"WOW"
ICSE's
Window On the World

Friday, May 24
Volume 8, Issue 3

ICSE 2002

WOW, What a Week!
What a Conference!
By Hal Hart (TRW), WOW Editor

If you've made it this far, you'll make it to the end of this amazing conference!

For our 3rd keynote presentation, Bob Balzer from Teknowledge Corpora- tion and one of the founders of the USC Information Sciences Institute will be reflecting on directions and challenges involved in using COTS.

Today's final issue of WOW brings you the usual assortment of reports. Instead of enumerating them, I'm using my space on my own *thanks*. First, I want to thank ICSE 2002 General Chair Will Tracz for once again entrusting to me the tradition that WOW has become. I hope I, with the help of my great WOW staff, have succeeded in adding to your ICSE memories. *(Lori Clarke hopes so too, since she asked me last year to lead WOW at ICSE 2003! I'm recruiting staff now.* ✍

Most importantly, I need to thank my dedicated WOW staff. Special thanks for particularly energetic and creative newspapering endeavors go to four staff members – WOW veterans (and Ohio State students) Nigamanth Sridhar and Jason Hallstrom, Debora Weber-Wulff (VFH Berlin) who walked in the WOW door by surprise on Tuesday and did every conceivable job including chaperoning & mentoring even me, and Yuanfang Cai (U. of Virginia student) who re- invented herself almost daily, doing whatever was needed from reporting to proofreading to data entry and finally photographer. *Thanks to all!*

-H² (Hal.Hart@ACM.ORG)

Inside this Issue

CONTEST WINNER: Idris Hsi
Online **R**eference **L**ibrary of **A**daptable **N**on- proprietary, **D**efect -free **O** bjects *(ORLANDO)*
see page 5 for more

Thurs. Keynote Address
By Nigamanth Sridhar (Ohio State)

The Thursday keynote, "Systems Engineering: An Essential Engineer- ing Discipline for the 21st Century," by Donna Rhodes *(middle above)* from CSG Systems attempted to differentiate systems engineering from software engineering in our minds. For a long time into the talk, Donna dwelt on what the definitions of the two engineering disciplines were, and how their roles differed. I felt like I was listening to someone read me a book on introductory software engineering. The remainder of the talk

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Weather Forecast

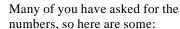| **Today: *Mostly Sunny*** |
|---|
| High: 30 C (86 F) |
| Low: 18 C (65 F) |

For the Weekend: *Partly Cloudy*
High: 31 C (87 F)
Low: 18 C (65 F)

Closing Thoughts from ICSE 2002 Chair Will Tracz

Many of you have asked for the numbers, so here are some:
- ?? 480 conference participants
- ?? 304 workshop participants
- ?? 234 tutorial attendees
- ?? 52 participants in co-located events
- ?? 70 walk-in registrations
- ?? 45 countries represented
- ?? 33 no-shows
- ?? 639 total people

This success is due to many people,

Local Arrangements Chair Viviana Rubinstein
By "WOW"

WOW caught up with trooper Viviana L. Rubinstein (above), Local Arrangements Chair appointed 3 years ago when ICSE 2002 was to be in Buenos Aires. She followed through on the job even with the venue change to Orlando.

WOW: Local Arrangements has to be the most overworked, thankless job there is (having done it a few times myself for smaller conferences and workshops :). How did you get suckered into it, and would you accept again knowing what you do now?

Closing Thoughts from ICSE 2002 Chair Will Tracz
(continued from page 1)

and time does not allow thanking them all individually. Most of my key conference-organizing people are well known to you already from this podium, the registration desk, and WOW. My thanks go to all of them plus their extended volunteer staffs, plus the administrative staffs of our two sponsoring professional societies, ACM and the IEEE Computer Society, and of the Cooperating Organizations listed on the cover of the Final Program. My final thanks is for the financial support received from our three Corporate Supporters -- *VA Software, Liveware,* and *Rational*. Without their generous financial support, ICSE 2002 would could not have provided all of the food and beverage we did at breaks, lunch time, and the two Argentinean-themed receptions (at least partially fulfilling our vision). I know we all have appreciated these amenities and you all want to join me in thanking these three Corporate Supporters! Have a safe trip home, keep up the cause of software engineering, and I hope to see many of you next year in Portland at ICSE 2003.   -Will

A Resounding "Thank You" for the Organizers
By WOW

ICSE 2002 presented Will and his conference organizing committee with exceptional, unprecedented challenges – the forced move from Buenos Aires just four months ago being perhaps just the most conspicuous. If you've ever organized a large conference, you surely appreciate the stress and impacts on families and careers for this extreme case. If you haven't had the experience, trust us! But surely we all agree that here we are on the last day and it was ICSE as usual!

