

Preface

The last decade has been one of great progress in the field of software architecture research and practice. Software architecture has emerged as an important subdiscipline of software engineering. A key aspect of the design of any software system is its architecture, i.e. the fundamental organization of a system embodied in its components, their relationships to each other, and to the environment, and the principles guiding its design and evolution (as defined in the Recommended Practice for Architectural Description of Software-Intensive Systems – IEEE Std 1471-2000).

The First European Workshop on Software Architecture (EWSA 2004) provided an international forum for researchers and practitioners from academia and industry to discuss a wide range of topics in the area of software architecture, and to jointly formulate an agenda for future research in this field.

EWSA 2004 distinguished among three types of papers: research papers (which describe authors' novel research work), experience papers (which describe real-world experiences related to software architectures), and position papers (which present concise arguments about a topic of software architecture research or practice).

The Program Committee selected 19 papers (9 research papers, 4 experience papers, and 6 position papers) out of 48 submissions from 16 countries (Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, The Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, USA). All submissions were reviewed by three members of the Program Committee. Papers were selected based on originality, quality, soundness and relevance to the workshop. In addition, the workshop included five invited papers presenting European Union projects related to software architecture: ARCHWARE, CONIPF, FABRIC, MODA-TEL, and OMEGA. Credit for the quality of the proceedings goes to all authors of papers.

We would like to thank the members of the Program Committee (Ilham Alloui, Dharini Balasubramaniam, Jan Bosch, Harald Gall, David Garlan, Mark Greenwood, Valérie Issarny, Volker Gruhn, Philippe Kruchten, Nicole Levy, Radu Mateescu, Carlo Montangero, and Dewayne Perry) for providing timely and significant reviews, and for their substantial effort in making EWSA 2004 a successful workshop.

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