



“WOW” ICSE's *Window On the World*

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Orlando World Center Marriott
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Welcome to ICSE 2002

About WOW

By Hal Hart (TRW), WOW Editor



Welcome to ICSE 2002, the 24th International Conference on Software Engineering! WOW, your daily conference

newsletter, has been an ICSE tradition since 1995, bringing attendees late breaking “news” stories, interviews with speakers and organizers, thought pieces, and interesting bits of information about the conference, the location, and the current and next generation of software engineering researchers and practitioners – with occasional humor and light-heartedness. See “Reporters Sought” to the right -- help make WOW the best it can be.

Today’s issue #0 starts off with a mix of information about the area, where to eat, a workshop review, an interview, and some techie humor. Tomorrow’s conference-opening issue will be rich in “technical content.” And each of the next three issues will entice you with glimpses of the Argentina & Buenos Aires we missed.

Lastly, be sure to have some real *fun* this week. 3 or more consecutive busy conference days can lay to waste the best of minds, so recharge your batteries along the way by taking advantage of the extraordinary concentration of diversions here at this fabulous hotel and in the immediate Orlando area: Disney World including famous educational theme park Epcot (1.5 miles), Sea World (5 miles), Universal Studios theme park (10 miles), and Discovery Cove (swim with the dolphins...). -H²

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REPORTERS SOUGHT

WOW won't exist without your help. Short reviews of the technical sessions you attend are welcomed for publication in WOW. Indicate whether you want them printed anonymously or signed. Submission is via drop-off at Marriott room 21076 or hand to anyone with a “Press” ribbon. (Floppies preferred, but hand-written paragraphs are accepted too – we'll do the data entry).



Sacramento Kings 96
Los Angeles Lakers 90

Weather Forecast

Today: Hot & muggy, chance of rain

High: 28 C (82 F)
Low: 17 C (63 F)

Tomorrow: Morning Showers

High: 20 C (68 F)
Low: 16 C (62 F)

Interview with the Workshop Chair: Kevin Sullivan

By WOW

Your intrepid WOW reporter caught up with Kevin Sullivan whose ICSE 2002 workshops program covers Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday. Kevin easily handled WOW's hard-hitting investigative style.

WOW: Tell us a little about why ICSE solicits and offers such a robust set of workshops compared to most other conferences.

KS: The fundamental objectives of an international conference such as ICSE are two-fold: to foster both the dissemination and the creation of valuable new knowledge in the field of study. The main plenary sessions serve for the dissemination of new knowledge -- of the best and most recent research results from around the world. Workshops, by contrast, serve to promote the creation of new knowledge by providing forums in which leading researchers come together to discuss emerging thought which is at the very forefront of focused research sub-areas. As the flagship conference of the software development discipline, ICSE is uniquely positioned and committed to foster advances across a broad expanse of sub-disciplines. That is why we offer such a robust set of workshops.

WOW: Do you feel the typical workshop topic is closer to an emerging research area, or is it technology that's becoming or is ready to transition into practice?

KS: I believe that the proper role of workshops is to promote the creation of new knowledge. Results that are

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About This Marriott

By WOW



You must realize by now that you're at one of America's premier hotels. **But did you know** (by the numbers):

- ?? The lagoon-shaped main pool with waterfalls and water slide cycles 600,000 gallons of water?
- ?? There are 5 whirlpool tubs, 2 additional outdoor pools, and 1 indoor pool?
- ?? Its 66 meeting rooms provide the floor space of 100 typical U.S. houses (214K sq. ft.)?
- ?? The hotel houses 10 restaurants and bars?
- ?? Its Hawks Landing golf course is a full par 72, slope rating 134, with driving range, Callaway club rentals, clinics, ...?
- ?? Its state-of-the-art fitness center is open 24/7?



Quote of the Day

There are two ways of constructing a software design. One way is to make it so simple that there are obviously no deficiencies. The other way is to make it so complicated that there are no obvious deficiencies.

-Professor C.A.R. Hoare
The 1980 Turing Award Lecture

Where to Eat

By Yuanfang Cai (U. of Vir.)

Dine In

With ten restaurants and lounges, the Marriott serves everything from pizza and burgers to sashimi and certified Angus beef. Three of the best restaurants in Orlando, *Tuscany's*, *Hawk's Landing Steakhouse & Grill* and *Mikado's*, are right here under our roof. Or how about *Champions* for a cold brew in a sports bar setting? Or the *Pavilion Pool Bar* for something cool in the warm sun, *Hawk's Landing Bar* for cocktails and conversation, or any of a half-dozen other cozy spots right here at Marriott?