So, if you see Will, Michal, Viviana, Pilar, Alejandro, Hector, and any of the others with "Executive Committee" or "Staff" ribbons, please thank them for their perseverance and for pulling off a great ICSE conference! Certainly the WOW staff appreciates their long months (or literally, *years* in most cases) of effort and the gratifying payoff in every aspect of this enjoyable ICSE.

Thurs. Keynote Address
(continued from page 1)

gave an overview of the status of the field of systems engineering in the form of educational programs and the various research programs such as the SEDRES project and the INCOSE-OMG initiative.

Looking at the number of people that walked out of the room, I didn't get the feeling that the audience enjoyed the keynote very much! So I caught up with a few of the conference attendees in order to ask them their thoughts on the keynote. Here are some of their comments:

"All the things about presentation aspects that I advise my graduate students *against* were in this talk!"

"This was just a very boring shopping list about systems engineering."

"Good luck to you, on writing your article!"

"A person isn't *born* to be a software engineer!"

"As a systems engineer myself, I liked the content, but thought the presentation style left a lot to be desired."

"There has historically been one bad keynote at ICSE, and this year it was today's."

In general, the views of the respondents from industry and from academia were extremely varied. And this is cause for concern. It almost seems that the research community and the industry are not in sync with each other about the problems that really need solving. This is exactly the kind of thing that is extremely important, and conferences like ICSE are trying to promote better cooperation between industry and academia. Hopefully, our discipline will mature enough soon to recognize this and start working together.

The Intruders: Italians and Finns Searching for Nightlife?
By Alessandro Maccari
(Nokia Research Center)

Editor's Note: Where were these guys looking? See above & leftmost column. ✍

On Wednesday, after ICSE's jazz session, we decided to plunge into the thriving Orlando nightlife. Perfect plan, except there is no such thing. The problem isn't specific to Orlando, but rather to the country: with the exception of a few places *(that the Bush administration is getting rid of as they may be used as entertainment by terrorists),* when the US goes to sleep northern Europe is warming up and Italy is just about to start. Conceded: two Finns and four Italians may not make for the most impartial judges in a city that mainly survives

thanks to families travelling to Disney theme parks. Nevertheless, the first impression was stunning: neon lights and dreamy buildings made for an alluring choreography. The original goal of the evening was to visit Pleasure Island. But this is America, and even Pleasure has a price: the whopping $21 access charge diverted us to The House Of Blues. There we learned that there's no blues, but they do serve fast food and decent beer. Other amenities include public telephones next to urinals in the toilet (sorry: restroom) and an obligatory 18% "gratuity" for groups of 6 or more. The place empties just before midnight, and we leave with little hope to find anything else open. How wrong we were! How could we so grossly misjudge this country? A short stroll through the shopping center and there we are: the local record store, closing at 1 am, makes for all the nightlife we wanted. If only they had beer…

Quote of the Day

"Remember, types [in programming languages] were invented purely to help you find things that would cause trouble at run time."
-Mary Shaw, ICSE 2002, May 23

Academic Independence?
(SEL/NASA Controversy)
By Debora Weber-Wulff (VFH Berlin)

Thursday morning the Empirical Methods session witnessed an unusual occurrence. Before the last speaker, Marvin Zelkowitz, gave his paper entitled "Lessons Learned from 25 years of Process Improvement: The Rise and Fall of the NASA Software Engineering Lab," Will Tracz made a statement and read a portion of a letter that reached him that morning. A controversy had arisen!

