

Preface

We are pleased to present to you the proceedings of the 15th edition of BPM, which was held in Barcelona during September 10–15, 2017. That this conference is in its 15th year is a clear sign of the maturity of the business process management (BPM) area. During this time the conference has clearly established itself as the most important academic event in BPM. It is the premium forum for researchers, practitioners, and developers in this area.

The Program Committee (PC) comprised 21 senior PC members and 103 regular PC members. We received 116 full paper submissions. Out of all submissions, 19 papers were accepted or conditionally accepted, with an acceptance rate of 16%. This conference has very rigorous reviewing criteria. Each paper is reviewed by a team comprising a senior PC and four regular PC members who engage in a discussion phase after the initial reviews are prepared. The authors receive four review reports, and a meta-review that summarizes the reviews and the discussion. In the end, a conference program is only as good as the PC members. The program chairs are, for the most part, coordinators of the review process and messengers who relay the recommendations of the review team to the authors. We were very fortunate to have an excellent set of PC members who were very diligent and conscientious. We cannot thank them enough for their support and cooperation. The review process was conducted entirely on the EasyChair conference management system that was an invaluable resource for us.

There were six main sessions into which the papers were organized, spanning process modeling, process mining or discovery, process knowledge, and decisions and understanding. There were also papers that relate to the novel Blockchain paradigm and business process as a service. The conference program was enriched by talks from three distinguished keynote speakers: Alan Brown (University of Surrey), Miguel Valdés (Bonitasoft) and Mathias Weske (HPI Potsdam); along with panel and tutorial sessions. In conjunction with the main program of BPM, there was an industry track and a BPM Forum, a sub-track of the conference to host innovative research which has potential to stimulate discussions. The papers included in the industry track and the forum for presentation at the BPM Conference will be published in a separate volume.

We are grateful for the generous support of our sponsors: Signavio, Celonis, IBM, Diputacio de Tarragona, MyInvenio, DCR, Bizagi, CA Technologies, Mysphera and Springer. We very much hope you will enjoy reading the research papers in this volume.

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