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Foreword

Welcome to ISSTA 2009: The Eighteenth International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis. ISSTA 2009 brings together academics, industrial researchers, and practitioners to exchange ideas, solve problems, and share experiences related to software testing and program analysis.

We are delighted to be holding this ISSTA in the city of Chicago, Illinois, USA — a city renowned for its architecture, its music, its art, and its wide range of ethnic neighborhoods, cultures, and cuisines. We are certain that you'll find many things to occupy your time outside the conference.

The ISSTA week includes four workshops:

1. Defects 2009: Defects in Large Software Systems
2. PADTAD 2009: Parallel and Distributed Systems: Testing and Debugging
3. SSEAT 2009: Workshop on State-space Exploration for Automated Testing
4. WODA 2009: Workshop on Dynamic Analysis

Defects, PADTAD, and WODA precede the technical program, and SSEAT follows it.

The ISSTA technical program consists of two invited talks and twenty-five research paper presentations. Our invited speakers, Thomas W. Reps and Richard A. Kemmerer, speak on issues relevant to analysis and validation of software. The presentations were selected from ninety-three research papers submitted to ISSTA. At least three members of the Program Committee reviewed each paper, and additional reviewers also reviewed some.

We would like to thank everyone who worked hard to bring you this excellent program. First and foremost we thank the Program Committee members, who reviewed many papers, wrote detailed reviews, and traveled at their own expense to the Program Committee meeting. Tao Xie of North Carolina State University (NCSU) was a terrific PC Meeting Facilitator, helping us bring the Program Committee together at NCSU; he also organized a well-attended State of the Art in Testing and Analysis Day on the day prior to the PC Meeting. Several of Tao's students helped with the meeting logistics, namely: Suresh ThummalaPenta, Madhuri R. Marri, Kunal Taneja, Nuo Li, Hwang JeeHyun, and Yoonki Song. We thank them and the Department of Computer Science at NCSU.

Nancy Lind-Olsen of University of Nebraska-Lincoln provided administrative services which made our lives much easier. Yi Huang of Michigan State University managed the web pages and our myriad requests with almost instant response times and creativity greater than we could have mustered. We also gratefully acknowledge the sponsorship of ACM SIGSOFT and the support of ACM SIGPLAN, and we thank our corporate donors, IBM Research and Microsoft Research, for contributions that helped defray the cost of student attendance at the conference. Finally, we thank the invited speakers, the authors, and all of the conference attendees for helping to make the conference a success.

Gregg Rothermel  
ISSTA '09 General Chair  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Lauret K. Dillon  
ISSTA '09 Program Chair  
Michigan State University
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