

# Preface

This volume contains a collection of research papers that comprise the technical program of the 34<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Conceptual Modeling (ER 2015), held in Stockholm, Sweden, during October 19–22, 2015. Also known as the “Entity Relationship” or “ER” conference, this conference series began in 1979 as a forum for researchers from around the world to gather and discuss the nascent field of conceptual modeling. During the past four decades, the conference has been held at an interesting variety of locations, rotating in successive years between Europe, Asia, and the Americas, attracting a diverse international community of scholars.

Chen’s seminal work on the entity relationship (ER) model coincided with the emergence of conceptual modeling as a distinct field. Conceptual modeling is an activity that involves capturing aspects of the real world and representing them in the form of a model that can be used for communication; conceptual models typically are used in the development of computer-based information systems. The technical program for ER 2015 included papers addressing a number of current and emerging topics in conceptual modeling.

In response to the call for papers, we received 144 abstracts and 131 full papers. The Program Committee provided at least three reviews for each paper, and on the basis of these reviews we selected 26 full papers (an acceptance rate of 19.85 %) and 19 short papers (a combined acceptance rate of 34.35 %). These papers group into several topical areas, including business process and goal models, ontology-based models and ontology patterns, constraints, normalization, interoperability and integration, collaborative modeling, variability and uncertainty modeling, modeling and visualization of user-generated content, schema discovery and evolution, process and text mining, domain-based modeling, data models and semantics, and applications of conceptual modeling.

We express gratitude to all who helped make ER 2015 a success. It required the significant efforts of many people to make this conference possible. We thank the 91 Program Committee members along with the numerous external referees who reviewed and discussed the submitted manuscripts. In addition, 18 members of the Program Committee served on the senior review board to help oversee the review process. We especially thank the authors who took the time to carefully write up the results of their research and submit papers for consideration. It is abundantly clear that a great deal of high-quality and interesting work continues to be done by researchers from many corners of the globe.

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