CAiSE 2024 Doctoral Consortium Proceedings Preface

This volume of CEUR-WS proceedings contains all accepted papers of the Doctoral Consortium (DC), held in conjunction with the 36th International Conference on Advanced Information Systems Engineering (CAiSE 2024). This edition of CAiSE was held in Limassol, Cyprus, from June 3 to 7, 2024.

Following the tradition of the CAiSE conference, CAiSE 2024 DC attracted PhD students working on foundations, techniques, tools and applications in the Information Systems Engineering field. The DC offered them the opportunity to present their research, to get feedback from senior mentors in the CAiSE community, and discuss their progress and future plans with an audience of peers and senior faculty in a supportive environment.

CAiSE 2024 DC received a total of 8 submissions, all of which have been reviewed by two senior researchers of the DC mentoring board and all of them were eventually accepted for presentation during the event. Each student was assigned a mentor to provide feedback before the presentation. The timely and relevant advice provided during the review phase, as well as during the pre-conference mentorship phase allowed the PhD candidates to revise their submission, but also to effectively prepare themselves for their presentations and discussions on-site.

The event started with dynamic pitches at the beginning of the main conference to boost PhD students' visibility to the CAiSE community. This was followed by three sessions, during which the PhD students gave their presentations, collected questions and feedback from the audience and finally discussed their research in small groups together with their peers, senior researchers and with the assigned mentor. The students received direct feedback, advice, and recommendations to further improve their overall PhD research plans, but also on research challenges, and strategies going beyond their own PhD topics.

During the DC, we also had a panel on "Choosing the Right Path: Exploring Research Methodologies in Information Systems Engineering". Four excellent panelists provided their insights on the topic: Diego Calvanese (University of Bolzano), Xavier Franch (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya), Monique Snoeck (KU Leuven) and Jelena Zdrakovich (Stockholm University). In particular, they offered critical insights into methodological rigor and discussed different research methodologies.

Finally, two more informal events complemented the DC: an informal lunch with mentors and a meeting with a recent PhD graduate (Glenda Amaral), who won CAiSE 2024 PhD award and shared her experience on topics ranging from research directions up to personal life-work balance.

We express our utmost gratitude to all participating students for their presentations as well as to all mentors who were involved in the reviewing process before, during and after the event:

Raimundas Matulevicius (University of Tartu), Massimo Mecella (Sapienza University of Rome), Barbara Pernici (Politecnico di Milano), Jolita Ralyté (University of Geneva), Hajo A. Reijers (Utrecht University), Monique Snoeck (KU Leuven), Barbara Weber (University of St. Gallen), Jelena Zdravkovic (Stockholm University).

Finally, we would like to thank the CAiSE 2024 general chairs, Haris Mouratidis (University of Essex) and Pnina Soffer (University of Haifa) for supporting the organization of the DC.

19 September 2024   Iris Reinhartz-Berger
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