Preface

This year's International Workshop on Networked Group Communications (NGC) was the third event in the NGC series following successful workshops in Pisa, Italy (1999), and Stanford, CA, USA (2000).

For the technical program this year, we received 40 submissions from both academia and industrial institutions all around the world. For each paper, we gathered at least three (and sometimes as many as five) reviews. After a thorough PC meeting that was held in London, 14 papers were selected for presentation and publication in the workshop proceedings. The program continues the themes of previous years, ranging from applications, through security, down to group management, topological considerations, and performance.

The program committee worked hard to make sure that the papers were not only thoroughly reviewed, but also that the final versions were as up to date and as accurate as could be managed in the usual circumstances.

This year, the workshop was held in the London Zoo, hosted by University College London (the tutorials having been held at UCL the day before the start of the paper sessions). The proceedings are published by Springer-Verlag in the LNCS series.

There are signs that the scope of the NGC workshops is broadening to include hot topics such as group communication and content networking. We expect to see more submissions in these areas, as well as other new topics, for NGC 2002, which is to be held at the University of Massachusetts at Amhurst, chaired by Brian Levine and Mostafa Ammar.

We hope that the research community will find these proceedings interesting and helpful and that NGC will continue to be an active forum for research on networked group communication and related areas for years to come.

November 2001   Jon Crowcroft and Markus Hofmann

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