It seems that someone at NASA saw the title of the paper and reacted to it, discovering that the paper had not been approved through the "proper channels". This person called last night asking that the paper be withdrawn – surely difficult, as the proceedings were published on Wednesday.

The authors refused, noting that they do not need permission from anyone, as they are not on contract with any entity. They suggested that the person read the paper.

A fax then arrived with NASA letterhead, requesting that Will read the paragraph aloud at the session. The letter noted in addition that now, having read the paper, it was clear that the paper was not stating that the SEL no longer exists (it does, but is doing something else), but was about lessons learned in large cooperation projects.

Vic Basili, co-author of the paper, noted in the discussion that this letter was just the opinion of one person, not of NASA as an organization.

There was much discussion about whether anyone can request at anytime that another paper be withdrawn, or force a rebuttal to be read aloud. It was noted that normal procedures would be to submit one's rebuttal to the next conference or to a journal.

A Chance to Explore DMS
By Jason Hallstrom (Ohio State)

Conference attendees looking for a change of pace are encouraged to drop by Dr. Ira Baxter's table, located just outside of Crystal H, to have a look at a number of exciting technologies under development at Semantic Designs, Inc. Under a generous grant from the NIST Advanced Technology Program, the team was formed in 1995 by Dr. Christopher Pidgeon with the vision of developing DMS: *The Design Maintenance System.*

Although DMS is still under development, it will ultimately comprise a comprehensive tool set recording *what* a piece of software is supposed to do, *how* the software does it, and *why* the software works correctly. DMS, which relies heavily on advanced research in compiler technology, captures a wide range of

language inputs as augmented abstract syntax trees. These specialized trees can be processed by the tool set to provide an extensive array of software engineering tools. This year at ICSE, Dr. Baxter is providing demonstrations of three such tools that leverage this infrastructure.

In addition to their Jovial to C translator, Dr. Baxter is providing demonstrations of Semantic Design's test coverage tools, and the uniquely impressive *CloneDr*. The test coverage tools are used to evaluate which portions of an application have been covered by a test suite, and can be extended to calculate the test frequency of a particular execution path. With vastly different functionality, but implemented on top of the same infrastructure, *CloneDr* identifies redundant code fragments within an application, and can automatically perform the appropriate refactoring. Implemented using *Parlanse*, Semantic Design's own parallel programming language, these tool sets seamlessly leverage the power of symmetric multiprocessor systems.

If software engineering tools are your interest, don't miss your chance to chat with Dr. Baxter.

Thurs. Dawn Run/Jog/Walk
By WOW

WOW regrets missing Will's dawn patrol Thursday, just being unable to rise after a small fraction of a night's sleep. Unfortunately, our digital camera slept in with us. However, we did obtain race results. About 30 people participated between the serious run, the jog, and the walk. Only the runners competed for gold:

1st	Marc Roper	18:30
2nd	Tim Lethbridge	22:46
3rd	Paula Inverardi	22:57

Congrats to all participants!

Conference Attendance Program for Students (CAPS)
By Laurie Dillon (Mich. St. Univ.)

The ICSE Committee extends a big "Thank you!" to ACM SIGSOFT, one of our sponsors, for providing financial support for 15 student attendees to ICSE'02 through the CAPS (Conference Attendance Program for Students). Of these students, 11 are presenting papers in the technical program. CAPS attendees at ICSE'02 come from 12 different universities in 4 different countries.

?? Fernando Schapachnik, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

?? Ahmed Hassan, University of Waterloo, Canada

?? Martin Robillard, University of British Columbia, Canada

?? Ricardo Scandariat, Politecnico di Torino, Italy

?? Shawn Butler, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

?? Paul Graunke, Northeastern University, USA

?? Alok Mehta, AFS, USA

?? Susanne Sherba, University of Colorado, USA

?? Rachel Smith, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA

?? Eric Dashofy, University of California, Irvine, USA

?? James Bowring, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

?? Elena Malaxa, Florida State University, USA

?? Robert Norton, Florida State University, USA

?? Taweesup Apiwattanapong, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

?? James Jones, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

Please welcome these students to the ICSE community!

