

# Preface

Business informatics is a discipline that combines information and communication technology (ICT) with the knowledge of management. It is concerned with the development, use, application, and the role of management information systems and all other possible ways of using ICT in the field of management. It is also an important interdisciplinary academic and research discipline. The Perspectives in Business Informatics Research (BIR) conference series was established 16 years ago as a result of a collaboration of researchers from Swedish and German universities in order to create a forum where researchers in business informatics, both senior and junior, could meet and hold discussions. The conference series is led by the Steering Committee, to which one or two persons from every appointed organizer are invited.

To date, BIR conferences were held in: Rostock (Germany – in 2000, 2004, 2010), Berlin (Germany– 2003), Skövde (Sweden – 2005), Kaunas (Lithuania – 2006), Tampere (Finland –2007), Gdańsk (Poland – 2008), Kristianstad (Sweden – 2009), Riga (Latvia – 2011), Nizhny Novgorod (Russia – 2012), Warsaw (Poland – 2013), Lund (Sweden – 2014), Tartu (Estonia – 2015), and Prague (Czech Republic – 2016). This year's 16th International Conference on Perspectives in Business Informatics Research (BIR) was held during August 28 – 30, 2017, in Copenhagen, organized and hosted by the Center for Industrial Production, Aalborg University, Denmark

This year the BIR conference attracted 59 submissions from 23 countries. They were reviewed by 45 members of the Program Committee. As the result, 17 full papers and three short papers were selected for presentation at the conference and publication in this volume. The papers presented at the conference cover many important aspects of business informatics research.

This year, the conference theme was the digital transformation. The challenges and opportunities for the digital transformation driven by the fourth industrial revolution was the central theme for the World Economic Forum summit last year. Industry 4.0 has been used to characterize the shift in society, enabled by connectivity and convergence of physical, digital, and biological technologies. This digital transformation will impact most businesses, organizations, and societies and call for new and radical approaches to how we adopt, use, and manage IT.

The main conference was also accompanied by satellite events: A pre-BIR forum, two workshops, and a doctoral consortium took place during the first day of the conference.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the BIR 2017 conference. First of all, we thank the authors for presenting their papers, we appreciate the invaluable contributions from the members of the Program Committee and the external reviewers, and we thank all the members of the local organization team from Aalborg University, for their help in organizing the conference. We acknowledge the EasyChair

development team for providing a valuable tool for preparing the proceedings and the Springer publishing team for their excellent collaboration. Last but not the least, we thank the Steering Committee for directing the BIR conference series.

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