



PROGRAM CHAIR WELCOME LETTER

We, the program chairs of ICIS 2014, welcome you all to an exciting program in Auckland. The theme of the conference is “Building a Better World through Information Systems” and following our conference tradition, one of the program tracks is dedicated to this theme. The theme was motivated by conversations that we had with several people in the discipline where the discussion encompassed a number of contemporary issues with information technology implications. Examples of those issues where the relevance of information technologies is abundantly clear include humanitarian efforts, energy utilization, food sustainability and distribution, citizen participation in political movements, public health, and social network implications for society-at-large, among many others.

We are pleased to report that the conference drew widespread participation. We received 1,220 total submissions from 51 countries – with all the three AIS regions well represented. A total of 326 submissions were accepted for presentation at the conference (189 completed papers, 124 research-in-progress papers, 7 panels, and 6 teaching cases). This represents an acceptance rate less than 27%.

The program consists of 20 tracks in addition to the theme track. Track chairs assisted the three program co-chairs. Each track had a set of associate editors who received the assistance of multiple reviewers. This represents the contribution of 53 track chairs, 460 associate editors, and over 2000 reviewers who provided over 3500 reviews. We understand how much time it takes to participate in this effort and are deeply appreciative of it. We thank the session chairs and the discussants in advance for volunteering to take on these important roles at the conference.

In addition, we have included an invited panel called “AIS Initiatives.” The purpose of the panel is for AIS to communicate to its members the various initiatives in which AIS is involved. We hope that this forum will be institutionalized and serve as a communication vehicle for the community.

We especially thank Richard Baskerville and Michael Chau, program chairs of ICIS 2013 who cheerfully responded to our many queries and made our task a whole lot easier. Arvind Tripathi handled the role of review coordinator superbly – a big thanks to him. We also thank the program chairs of ICIS 2015, Tracy Carte, Cathy Urquhart, and Armin Heinzl who served as the judges for the best paper awards. Sarah Martinez and Michelle Syen from the AIS office worked closely with us to make the task of program construction a smooth one and we owe them our gratitude.

We are truly excited about the program for ICIS 2014. We look forward to meeting you all in Auckland and hope to share a great experience.

Elena Karahanna, University of Georgia
Ananth Srinivasan, University of Auckland
Bernard Tan, National University of Singapore