Find more information about CAPS at: http://www.cse.msu.edu/CAPS

IEEE CS TCSE Interview
By Nigamanth Sridhar (Ohio State)

Yesterday WOW got comments from the Chair of sponsor ACM SIGSOFT and the President of the IEEE Computer Society, parent society of ICSE's other sponsor, the Technical Council on Software Engineering (TCSE). Thursday WOW caught up with Karl Reed, Chair of TCSE.

WOW: Where does ICSE fit in the strategy of the TCSE?

Karl Reed: ICSE is the largest and most important conference in the software engineering community. It is the prime meeting point for researchers, practitioners, organizers, students and the activists. Also, its tradition of initiating more and more workshops in new areas is extremely important in providing these fledgling groups (and more mature groups) a nice forum to discuss important and relevant issues to advance the state of technology.

WOW: What in your view is the future of ICSE and TCSE?

KR: TCSE will work in conjunction with other organizations such as SIGSOFT in promoting ICSE for all the reasons already mentioned. In particular, over the next few years, we want to focus on some programs in South America, especially since this year's ICSE had to be pulled out of there at the last minute. In fact, we just finalized a formal program for this yesterday.

WOW: What do you see as TCSE's role in the software engineering community as a whole?

KR: Currently there are about 25 conferences in the TCSE portfolio. We are also looking for collaborations with local regional organizations in various parts of the world. We are also working with SIGSOFT on areas of software engineering education. Our central focus is to improve the relationship between theory and practice, and make it easier for the knowledge in the research community to flow into practice in the industry. We are also planning a lot of exciting new activities over the next few months to work with the community in general.

Interview with Local Arrangements Chair Viviana Rubinstein
(continued from page 1)

VLR: Will Tracz contacted Guillermo Arango at Schlumberger to offer him some position in the organizing committee and also to ask him about who could do local arrangements for ICSE in Buenos Aires. Guille declined, but referred WT to my husband and me. I was, (it seems like a decade ago, but it was actually more than that, how time flies!) the VP of the Argentina-Brazil Program for Information Technology (PABI) for 4 years and was in charge of all the events linked to it. In particular, I was responsible for organizing summer schools for over 500 people. Also, I coordinate with SADIO, the Argentinean Society for Information Science; which organizes one large local conference each year, and has an excellent track record, to help me. It was a no-brainer. So, I did not walk into this in ignorance, but rather in full knowledge. And, yes, I'll do it all over again. Hopefully, by then I will have shown what we can do as a team and some of our warnings will not go unheeded or take so long to sink in.

WOW: How major an impact on your job was the venue move from Argentina to Orlando?

VLR. Big-time major. We had everything under control in Buenos Aires, and ready to execute. The move to Orlando meant dealing with new Convention Center management, looking for REAL local "local arrangements", rethinking almost everything. Fortunately David Workman from The Central Florida University accepted this hard task, always with a good mood!!! Also the Convention Center administration here is exceptionally able and exceptionally willing (of course, at a price) to provide the services we request.

Dave "Work Man" Workman and Wife Jean

WOW: Name a couple other unanticipated problems that came up and didn't solve themselves easily, and what you did about them.

VLR. This is very difficult for me. Changing the venue in such short notice and with so little time left before curtains overshadows everything else. I guess I could come up with something, if pressed. Would you like me to?

WOW: OK, something must have gone relatively smoothly. What?

VLR. Actually, reflecting on the history of the event, it now seems that we sorted out things in a pretty mature way, so that for most of the time we were on track. And this is not just a play of words on how many people do a first reading of our ICSE Chair's last name!

WOW: Some years ICSE has hired a "conference management contractor" to lead Convention Center liaisons, meeting room logistics, sleeping rooms coordination, etc., with just "domain knowledge" inputs from the key volunteers, and some years the conference hasn't. What's your take on the importance of this to a successful ICSE conference?

VLR. I think that it is not domain knowledge that makes the organization successful, but product line knowledge. If the organizing group, be it software engineering savvy or not, understands the nuances of a scientific conference that has to cater to people that not only have academic backgrounds but also, often, are highly paid managers or consultants, the event will run smoothly. It is when you think that organizing conferences is just a process to be followed, without any input from the individuals involved, and making nothing of "soft" skills, that the event will capsize.

