Welcome Message from the MUD 2014 Co-Chairs

Welcome to MUD 2014, the 4th Workshop on Mining Unstructured Data. The workshop is co-located with the 30th International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME 2014) and will take place in the beautiful Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

To analyze, comprehend, and reverse engineer software projects and their software development processes, we rely on various sources of information. Bug reports, execution logs, mailing lists, code review reports, change logs, requirements documents, and the actual source code contain implicit developer knowledge about the project and past development efforts. Most of this knowledge is captured as unstructured information: natural language text used to exchange information among people. Researchers in the Information Retrieval, Data Mining, and Natural Language Processing fields have experimented with various techniques and ad-hoc approaches to enable the mining of unstructured data. However, these techniques were not designed to work with the complexities and peculiarities of unstructured software engineering data. Mining unstructured software engineering data poses new and unique challenges, and addressing them is the goal of this workshop.

The 4th Workshop on Mining Unstructured Data (MUD 2014) aims to stimulate discussion between researchers in the field, to encourage cross-fertilization from different research domains, including Natural Language Processing, Information Retrieval, and Machine Learning, and to document and advance the state of the art of MUD in software engineering. More specifically, the intended goals of this workshop are to: (1) facilitate knowledge exchange in the field of mining unstructured software engineering data through the presentation of short papers; (2) offer a common framework for showcasing techniques, methodologies, and tools for mining unstructured data, thus enabling researchers and practitioners to find the tools that meet their particular mining needs; (3) identify open problems and challenges for mining unstructured data in software engineering, thus providing the basis for a roadmap of future research opportunities in the field; and (4) share, discuss, and advance the state-of-the-art in mining unstructured data.

MUD 2014 is a full-day workshop and includes a keynote by Dr. Christian Bird (Microsoft Research, Redmond, USA), two hands-on tutorials by Dr. Nicolas Bettenburg (Queen's University, Kingston, Canada) and Dr. Abram Hindle (University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada), five paper presentations, and a closing fishbowl-panel discussion.