Welcome Message ICDCS 2023

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 43rd edition of the IEEE International Conference on Distributed Computing Systems (ICDCS), held in Hong Kong on July 18-21, 2023. This conference series fosters novel and exciting research in all aspects of distributed systems, including core topics as well as emerging topics.

In response to the call for research papers, we received a total of 439 submissions, out of which the program committee selected 83 papers for presentation at the conference (18.9% acceptance rate overall). In the selection, the technical program chairs were assisted by the track chairs \tilde{N} two for each technical research track and one for the insights from industrial experience track. The track chairs, who are recognized experts in their respective subfields, assembled an impressive set of PC members for their tracks, and led the analysis and discussions of the paper contents and reviews in order to select the papers to be included in the ICDCS 2023 program. We express our gratitude to the track chairs, the PC members and the external reviewers for their efforts in reviewing the papers, engaging in active online discussions during the selection process and providing valuable feedback to authors. Their work resulted in an exciting technical research program.

The technical research program is complemented by three keynote talks by renowned researchers: Hsiang-Tsung Kung (Harvard University), Cecilia Mascolo (Cambridge University, UK), Moti Yung (Google, USA). We are delighted that they have accepted our invitation to provide their view on important research topics in the field of distributed computing systems. The program is rounded off by a panel on OChatGPT and its impact on distributed computingO, chaired by Wei Zhao.

The conference program also includes a poster track program D reporting on-going research, and a demo program D which allows attendees to see practical embodiments of research ideas. We would like to thank poster and demo chairs (Mo Li and PengFei Zhou) for assembling an interesting program. Another important component of the ICDCS 2023 program is represented by the workshops. Workshops are important to foster discussions focusing on specific topics D often very novel. The workshop chairs (Pietro Manzoni and Wonjun Lee) thoroughly reviewed the workshop proposals submitted in response to the Call for Workshops and selected the following six workshops for inclusion in the conference program: (i) RAS-CC: Reliable, Available, and Secure Cloud Computing; (ii) FiDeFix: Fintech and Decentralized Finance; (iii) SocialMeta: Social and Metaverse Computing and Networking; (iv) VENITS: Vehicular Networking and Intelligent Transportation Systems; (v) 3Scity D E2C: Building Software Services in Smart City through Edge-to-Cloud Orchestration; (vi) EAI: Efficient Artificial Intelligence for Edge Computing. On the overall the workshops cover important emergent application areas from which the research community can derive novel ideas and requirements towards the design of new technology for distributed computing systems. Last but not least, the program includes a PhD Student Symposium, chaired Jun Chao, providing attendees with an opportunity to get acquainted with the research work by the younger members of our community.

The organization of a conference like ICDCS is a team effort, requiring the collaboration of many individuals. First, we would like to thank all the authors for submitting to the conference Ñ after all it is their work that forms the conference program. We would also like to thank Jiannong Cao (Panel Chair), Ruidong Li, Alessandro E. C. Redondi, and Zongxing Xie (Publicity Chairs), Allen Man Ho Au (Local Arrangement Chair), Wei (Lisa) Li (Publication Chair), Cong Wang (Finance and Registration Chair), Zhenjiang Li (Web Chair), and many volunteers who help the organization of the conference.

We hope that you will find this program interesting and that the conference will provide you with a valuable opportunity to interact with other researchers and practitioners from institutions around the world. Enjoy the program!

Elisa Bertino, *Purdue University*Baochun Li, *University of Toronto Technical Program Chairs*

Ophir Frieder, Georgetown University Xiaohua Jia, City University of Hong Kong General Chairs