Preface

The size, complexity, and integration level of software systems is increasing constantly. Companies in all domains identify that software defines the competitive edge of their products. These developments require us to constantly search for new approaches to increase the productivity and quality of our software development and to decrease the cost of software maintenance. Generative and component-based technologies hold considerable promise with respect to achieving these goals. GCSE 2001 constituted another important step forward and provided a platform for academic and industrial researchers to exchange ideas.

These proceedings represent the third conference on generative and component-based software engineering. The conference originated as a special track on generative programming from the Smalltalk and Java in Industry and Education Conference (STJA), organized by the working group "Generative and Component-Based Software Engineering" of the "Gesellschaft für Informatik" FG 2.1.9 "Object-Oriented Software Engineering." However, the conference has evolved substantially since then, with its own, independent stature, invited speakers, and, most importantly, a stable and growing community.

This year's conference attracted 43 submissions from all over the world, indicating the broad, international interest in the research field. Based on careful review by the program committee, 14 papers were selected for presentation. I would like to thank the members of the program committee, all renowned experts, for their dedication in preparing thorough reviews of the submissions.

In association with the main conference, there will be two workshops, i.e. the GCSE Young Researchers Workshop 2001 (YRW) and a workshop on Product Line Engineering – The early steps: Planning, Managing, and Modeling. I thank the organizers of YRW, i.e. Kai Boellert, Detlef Streitferdt, Dirk Heuzeroth, Katharina Mehner, and Stefan Hanenberg, for their initiative to bring young researchers together and to provide them with feedback from senior members of our community. I am also grateful to Klaus Schmid and Birgit Geppert for their initiative to organize the product line engineering workshop. Software product lines provide a quickly developing and succesful approach to intra-organizational component-based software development that deserves much attention.

We are also indebted to this year's keynote speakers, Ted Biggerstaff and Oscar Nierstrasz. I am honoured that they accepted the invitation and thank them for their contribution to GCSE 2001. Finally, I wish to thank all those who worked hard to make this third conference happen, especially the authors and the Netobjectday organizers.

I hope you will enjoy reading the GCSE 2001 contributions!

July 2001   Jan Bosch

Organization

GCSE 2001 was co-located with the Net.ObjectDays 2001 conference and held in Erfurt, Germany, September 10-13.

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