

Welcome from the ECIS 2014 Program Chairs

Welcome to ECIS 2014, the 22nd European Conference on Information Systems. The conference theme –“Digital Work, Digital Life”– reflects the pervasive entanglement between our physical reality and virtual representations. The increase in digitization of artifacts is affecting all areas of our lives and our society. The way we work, how we live and socialize, how the digital economy works and how value is created are evolving continuously, driving future waves of digitalization. The Internet of things, the Internet of services, big data, cloud computing and crowdsourcing, as well as digital business models are major drivers. These are phenomena and themes that many of the papers in the ECIS 2014 program explore and contribute to.

ECIS remains a prestigious and competitive conference. This year, we received 756 paper submissions from authors representing 52 countries. The paper submissions included 548 completed research papers and 180 research-in-progress papers. Of these, 188 and 75 respectively were included in the ECIS program.

This year's program included two innovations: the prototype as a new submission genre and the Paper Development Workshop. Eleven authors demonstrated applications and technologies that they have built, i.e., prototypes. With regard to the Paper Development Workshop, primarily PhD students and authors from countries in which IS research is not well established were invited. In a roundtable format, their ECIS submissions are discussed under the leadership of senior IS scholars.

Indicative of the generosity of the IS community and a testament to our colleagues' dedication to the enterprise of knowledge creation, 78 track chairs managing 24 tracks, 435 AEs and 1617 reviewers participated in the program development process. We deeply appreciate their service. In particular, we thank the track chairs for their dedication to building a conference program that is representative of the IS discipline's diversity of interest and methodological orientation, as well as authors' country affiliation.

We could not have been able to complete the paper adjudication and program development process on time without the able assistance and long hours of Christoph Peters (Kassel University), our conference system coordinator. We also thank James Stewart of Precision Conference System (PCS) for helping us get the most value out of the review system.

Furthermore, we are very grateful to our Research in Progress Chairs, Steve Alter (San Francisco University), Lior Fink (Ben Gurion University) and Mark Silver (Fordham University), for coordinating the poster and prototype sessions, as well as the Paper Development Workshop. These were all events that required considerable logistical coordination.

David Bodoff (University of Haifa) and Ilana Berkowitz (Paragon) were instrumental in typesetting the program and compiling the proceedings. We appreciate their attention to detail and their persistence with getting all the information they needed to publish both in a timely manner.

We would like to specially thank our devoted Conference Chairs, Chrisanthi Avgerou and Dov Te'eni, for their support, encouragement, and leadership throughout the program development process.

Finally, we also thank the conference attendees, authors, and panelists. While our role was to plan the program, a conference is ultimately a social event that relies on the attendees to make it “real.” Participants’ engagement with others, their passion about ideas and their willingness to question claims made is what makes a conference valuable and memorable.

We look forward to interacting with as many of you as possible during our short time in Tel Aviv. We trust that there will be much conversation about ideas and creation of new knowledge!

The ECIS 2014 Program chairs:

Michel Avital, Jan Marco Leimeister and Ulrike Schultze