submission, whether or not it was accepted for publication, and believe that the process enabled us to assemble an outstanding program. We thank the members of the Program Committee for their insightful and constructive contributions to the process.

In addition to the paper program, ECSCW'05 also provided a number of other participation categories, including a doctoral colloquium, workshops on topics of special interest, as well posters, videos and demonstrations. Together these provided rich opportunities for discussion, learning, and exploration of the wide range of issues and challenges in the field.

Several organisations provided financial and logistical assistance, and we are grateful for their support. In particular, we thank AFIHM, the French association for Human-Computer Interaction, for supporting ECSCW'05 in cooperation with INRIA, the French National Research Institute in Computer Science..

Finally thanks must go to all the authors who entrusted their work to us, and to everyone who attended ECSCW'05 and enjoyed the program we helped to assemble. None of this would be possible, or worthwhile, if it were not for your research in this field. Your continued support of this conference is most gratifying.

Hans Gellersen and Kjeld Schmidt

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