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Preface

The 4th International Conference on Business Process Management (BPM 2006) was held in Vienna, Austria, on September 5–7, 2006, organized by the VitaLab, Distributed Systems Group, Institute of Information Systems, Vienna University of Technology.

The present volume collects the papers accepted for presentation at the main conference. A series of co-located workshops were held together with BPM, the proceedings of which are published as volume 4103 of Springer’s *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* series.

Paper submission was strong and geographically well distributed: 78 papers originated from Europe, 32 from Asia, 14 from the Americas, 11 from Oceania, and 3 from Africa, to a total of 40 different countries.

All papers were reviewed by at least three referees and competition for acceptance was very high: of the 138 submitted papers, only 20 were accepted as full research papers (14% acceptance rate), 5 as industrial papers and 15 as short papers. Further to these, invited lectures were delivered by Donald Ferguson – an IBM fellow, Dave Green – an architect for Microsoft’s Windows Workflow Foundation, and Edwin Khodabakhchian – Vice President of Product Development at Oracle. We want to thank our keynote speakers and their organizations for their invited presentations.

We take this opportunity to thank the members of the Program Committee and the additional reviewers for their tremendous effort in guaranteeing the scientific quality of BPM. We would also like to thank the Steering Committee for their constant support.

We are also indebted to the local organization staff for their timely and precious support, in particular to Florian Rosenberg and Eva Nedoma for their invaluable help in making BPM 2006 a reality. We thank Marco Aiello for the help in assembling this volume. Last but not least, we would like to express our gratitude to Frank Leymann (Industrial Chair), Johann Eder (Workshop Chair), and Jan Mendling (Demo Chair).

We hope you will find the articles in the present volume a valuable and up-to-date picture of the state of the art in research on business process management and its industrial impact.

June 2006

Schahram Dustdar, Jose Fiadeiro, Amit Sheth
BPM PC Chairs 2006

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BPM 2006 was organized by the VitaLab, Distributed Systems Group, Institute of Information Systems, Vienna University of Technology.

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