Wine and Dine Around Town

3 restaurants are highly recommended:

- ?? *For Italian:* Café D'Antonio's, in Celebration (about 15 minutes); call for reservations: 407/566-CAFE
- ?? *For Spanish/Cuban:* Columbia, also in Celebration (right across from Café D'Antonio's); 407/566-1505
- ?? *For Continental:* Chatham's Place, on Dr. Phillips Blvd. in Dr. Phillips Celebration (about 15 minutes); 407/345-2992; dinner 5:30-9:30pm.

And a representative sampling of other familiar options in the area:

- ?? Landry's Seafood House, 8800 Vineland Ave. Orlando, (407) 827-6466
- ?? The Crab House, 8496 Palm Pkwy., Orlando, (407) 239-1888 or 8291 International Dr, Orlando, (407) 352-6140
- ?? Benihana, 1751 Hotel Plaza Blvd. (407) 827-4865

The hotel Concierge in the 2^d-floor lobby will gladly help you with other suggestions and directions.



Geek Humor

Definitions From the Monday Morning Computer Guide

Address: See *indirect address*

Babbage: A British genius, born 1791, who invented computers and then discovered the *First Law of Computers* – they don't work.

Basic: The only high-level language that can be mastered in less time than any program written in it will take to execute.

Bit: The part of your program that is right.

Cobol: A high-level language designed to enhance long-term employment prospects.

Cursor: A programmer against a deadline.

Erase: An attempt to read vital data of which you have no backup copy.

(more "definitions" tomorrow)

The Fifth ICSE Workshop on Component-Based Software Engineering

By Nigamanth Sridhar (Ohio State)

The Fifth ICSE Workshop on Component-Based Software Engineering was a two-day workshop that discussed issues of predictable assembly of software components. The workshop included eleven peer-reviewed papers. The groups decided against having all the papers presented in full detail. Instead, the authors made three-minute "sales pitches" of their papers, and based on these pitches, three papers were selected for presentation.

The group then identified key topics in the field of component-based software engineering, and discussed these ideas over the next day and a half. The three key topic areas discussed at the workshop were *component properties*, *component composition*, and *container technology*. The group broke into three subgroups, discussed these issues, and then summarized the results of the breakout discussions.

The attendees of the workshop felt that the content of this year's workshop delved more into the details of problems than the previous instances of this workshop. The discussions were all very lively and participative, and attendees thoroughly enjoyed being there.



Geek Humor

If debugging is the process of removing bugs, then programming must be the process of putting them in.

Interview with Workshop Chair Kevin Sullivan

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already proven with reasonable confidence should be reported in peer-reviewed conference proceedings or archival journals. Concepts, tools, and methods that are proven in practice should be disseminated to the developer community through magazines and other trade-oriented publications. Some workshops have titles that reflect age-old problems, such as software quality. The problem is old, but such a workshop should focus on potential but as-yet-unproven breakthrough concepts. The workshop is one of the few vehicles that the research community has for intensive and collaborative exploratory research. A corollary is that workshops should not be organized as mini-conferences for the presentation of actual or purported research results.

WOW: Did you have a particular set of objectives or principles in mind defining the desired set of workshop topics you wanted to offer, or was it more a case of "best available" from submissions?

KS: There are many stakeholders to whom the workshop program matters: workshop organizers and participants, conference sponsors and organizers internationally, and the overall research enterprise, our industrial constituencies, and government research sponsors. My goal was to craft a program that, to the extent possible, would maximize the overall benefits while rewarding all of the stakeholders equitably. Because resources for workshops were not unlimited, we did have to decline several attractive proposals, I'm sorry to say.



The Marriott's Pools, Pavilion, & Golf Course



Another Quote of the Day

In response to a failure in an Emergency Services System, a spokesman said:

"We are still not sure what the originating cause is, but it was definitely a software glitch and nothing more sinister."

-courtesy Peter Amey



Yet Another Quote of the Day

Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

-Arthur C. Clark, 1962

But this doesn't mean that all magical illusions are underpinned by advanced technology.

-Peter Amey, 2001



ICSE 2002 Registration Staff



Geek Humor Weinberg's Corollary

"An expert is a person who avoids the small errors while sweeping on to the grand fallacy."



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YOUR NAME CAN GO HERE