

Preface

The present volume contains the proceedings of the international conference *Foundations of Software Science and Computation Structures* (FOSSACS 2001), held in Genova, Italy, April 2-4, 2001. FOSSACS is a constituent event of the *Joint European Conferences on Theory and Practice of Software* (ETAPS). This was the fourth meeting of ETAPS. The previous three meetings took place in Lisbon (1998), Amsterdam (1999), and Berlin (2000).

FOSSACS seeks papers which offer progress in foundational research with a clear significance to Software Sciences. Central objects of interest are the algebraic, categorical, logical, and geometric theories, models, and methods which support the specification, synthesis, verification, analysis, and transformation of sequential, concurrent, distributed, and mobile programs and software systems. This volume deals with a wide spectrum of topics within this scope, many of which are motivated by recent trends and problems in the practice of software and information technology.

There are 27 papers in these Proceedings. The first one accompanies the invited lecture *Adequacy for algebraic effects*, delivered by Gordon Plotkin (Edinburgh University) at FOSSACS 2001. The last one concerns a tool presentation. The other 25 are contributed papers, selected out of a total of 63 submissions. Each paper was thoroughly evaluated by the PC members. The selection procedure ended with a virtual meeting of the Program Committee which lasted over a week. I would like to sincerely thank all of the PC members for the excellent work they did during this difficult process. The tool presentation was selected by a special committee appointed by Donald Sannella the ETAPS Chairman.

Very special thanks go to the co-editor of these Proceedings Marino Miculan, whose assistance has been invaluable in organizing the conference web-page, the electronic submission, reviewing, and notification processes as well as in preparing the files for the Publisher. Thanks to Richard van de Stadt for producing and allowing us to utilize the *CyberChair* software. And thanks also to all the members of the Organizing Committee, chaired by Egidio Astesiano, Eugenio Moggi, and Gianna Reggio. Finally I would like to thank the Steering Committee of ETAPS, and especially its Chairman Donald Sannella, for the precious advice and excellent coordination in all the various activities leading up to this FOSSACS Conference.

Udine, January 2001

Furio Honsell
FOSSACS'01 Programme Committee Chair

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