

David W. Embley
Antoni Olivé
Sudha Ram (Eds.)

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Conceptual Modeling – ER 2006

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Preface

Conceptual modeling has long been recognized as the primary means to enable software development in information systems and data engineering. Nowadays, conceptual modeling has become fundamental to any domain in which organizations have to cope with complex, real-world systems. Conceptual modeling fosters communication between information systems developers and end-users, and it has become a key mechanism for understanding and representing computing systems and environments of all kinds, including the new e-applications and the information systems that support them.

The International Conference on Conceptual Modeling provides the premiere forum for presenting and discussing current research and applications in which the major emphasis is on conceptual modeling. Topics of interest span the entire spectrum of conceptual modeling including research and practice in areas such as theories of concepts and ontologies underlying conceptual modeling, methods and tools for developing and communicating conceptual models, and techniques for transforming conceptual models into effective implementations. Moreover, new areas of conceptual modeling broaden its application to include interdependencies with knowledge-based, logical, linguistic, and philosophical theories and approaches. The conference also makes major strides in fostering collaboration and exchange between academia and industry.

In this year's conference, research papers focused on XML, Web services, business modeling, conceptual modeling applied to human-computer interaction, quality in conceptual modeling, conceptual modeling applied to interoperability, requirements modeling, reasoning, the Semantic Web, and metadata management. The call for papers attracted 158 research papers, whose authors represent 27 different countries. The Program Committee accepted 37, for an acceptance rate of 23.4%. The authors of accepted papers come from 19 different countries.

This year, the conference celebrated its silver anniversary. In honor of 25 years of successful conferences, its founder, Peter Chen, gave the opening keynote address. The conference also featured two additional keynote addresses, 37 research papers, six industrial presentations, seven workshops (with a total of 42 additional research papers), five demos/posters, two panel sessions, and four tutorials.

We appreciate the hard work of the Program Committee and the external referees, who generously spent their time and energy reviewing submitted papers. Almost all of the 474 reviews for the 158 research papers were received, amazingly leaving only a handful for the PC chairs to do. We thank the authors who wrote high-quality research papers, and the many others who participated in the workshops, tutorials, panels, poster and demo sessions, industrial presentations, and keynote presentations. We also wish to express our sincere appreciation for the sponsorships obtained by Mohan Tanniru and Mike Grieves. Our Publicity Chair and Webmaster Huimin did a wonderful job of keeping the Web site updated promptly and publicizing the conference. Thanks are also due to Akhilesh Bajaj and Ramesh Venkataraman for organizing the demos and posters, and Len Seligman and Arnie Rosenthal for the industry

track presentations. We thank John Roddick, who diligently took care of organizing the tutorials, Keng Siau and Uday Kulkarni for selecting the panels, and Bernhard Thalheim for acting as the ER Steering Committee liaison. Thanks are also due to the doctoral students from the University of Arizona who helped with various arrangements for the conference. Finally, our heartfelt thanks to Anji Seigel for taking care of registration, all local arrangements, and a myriad of other details without which the conference would not have been successful.

November 2006

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