

Message from the WAPI 2018 Chairs

Welcome to WAPI 2018, the 2nd International Workshop on API Usage and Evolution, held June 2 in Gothenburg, Sweden, and co-located with the 40th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2018).

Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) are an essential mechanism for software reuse. However, over the past two decades, many researchers have shown inherent problems with APIs, such as the lack of useful documentation for proper use, incorrect usage of APIs that lead to bugs and security vulnerability, and difficulties in migrating between API versions. While previous efforts in solving these problems have advanced the state of the art, many of these issues still exist today. We believe it is time to reflect and compare experiences from different perspectives and to come up with new solutions to the above challenges. This is why we decided to organize WAPI.

Given the practical relevance of APIs, our goal was to involve both academic researchers as well as practitioners. We solicited short 4-page papers from academics and practitioners, as well as talk abstracts from practitioners. We put together a program committee consisting of 14 members, with diverse perspectives on APIs. Program committee (PC) members came from both academia and industry. WAPI received 11 paper submissions. Three PC members reviewed each paper submission. An extensive discussion on each paper took place to ensure the selection of relevant and high quality papers. The workshop chairs then personally read all of the reviews, meta-reviews, and comments prior to making final decisions. In the end, 6 out of the 11 paper submissions were accepted.

We have prepared an exciting program for WAPI 2018. We are thrilled to have Danny Dig from Oregon State University as the workshop's keynote speaker and Erik Wittern from the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center as an industry speaker. Danny's keynote will discuss the last decade of refactoring research and its impact on APIs. Erik will discuss challenges, design points, and research opportunities around web APIs. We also have 6 interesting papers, from both practitioners and academics, on diverse API-related topics, ranging from API maintenance to API usability. To ensure that we come up with novel solutions to existing problems and have our participants leave the workshop with new ideas, we have dedicated ample discussion times through each individual session as well as at the end of workshop.

In the end, we would like to thank our PC members. They have done a great job thoroughly reviewing each paper and actively participating in the discussions. We would also like to thank the ICSE Workshop Chairs, Dimitra Giannakopoulou and Paul Grünbacher, for taking care of the ICSE logistics related to organizing this workshop.

We hope you all enjoy your time in Gothenburg and that you leave WAPI with new and actionable ideas to think about!

Enjoy the workshop!

Sven Amann, Sarah Nadi, Tien Nguyen, Hoan Nguyen, and Raffi Khatchadourian
WAPI 2018 Chairs