Welcome to the Doctoral Symposium of ICSME 2014, the 30th International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution, held in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. In the tradition of previous years, this year's doctoral symposium solicited two kinds of submissions: Pre-doctoral, for PhD students still in the midst of their doctoral studies in the field of software maintenance and evolution, and post-doctoral, for researchers who have recently completed their PhD dissertations.

Accepted post-doctoral papers form a part of the main technical program of ICSME, are formally presented in a public special session of the conference and are published as six-page short papers in the ICSME proceedings. Accepted pre-doctoral submissions are presented in a special closed session in front of an expert panel of advisors, are invited to present a poster of their work in the ICSME poster session, and are published as one-page poster summaries in the ICSME proceedings. All these accepted papers will be available in the IEEE Digital Library.

This year's doctoral symposium consists of five post-doctoral and eight pre-doctoral contributions accepted from a total of sixteen submissions. Every submission was considered by at least two members of the expert panel and chairs, and rated according to its relevance, importance of topic, methodology, results or findings, and insights and experiences. The result is a symposium program covering virtually every aspect of software maintenance and evolution.

The chairs would like to thank all of those who submitted their work for consideration, and we look forward to meeting the successful students and recent graduates and hearing about the innovative work they are crafting. We particularly want to thank our outstanding expert panel for their time and dedication to the doctoral symposium.

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