

Welcome from the Program Chairs

The 34th International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS) will be the world's premier information systems conference for 2013. The conference theme, "Reshaping Society through Information Systems Design," is intended to promote the development of new knowledge about how the design of information systems is affecting our societies on a scale that ranges from small social groups to the collectives of national and global society.

ICIS 2013 set a new record by attracting 1249 submissions from 57 countries including 775 completed research papers, 451 research-in-progress papers, 11 teaching cases and 12 panel proposals. Each paper was peer reviewed in a process involving two to three blind reviews, an Associate Editor, and a Track Chair. We accepted 207 full papers, 113 research-in-progress papers, 2 teaching cases, and 7 panels. The acceptance rate was 26%. In addition to the theme track, this year's conference features a track for panel sessions, 19 topical tracks and both a CIO forum and Senior Scholars forum. Given the geographical setting for ICIS 2013 in Milan, the development of information systems design knowledge is a particular feature. Aside from the conference theme track, ICIS 2013 includes such design-oriented tracks as the new track on the IT Artifact as well as the track on Engaged Research.

A conference of this scale would not have been possible without the great effort of many dedicated people. We thank all authors for their submissions. We thank all reviewers, Associate Editors, and Track Chairs for their critical and constructive comments, their meticulous scholarly governance, and their strong leadership in building ICIS 2013. We particularly aimed to entitle ICIS 2013 Track Chairs to a high degree of autonomy over their tracks, and they have rewarded us with the best quality conference sessions ever. We particularly thank and acknowledge our colleague Viswanath Venkatesh for his foundational work on the ICIS 2013 program (his early concept led to the IT Artifact track). We also thank next year's ICIS program chairs, Elena Karahanna, Ananth Srinivasan, and Bernard Tan for serving as the selection committee for the conference's best paper award. We thank last year's program chairs V. Sambamurthy, Ming-Hui Huang, and Gabe Piccoli for their advice and for serving as the selection committee for the conference's best research-in-progress award. We also owe thanks as well to the ICIS 2011 program chairs Cynthia Beath, Michael D. Myers, and K K Wei for their advice. In addition, we would especially like to thank Abhishek Kathuria, our review coordinator for ICIS2013, for his hard work and many valuable insights and recommendations.

We wish to offer our thanks in advance for the service of the ICIS 2013 session chairs, panel chairs, and forum chairs as they manage the delivery of the 72 sessions that are the ICIS 2013 program. Most importantly, we thank you, the community of ICIS 2013 participants, whose engagement with the conference program will ultimately propel its promise to break out the most exciting and most novel knowledge about information systems.

Richard Baskerville
Georgia State University

Michael Chau
University of Hong Kong