Preface

CAiSE 2007 was the 19th in the series of International Conferences on Advanced Information Systems Engineering. This year’s conference was located in Trondheim and hosted by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, with the aim of bringing together practitioners and researchers in the field of information systems engineering. The CAiSE series thereby returned to the city where the third CAiSE conference was held in 1991.

Since the first CAiSE was organized in Stockholm in 1989, CAiSE has grown to become one of the most prestigious international conferences at the intersection between information systems, software engineering, database technology and other related fields. The CAiSE conferences present basic and applied research results from academia alongside keynotes and research presentations from industry.

The special theme of CAiSE 2007 was “Ubiquitous Information Systems Engineering,” reflecting that modern information systems often span activities performed in several organizations and at different geographical locations. They often support the untethered mobility of their users. Already today, these systems have a large impact on the everyday life of individuals and organizations. As we move towards ambient, pervasive and ubiquitous computing, this impact will increase significantly.

While CAiSE 2007 invited general submissions on the development, maintenance, procurement and use of information systems, submissions dealing with aspects related to information systems engineering in ubiquitous environments were especially welcome. The response was overwhelming. In all, 301 papers were submitted, which is a new record for CAiSE conferences. After all submissions had been carefully assessed by three independent reviewers, the Program Committee meeting selected 40 top-quality papers, resulting in an acceptance rate of around 13%. Several other high-quality papers were selected for the CAiSE Forum, a tradition initiated at CAiSE 2003 in Velden to stimulate open discussions of high-quality on-going research.

The success of CAiSE 2007 is also evidenced by the many top-quality workshops that were arranged as CAiSE pre-conference events. The longest running, the REFSQ series on Requirements Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality, was organized for the 13th time in Trondheim. Over the years it has evolved into a Working Conference, this year with its own LNCS proceedings published by Springer. Other workshops associated with CAiSE have almost equally long histories. The EMMSAD 2007 Workshop on Exploring Modelling Methods for Information Systems Analysis and Design was organized for the 12th time. The AOIS 2007 Workshop on Agent-Oriented Information Systems was organized for the 17th time and was associated with CAiSE for the eighth time. Other high-quality international workshops this year were BPMDS 2007 on Business
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The special theme of CAiSE 2007 was high-lighted by an additional workshop on Ubiquitous Mobile Information and collaboration systems, UMICS 2007, and by three industrial keynote speeches: Ora Lassila of Nokia Research, UK, on “Setting Your Data Free: Thoughts on Information Interoperability,” Pekka Abrahamsson of VTT, Finland, on “Agile Software Development of Mobile Information Systems” and Christen Krogh of Opera Software, Norway, with a talk titled “40 Million Users, 300 Engineers, 40 Enterprise Customers, 7 Development Locations, and 1 CVS - Lessons Learned Through Design, Development and Deployment of the Opera Browser.”

Contact with industry was emphasized through two one-day industrial seminars on Agile Methods in Practice (organized by Torgeir Dingsøyr) and on Interoperability in the Public Sector (organized by Arne-Jørgen Berre). As usual, a doctoral consortium was also organized in conjunction with CAiSE, giving research students an opportunity to present and discuss their PhD topics and plans face to face with internationally leading researchers in their fields.

Last, but not least, CAiSE 2007 was also an occasion to honor one of the founding fathers of the CAiSE series and Organizing Chair of the 1991 conference, Professor Arne Sølvberg, who celebrated his 67th birthday in 2007. This is the usual retirement age in Norway, although Arne has promised to be working until 70 (at least)! A symposium to honor Professor Sølvberg was arranged before CAiSE 2007 as an additional pre-conference event.

As the organizers of the CAiSE 2007 main conference, we deeply thank the many members of the CAiSE 2007 Program Committee and the additional reviewers for making the reviewing process so thorough and smooth. We equally deeply thank the Chairs and other committee members involved in the many additional events associated with CAiSE 2007. We also want to thank Richard van de Stadt for his excellent technical support during the various stages of evaluating papers and preparing the proceedings. We also wish to thank all the local organizers at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) for their hard work and devotion. Finally, we would like to thank the conference gold sponsors Google, SINTEF and Telenor, institutional sponsor ERCIM, local sponsors The City of Trondheim and the NTNU, as well as our collaborators, the University of Bergen and The Norwegian Computer Society.

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