

Message from Chairs of TechDebt 2018

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the *International Conference on Technical Debt*, TechDebt 2018, co-located with the *International Conference on Software Engineering* (ICSE) in Göteborg, Sweden.

Technical debt describes a universal software development phenomenon: design or implementation constructs that are expedient in the short term but set up a technical context that can make future changes more costly or impossible. Software developers and managers increasingly use the concept to communicate key trade-offs related to release and quality issues.

The Managing Technical Debt workshop series has provided a forum since 2010 for practitioners and researchers to discuss issues related to technical debt and share emerging practices used in software-development organizations. A week-long Dagstuhl Seminar on Managing Technical Debt in Software Engineering has produced a consensus definition for technical debt, a draft conceptual model, and a research roadmap.

To accelerate progress, an expanded two-day working conference format has become essential. The goal of this two-day conference is to bring together leading software researchers, practitioners, and tool vendors to explore theoretical and practical techniques that manage technical debt.

For this conference we accepted 11 research and industrial papers and 5 position papers out of 50 submissions. In addition, 5 extended abstracts were accepted for the tools track. The papers were selected after a peer review by at least three members of the program committee. The accepted papers reflect that managing technical debt is a broad concern of software engineering that blends research and practice.

We would like to thank our program committee for their thorough and timely reviews of the submissions, which enabled the rigorous selection of a strong program. We also would like to thank our organization committee, the ICSE co-events liaison Tom Zimmermann, and the conference publishing team for their support throughout the process.



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