Editor's Message to Special Issue of Software Engineering

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Software Engineering is an engineering discipline for software production from initial conception to operation and maintenance. In today's rapidly changing software environment, software engineering researchers and practitioners must closely collaborate to identify problems and produce new methodologies and knowledge.

IPSJ SIG Software Engineering hosts symposiums, workshops, and meetings for software engineering researchers and practitioners so that they can exchange their experience and knowledge across boundaries between academia and industry. This special issue is also one of such continuing activities.

This special issue aims to collect the most recent research contributions on a wide range of topics in the field of software engineering. In addition to regular submissions, we solicited submissions of extended research papers whose original versions have been submitted to the IPSJ SIGSE Software Engineering Symposium 2019 (SES 2019). This collaboration with the symposium was started in 2011. It provides opportunities for researchers to further improve their papers with reviewers' comments.

We received 20 submissions. Among those we carefully selected 12 papers including 10 Japanese papers and 2 English papers through the rigorous review and editorial committee meetings (Acceptance Rate: 60%). The editorial committee followed the guidelines of IPSJ Journal. If a paper has potential to be accepted, the committee selected conditional acceptance and tried to provide clear conditions for the acceptance. The committee also worked hard to provide the feedback comments as much as possible to rejected papers for their future resubmission.

The accepted papers cover various topics including methodologies for requirement analysis, design, testing, and debugging, and empirical analyses on practices of software developers.

Finally, we would like to deeply express our sincere gratitude to all the authors who submitted papers, the editorial committee members and reviewers who made great efforts to complete this special issue, and the Editorial Committee of IPSJ Journal who gave us the opportunity to publish this special issue.

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