

Invitation to Workshop on Software Assessment

Dear Colleague,

We would like to invite you to participate in a new workshop, the Workshop on Software Assessment (WOSA). The first WOSA will be held in Hong Kong on November 27 2001, in conjunction with ISSRE'2001. The purpose of WOSA is to provide a forum for the detailed exchange of ideas among researchers – both from academe and industry – about quantitative models, data analysis, and tools.

Each participant will have from 45 to 60 minutes, including the Track Chair's summary, to explain his or her quantitative methods. During and after the presentations, other participants will be encouraged to critique the presentation and make suggestions for improvements. Tracks will be organized by topics that represent competing views of quantitative methods. For example, there might be a track on classical reliability growth models versus software metrics models as predictors of software quality. Another example is principal components analysis versus Boolean discriminant functions versus logistic regression as predictors of fault prone modules. In the plenary session, at the beginning of the workshop, the General Chair and Program Co-Chairs will provide an overview of the workshop events. In the plenary session, at the end of the workshop, the Track Chairs will summarize and critique their track presentations and make comparisons of competing research approaches.

WOSA is geared to participants who:

1. Wish to expose their quantitative methods in detail and get feedback and critiques from their peers.
2. Would like to participate in sessions where competing models and methods can be explained, compared, and critiqued.
3. Are not afraid of equations.
4. Are willing to present data to back up their claims and believe in validating models.
5. Are not trying to sell a service or product during WOSA.

We hope you'll be able to participate. If you plan to do so, please send email containing the title of your presentation to the Program Co-Chairs by September 14, 2001. By October 1, 2001, please prepare a summary, limited to 2000 words, and email it to the Program Co-Chairs. Please make sure the summary contains the following information:

- a. Purpose of research, including motivation.
- b. Methodology, including rationale, model construction, alternate approaches, and limitations.
- c. Data collected and process of data collection.
- d. Model validation.
- e. Applications.
- f. Lessons learned.
- g. Optional: description of model tools and computer demos.

Watch the ISSRE'2001 web site (<http://www.issre2001.org/>) for information on the 2001 workshop. We'll be posting information there as workshop arrangements progress. If you have any suggestions for the program, please let us know.

Sincerely,
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