

Ten years of Australian workshop on requirements engineering

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1 Introduction

The Tenth year anniversary of the Australian workshop on requirements engineering took place in Melbourne, Australia on 22 November 2005. This annual meeting of Australian RE researchers and practitioners was inaugurated in 1996 as a result of increasing interest in RE around the world in general, and in Australia in particular. Its emergence signaled the need for a forum to express and exchange ideas, viewpoints and to facilitate the growth of the RE community in Australia.

It has been gratifying to observe the consolidation and growth of RE research community facilitated by this workshop over the last 10 years. The workshop has provided an opportunity for both established researchers as well as research students to become informed of new research projects as well as the progress of existing projects on annual basis. Furthermore, every year AWRE has attracted submissions and presentations of many researchers from other parts of the world to further enrich the experience of the attendees. We have also had the privilege of welcoming internationally recognized keynote speakers from the RE research community to AWRE over the years.

Although the attendance of the workshop has been modest to compare with international conferences but it prides itself with the reputation of being very interactive, friendly and productive. One of the unique features of AWRE series has been the unified gathering of many researchers from information systems,

software engineering and systems engineering communities. A goal that we believe has not been effectively achieved in the international RE conferences.

The tenth AWRE also marked the inauguration of the Australian Computer Society's National Technical Committee on Requirements Engineering. This is yet another testimony to the successful achievement of the original goal of AWRE to facilitate the building of an Australian RE community of interest.

The Australian workshop on RE has always attracted adequate representations from the computing industry. The tenth anniversary AWRE was exceptional in this sense since the two keynote speakers were both from industry too. Robert Shedden from Spotless, and Jason Rubens from Novell, Australia, delivered two very interesting and thought provoking talks [1] and were subsequently invited to write articles based on their speeches. These two articles went through several rounds of editing. One of these articles is thus presented in this issue of the requirements engineering journal to celebrate the 10th year anniversary of AWRE. I hope you will find this article insightful.

We hope that the success of the AWRE series will continue in the years to come. We plan to extend it to cover submissions and attract more attendees from the Asia-Pacific region. The 11th AWRE will be held in Adelaide, South Australia (<http://www.awre2006.cis.unisa.edu.au/>) on 9 December 2006 and 12th AWRE will be in Brisbane, Queensland in September 2007.

References

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