WOW: What about the health and sanity of key volunteers like yourself?

VLR. Well, we are a funny kind of volunteers, the SADIO group (Hector Monteverde, the Suter husband-and-wife team, Alejandra) and myself, plus David Workman, THE MAN from Central Florida University. There is nothing for us personally, at least not in the way the IRS interprets gains, but there is a lot for us in the pride department. We strive to do this right, so that you can trust the locals in other countries to do it right in the future. We represent all those other potential resources that can help make ICSE a success wherever it goes, and we will not be the first ones to drop the ball. We want this to succeed so badly that our health and sanity depend on the success, not on the amount of work. If we have to push the envelope further to prevent a miscarriage, we will. In a week, ask this again, and maybe I have another answer. Today, I think this represents fairly well how I feel.

WOW: When do you think your life will return to normal? Or did you burn too many bridges for that to ever happen?

VLR: Well, my husband is making use of some of the thousands of miles we rake in every year to join me in Orlando for the Memorial Day weekend, so that is one bridge that I hope is still standing, and my children are grown-ups, one is in Afghanistan taking pictures for AP, the other in Austin busy teaching Tango lessons, so they are oblivious to my long hours. My company in Argentina needs more customers and not more management at this stage, and my partners in USA are taking care of the shop. I guess that life will return to normal, after all, once ICSE 2002 is a good memory in all of our minds. Actually, I expect life to get a little better after this. Maybe all this networking will pay off in some unpredictable, splendid way! Who knows? The pleasure of giving one's time to others is that it is recognized in ways we don't expect when we sign up. So let me ask you a question: editing WOW is also a relatively overworked and thankless job. How do you <u>deal</u> with it?

WOW: Easy. My WOW staff is the <u>ace up my sleeve</u>!

Remember the man behind the green curtain in Wizard of Oz? Will was it Wed. morning.

ORLANDO Acronym Quiz Winners

The Grand Winner of the ORLANDO Acronym contest, from among over 50 entries, is **Idris Hsi** with his entry:

Online **R**eference **L**ibrary of **A**daptable **N**on-proprietary, **D**efect-free **O**bjects *(ORLANDO)*

First runner-up was <u>Maurilio Zuccala</u>:

Offline **R**eplication and **L**inear **A**ccess to **N**etwork **D**ata **O**bjects *(ORLANDO)*

Honorable mention (aka the *non-scientific* category) goes to <u>Eric Eide</u>:

Old **R**iparian **L**ands **A**re **N**ow **D**isney **O**wned *(ORLANDO)*

Special note is made of the fact that Dewayne Perry made the most submissions – 10 plus 3 more joint with Andre van Hoek. This honor could also be construed as *"Biggest Loser."* ✍

The judges' decisions are final. (Mary Shaw, Debora Weber-Wulff, and Hal Hart were judges, and all volunteer as trial users when Idris's and Maurilio's interesting-sounding ORLANDO services are ready.)

Preview: ICSE 2003
Portland, Oregon, USA
May 3-10, 2003

By Laurie Dillon (Mich. State Univ.), ICSE 2003 Program Co-Chair

ICSE 2003 will feature the latest inventions, achievements, and experiences in software engineering research and practice, and will give researchers, practitioners, and educators the opportunity to present, discuss, and learn. The Software Engineering Week consists of the main ICSE conference and numerous tutorials, workshops and symposia.

Keynote talks will address technical and social challenges:

?? Joanne McGrath Cohoon -- Department of Leadership, Foundations, and Policy, University of Virginia, USA. "Must There Be So Few? Including Women in CS."

?? Bertrand Meyer -- Department of Computer Science, ETH, Zurich, Switzerland and ISE, Santa Barbara, USA. "Components that You Can Trust"

?? Eugene Spafford -- Department of Computer Sciences, Purdue "Is Information Security == Software Engineering?"

