

# Preface

Systems analysis and design (SAND) has been the classical field of research and education in the area of management information systems (MIS) or, as it is called more frequently in Europe, business informatics, almost from its origins. SAND continuously attracts the attention of both academia and business. The rapid progress of ICT naturally generates the requirements for the new generation of methods, techniques, and tools, adequate for modern IS challenges. Therefore, international thematic conferences and symposia have become widely accepted forums for the exchange of concepts, solutions, and experiences in SAND. In particular, the Association for Information Systems (AIS) is undertaking a number of initiatives towards the international development of this field.

The objective of the EuroSymposium on Systems Analysis and Design is to promote and develop high-quality research on all issues related to SAND. It provides a forum for SAND researchers and practitioners in Europe and beyond to interact, collaborate, and develop their field. The EuroSymposia were initiated by Prof. Keng Siau as the SIGSAND – Europe Initiative. Previous EuroSymposia were held at:

- University of Galway, Ireland – 2006
- University of Gdansk, Poland – 2007
- University of Marburg, Germany – 2008
- University of Gdansk, Poland – 2011
- University of Gdansk, Poland – 2012
- University of Gdansk, Poland – 2013
- University of Gdansk, Poland – 2014

The accepted papers of the Gdansk EuroSymposia have been published in:

- 2nd EuroSymposium 2007: Bajaj, A., Wrycza, S. (eds.): Systems Analysis and Design for Advanced Modeling Methods: Best Practises. Information Science Reference, IGI Global, Hershey, New York (2009)
- Wrycza, S. (ed.): SIGSAND/PLAIS 2011. LNBIP, vol. 93. Springer, Berlin (2011)
- Bider, I., Halpin, T., Krogstie, J., Nurcan, S., Proper, E., Schmidt, R., Soffer, P., Wrycza, S. (eds.): BPMDS 2012 and EMMSAD 2012. LNBIP, vol. 113. Springer, Berlin (2012)
- Wrycza, S. (ed.): EuroSymposium 2013. LNBIP, vol. 161. Springer, Berlin (2013)
- Wrycza, S. (ed.): SIGSAND/PLAIS EuroSymposium 2014. LNBIP, vol. 193. Springer, Berlin (2014)

There were three organizers of the 8<sup>th</sup> EuroSymposium on Systems Analysis and Design:

- SIGSAND – Special Interest Group on Systems Analysis and Design of AIS
- PLAIS – Polish Chapter of AIS
- Department of Business Informatics of the University of Gdansk, Poland

SIGSAND is one of the most active SIGs with quite a substantial record of contributions for AIS. It provides services such as annual American and European Symposia on SIGSAND, research and teaching tracks at major IS conferences, listserv, and special issues in journals.

The Polish Chapter of the Association for Information Systems (PLAIS) was established in 2006 as the joint initiative of Prof. Claudia Loebbecke, former President of AIS, and Prof. Stanislaw Wrycza, University of Gdansk, Poland. PLAIS co-organizes international and domestic IS conferences.

The Department of Business Informatics of the University of Gdansk is conducting intensive teaching and research activities. Some of its academic manuals are bestsellers in Poland, and the department is also active internationally. The most significant conferences organized by the department were: the 10th European Conference on Information Systems, ECIS 2002, and the International Conference on Business Informatics Research, BIR 2008. The department is a partner of the ERCIS consortium – European Research Center for Information Systems.

EuroSymposium 2015 had an acceptance rate of 40 %, with submissions divided into the following three groups:

- Information Systems Development
- Business Process Modelling
- Information Systems Education

The accepted papers reflect the current trends in the field of systems analysis and design.

I would like to express my thanks to all authors and reviewers, as well as to the Advisory Board and the International Program Committee and Organization Committee members for their support, effort, and time. They made possible the successful accomplishment EuroSymposium 2015.

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Stanislaw Wrycza

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