

# Message from the Chairs

Welcome to the 5<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Requirements Prioritization and Communication (RePriCo'14). The workshop serves as a platform for the presentation and discussion of new and innovative approaches to prioritization and communication issues in requirements engineering. RePriCo'14 takes place on August 26, 2014, in Karlskrona, Sweden, co-located with the 22nd IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference: Innovation in and through Requirements Engineering (RE'14).

It is generally accepted that every software development project has to fulfill (at least some) customer needs to be successful. But unless you have unlimited resources like time and budget you have to decide which customer needs to fulfill (first) and which not (or later). This activity of focusing the future development comprises not merely the application of requirements prioritization methods. Above all it is a communication process between all relevant stakeholders. Basically poor communication is responsible for the gaps between the real needs of the customers, the perception of these needs by the Requirements Engineer and the transformation of these perceptions into detailed requirement specifications. Thus, prioritization and communication are strongly intertwined activities lying in the heart of any requirements engineering process.

RePriCo'14 aims at bringing together the more formal disciplines of decision support using evaluation methods with the more informal domains of negotiation and collaboration. We want to raise the communities' awareness to the important linkage of communication and prioritization activities in Requirements Engineering. We think that especially these activities hold a great potential of mutual enrichment as well as of contributing to new innovative research actions.

We are glad about holding RePriCo'14 for the fifth time, for the first time co-located with the IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference. The previous four events were co-located at REFSQ, the International Working Conference on Requirements Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality in Essen, Germany: in 2010 ambitious participants discussed two full research papers and four position papers in an open-minded and pleasant atmosphere; in 2011 four submissions were accepted as full research papers and one submission as short paper; in 2012 three full and two short papers had been discussed; in 2013 two submissions were accepted as full research papers and two submissions as short respectively position papers. The participants from research and industrial practice always appreciated the fruitful discussions in an open-minded and pleasant atmosphere.

RePriCo'14 attracted five submissions. Each submission was reviewed by three experts of the program committee (chairs and/or members). The members of the organizing committee assigned reviewers to each submission depending on the research and practical background of each reviewer matching to the title and abstract of each submission. To identify the best papers first the rating scale within the conference system EasyChair was used: an overall rating by each of the three reviewers weighted by the reviewer's confidence led to a general ranking of all submissions. Additionally, all submissions were ranked by the reviewers regarding five more special evaluation criteria. The criteria included the relevance of the content relating to the workshop topic, the level of innovativeness, the extent of multidisciplinary, the practical usability and the possible contribution to future research. Finally, the chairs of the program committee turned the balance to accept or to reject a submission: overall four submissions were accepted, one full-research paper, two experience reports and one research preview.

The submissions comprise findings and previews from various fields: the application of requirements prioritization decision rules in software product line evolution (Mari Inoki, Takayuki Kitagawa, and Shinichi Honiden); the discussion of using various requirements models for communication in the medical device industry (Dan Matheson); the introduction of a stakeholder identification method within a goal-oriented requirements elicitation process (Mohd Sadiq, S K Jain); and the discussion of tool support for visualizing requirements (Deepti Savio, Ashok Pancily Poothiyot).

Moreover we are proud to announce one invited speaker, Dr. Thomas Fehlmann, a senior expert in software metrics and project cost estimation, a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt for agile software development and promoter of customer-oriented software product design. His talk will be about detecting “Muda” (or waste) in requirements and the problem of uncovering hidden requirements.

We are convinced that the workshop will be rewarding like in previous years and findings in these proceedings encourage researches as well as software developers, requirements engineers or consultants to absorb new ideas and carry them out into their daily work and research projects.

Our special thanks go to all program committee members, speakers and participants for their contributions to the workshop. Additionally, we would like to thank Travis Breaux and Eric Knauss as the RE’14 workshops co-chairs. Last but not least we thank Benedikt Krams and Sixten Schockert for their effort in organizing RePriCo’14. We are confident in hosting RePriCo in 2015 once more and are looking forward to welcoming many participants again.

The workshop website for the RePriCo series including links to the previous RePriCo workshops can be found here: <http://www.bwi.uni-stuttgart.de/reprico>.

Georg Herzwurm, Wolfram Pietsch  
RePriCo’14 Chairs

# RePriCo'14 Organization

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