Special events include:
?? Invited Industrial Presentations
?? Industrial Experience Reports
?? Frontiers of Software Practice Presentations
?? Historical Perspective Panel: The 1st to the 25th ICSE
?? Doctoral Symposium Workshop for Graduate Students
?? New Software Engineering Faculty Symposium

?? Int'l. Workshop on Program Comprehension (IWPC 2003)
?? Int'l. SPIN Workshop on Model Checking of Software (SPIN 2003)

The conference venue is the Hilton Hotel, centered in the heart of Portland's entertainment and cultural district, with access to performing arts, shopping, museums, coffee houses, microbreweries, and restaurants, all within three blocks.

Please join us by contributing your ideas in any of the participation categories. We also accept corporate sponsorships and encourage students to apply as student volunteers. Please plan to come to the conference and bring your colleagues.

Portland, Oregon, USA

ICSE Attendance Survey Results

Sorry, due to weak returns, we are not calculating the hoped-for ICSE attendance statistics. Apparently many people thought it was a contest again and conceded to Marv Zelkowitz who wins annually. We assume he would have won again this year *if it had been a contest.*

SOME SPORTS SCORES

ICSE Micro-Marathon Results

1st	**Marc Roper**	**18:30**
2nd	**Tim Lethbridge**	**22:46**
3rd	**Paula Inverardi**	**22:57**

NHL Playoffs: Thurs.

Carolina	**3**
Toronto	**0**

E. Conf. Finals:
   Carolina holds a stranglehold 3 games to 1 lead
W. Conf. Finals:
   Detroit leads Colorado 2 to 1

NBA Playoffs:

Both Conf. Series tied 1-1

Sacramento at LA tonight

Yuanfang

Jason

Stock Markets

DJIA   10,216 (+58)
NASDAQ 1,698 (+24)
S&P   1,097 (+11)
TRW   55.25 (+0.40)
Northrop-Grumman 122.76 (-1.72)

Recognizing ICSE 2002's Student Volunteers

Taweesup Apiwattanapong	Georgia Institute of Technology	Donglin Liang	Georgia Institute of Technology
Sebastian Blaustein	Universidad De Buenos Aires	Mathew Lowery	University of Central Florida
Seth Bowen	University of Calgary	Elena Malaxa	Florida State University
James Bowring	Georgia Institute of Technology	Alok Mehta	AFS
Shawn Butler	Carnegie Mellon University	Angélica Milena Flechas Cuadrado	University of Central Florida
Youngjoon Byun	University of Florida	Robert Norton	Florida State University
Yuanfang Cai	University of Virginia	Sabrina Pelaez	University of Central Florida
James Chisan	University of Victoria	Monsef Rachid	University of Central Florida
Luis Fernando De Simoni	Universidad de Buenos Aires	Martin Robillard	University of British Columbia
Eric Dashofy	University of California, Irvine	Ricardo Scandariat	Politécnico di Torino
Ebru Dincel	University of Southern California	Fernando Schapachnik	Universidad de Buenos Aires
Santhoshi Dumpala Basaveswara	University of California, Irvine	Susanne Sherba	University of Colorado
Shaimaa Elkhawalka	University of Central Florida	Rachel Smith	University of Massachusetts
Bjorn Endresen	University of Central Florida	Nigamanth Sridhar	Ohio State University
Justin Erenkrantz	University of California, Irvine	Sireesha Toleti	University of Central Florida
Paul Graunke	Northeastern University	Brian Toone	University of California, Davis
Ahmed Hassan	University of Waterloo	Keneth Tse	University of Central Florida
Jason Hallstrom	Ohio State University	Abhijit Wakchaure	University of Central Florida
Nualsawat Hiransakolwong	University of Central Florida	Yvette Wilde	University of Central Florida
Daqing Hou	University of Alberta	Tianyu Yang	University of Central Florida
James Jones	Georgia Institute of Technology	Lei Zhou	University of Central Florida
Elizabeth Latronico	Carnegie Mellon University		

The ICSE 2002 WOW Crew

Front Row: *Hal Hart, Jason Hallstrom, Nigamanth Sridhar*
Back Row*: Debora Weber-Wulff, Yuanfang Cai, Anita Sarma, Santhoshi D Basaveswara*
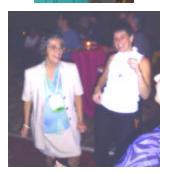
FINAL ICSE 2002 PHOTO MEMORIES

Nigamanth & Pilar

Debora & Friend