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Message from the Program Chairs

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Welcome to the 2nd IEEE International Conference on Autonomic Computing andSelf- Organizing Systems (ACSOS 2021). ACSOS was originally scheduled to be held from September 27th to October 1st, 2021 in Washington, D.C., USA, but was held online due to the CoViD-19 pandemic. ACSOS is the merger of the two well-established IEEE conferences on Autonomic Computing (ICAC) and Self-adaptive and Self- Organising Systems (SASO). It continued the tradition of both conferences to bridge conceptual and applied research in the areas of Autonomic/Organic Computing, self-adaptive and self-organizing systems, which is reflected in the main technical program. Papers on the fundamentals of self-organization and self-adaptation were complemented by those on the topics of open systems, learning and modelling, scalability and user-centered computing as well as applications in cloud computing and resource management.

The ACSOS 2021 call for contributions attracted 65 abstracts resulting in 56 paper submissions from around the globe. The program committee for the main track accepted 14 full papers with an additional 7 short papers. The acceptance rate of 25% is comparable to that of previous editions of SASO and ICAC, which demonstrates that ACSOS successfully continued the tradition as a premier venue for the dissemination of research in this area. This year's submissions came from a rich mix of authors from both academia and industry, across 23 different countries spanning Asia, the Americas, Europe, and Oceania.

The three most prominent countries have been Germany (with 46 authors), the USA (with 33 authors), and Italy (with 13 authors).

The papers were presented in 8 sessions, each characterized by a theme. We had several sessions in parallel to cover the entire program. The first session was a single-track session on 'Theory and Practice of Self-* Systems'. The first two parallel sessions were on 'Resource Management in Data Centers and Cloud Computing I' and 'Cross-disciplinary research'. The second two parallel session focused on 'Self-organization and Autonomic Computing for Cyber-Physical Systems' and 'Software and Systems Engineering for Autonomic and Self-Organizing Systems'. The next two parallel sessions gave the authors an opportunity to present their work on 'Resource Management in Data Centers and Cloud Computing II' and 'Languages, formal methods, and assurances for Autonomic and Self-Organizing Systems'. The last session was a single-track session on 'Applications of Autonomic and Self-Organizing Systems'.

All the papers accepted to ACSOS 2021 explored key issues and uses of self-organization and self adaptation, in both abstract and applied settings. The program committee was composed of 83 international experts, supported by 19 sub-reviewers in different fields of Autonomic Computing and self-organizing systems. We would like to thank them all for their valuable work, not only in reviewing papers, but also in discussing and helping us in the selection of papers to be accepted.

As in the previous edition of ACSOS, continuing the tradition of SASO and ICAC, this year's ACSOS had several satellite events that enriched the program. In particular, the conference program also included a poster and demo session, a doctoral symposium and a number of workshops; submissions for which were reviewed by separate program committees.

This edition of ACSOS introduced the ACSOS Artifact Evaluation Program. Upon submissions, authors were asked whether they considered participation, and, upon acceptance, they were invited to submit a software artifact that was evaluated from a dedicated committee, with the goal of reproducing the results.

In total 20 submissions also expressed interest in submitting an artifact. Of these, three were accepted as full, and four as short papers. Two completed a successful artifact submission, and in one case the committee was able to reproduce the result, assigning a reproducibility badge to the published paper.

As part of the program, we further had three excellent keynotes by Dilma Da Silva (Texas A&M University), Jean-Louis Deneubourg (Free University of Brussels) and Manish Parashar (The University of Utah). We would also like to thank the presenters of the Practice track for contributing interesting and motivating talks.

Finally, as the TPC Chairs we would like to express our gratitude to everyone who contributed to the organization of ACSOS 2021. We would like to thank the Steering Committee and local organizers for their help, support, and feedback. We also thank everyone who worked with us on creating a great program, in particular: the General Chairs, Tarek El-Ghazawi, Jean Botev, and Christopher Stewart for their valuable general organization and leadership; KR Jayaram and Ilias Gerostathopoulos for organizing the ACSOS in practice track, Ingrid Nunes and Sona Ghahremani for their work on the Poster and Demo session; Sven Tomforde and Mohamed Bakhouya for organizing the Doctoral Symposium; Barry Porter and Frédéric Lassabe for workshop management; Esam El-Araby for handling the publication process; Roberto Casadei, Jaafar Gaber, Proshanta Saha, Zichen Xu, and Feng Yan for their publicity efforts; Christian Krupitzer for managing the conference web site; Lukas Esterle and Liting Hu for their work as sponsorship chairs; Nikolas Erbst and Alessandro Vittorio Papadopoulos for managing the first edition of the Artifact Evaluation Program; and Miaoqing Huang and Ahmad Anbar for their valuable local organisation and related efforts.

Finally, we would like to thank the authors for their submissions, the technical program committee and additional reviewers for reviewing the papers for their in depth reviews and discussion.

We hope that you will find this program interesting and thought provoking, and that the conference will provide you with a valuable opportunity to share ideas with other researchers and practitioners from institutions around the world.

Vana Kalogeraki, Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece

Danilo Pianini, Alma Mater Studiorum-Università di Bologna, Italy

ACSOS 2021 Program Committee Chairs