

Message from the ISCA 2016 Program Chair

It is an honor to introduce the technical program for the 43rd International Symposium on Computer Architecture. The ISCA conference is the premier forum for presenting new contributions in computer architecture. Every year the overall computer architecture community from academia as well as from industry attends ISCA.

This year ISCA received 291 paper submissions. To handle this deluge of submissions, I recruited a strong PC committee of 71 members as well as an external review committee of 140 members. I also asked the help of a few external reviewers.

We held a two-day PC meeting in Chicago on March 4–5. The PC was split in two subcommittees with a few volunteers attending both days. Each subcommittee was in charge of half of the papers. The review process was double-blind and each paper got at minimum five reviews (with only two exceptions). The authors had the opportunity to react through the rebuttal. An online discussion was then used to determine by consensus which papers would be discussed at the PC meeting. Thus the papers with a low average grade, but a strong defender were discussed at the meeting. A total of 105 papers were discussed. For each discussed paper, at least three PC members present at the meeting had reviewed it.

Before the meeting, no objective was set on the number of accepted papers. We finally accepted 57 high-quality papers covering many different topics (19.5% acceptance rate). Compared with previous years, I would like to emphasize that this year a large number of strong papers on neural net architectures will be presented. Reliability is also becoming a more and more important research direction for our community. More traditional topics (caches, memory, GPUs) continue to attract strong submissions.

Because ISCA is an international conference, I wish to point out that the accepted papers originated from countries all around the world including the USA, Korea, China, Canada, Israel, Turkey, Spain, and Sweden.

I have to thank many people for their hard work at building a high-quality program. I thank all the authors for submitting their papers to ISCA 2016: You are the community that supports the conference. I thank the PC and ERC members for dedicating their time reviewing papers, and discussing the papers online. I thank all the PC members that flew to Chicago to participate in the PC meeting. Special thanks to my colleague Sylvain Collange who managed the submission site and was also a PC member. Special thanks also to Gabe Loh who took all the burden with the material organization of the PC meeting.

I would like also to thank our keynote speakers Seok-Hee Lee from Hynix and Doug Carmean from Microsoft.

Last, but not least, I hope that you, the attendees, will enjoy this conference and that this program will contribute to new directions in computer architecture, new collaborations, and renewed energy within our research community.

André Seznec

ISCA 2016 Program Chair