

## Message from the CESI 2018 Chairs

Welcome to the 6th International Workshop on Conducting Empirical Studies in Industry (CESI), held at the 40th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE) on May 28, 2018 in Gothenburg, Sweden. Challenges in conducting empirical research *in* and *with* industry arise from the complexity of software systems, products and services, development processes, organizational settings, business contexts, etc. and from the sometimes contradicting goals of researchers (search for truth) and practitioners (search for solutions). Yet, empirical studies in industry are necessary to ensure the relevance and applicability of software engineering research in the real world. Consequently, the goal of CESI is to look beyond research methodologies, but to explore how empirical research results can be obtained and put into action in industrial settings. Building on the results of the five previous editions of the CESI at ICSE and utilizing the momentum created in the community, CESI 2018 investigates if and how results obtained in specific industry contexts can help advance the industry in general. Also, CESI will investigate the impact of empirical studies conducted in industry, including successes and failures. We believe that this will further stimulate empirical research in software engineering and increase industry's appreciation of empirical research.

We received a total of twelve contributions. Each contribution was reviewed by at least three members of the international Program Committee. The workshops organizers discussed all papers to make decisions about accepting or rejecting papers. The accepted papers composing the CESI 2018 workshop program are:

- Three experience reports describing experiences in conducting studies in industry and lessons learned that add to the body of knowledge on conducting empirical studies in industry:
  - Maya Daneva, Nelly Condori-Fernández, Klaas Sikkel and Andrea Herrmann: “*Experiences in Using Practitioner’s Checklists to Evaluate the Industrial Relevance of Requirements Engineering Experiments*”
  - Julian Bass, Sarah Beecham and John Noll: “*Experience of Industry Case Studies: A Comparison of Multi-Case and Embedded Case Study Methods*”
  - Pete Rotella and Sunita Chulani: “*Comparing Reliability Levels of Software Releases*”
- Three position and vision papers describing new directions in conducting empirical studies in industry, including convincing arguments supported by a clear rationale:
  - Stefan Biffl, Marcos Kalinowski and Dietmar Winkler: “*Towards an Experiment Line on Software Inspection with Human Computation*”
  - Indira Nurdiani, Jürgen Börstler, Samuel A. Fricker and Kai Petersen: “*A Preliminary Checklist for Capturing Baseline Situations in Studying the Impacts of Agile Practices Introduction*”
  - Katarzyna Biesialska, Xavier Franch and Victor Muntés-Mulero: “*Protocol and Tools for Conducting Agile Software Engineering Research in an Industrial-Academic Setting: A Preliminary Study*”

The workshop is structured to promote discussions and interchange of ideas among participants from both industry and academia sectors. Therefore, in addition to presentations of accepted papers, CESI 2018 includes a “wall of ideas” session to compile success and failure experiences and produce a research agenda. Furthermore, CESI 2018 includes one keynote and two invited talks:

- Industry keynote by David Shepherd (ABB): “*Getting on Base with Tech Transfer*”
- Invited industry talk by Sigrid Eldh (Ericsson): “*On the Transformation of Industry Academic Collaborative Research and Its Value*”

- Invited academic talk by Krzysztof Wnuk (BTH): “*Beyond the Current Project – Building Long-Term Relationships in Industry-Academia Collaboration*”.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the effort and dedication of the Program Committee and the ICSE workshop chairs and proceedings chairs to help make CESI 2018 possible.



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