

BPM NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

When we decided to implement a track system at the BPM conference one year ago, we had good reasons to believe that it can be successful, but we could not be sure it actually would.

Reflecting about BPM 2018 we are very happy that the track system actually works, in general. As can be expected after a significant change, there are also things to improve on in the years to come. This will be explored in the PC Chair's report below in this newsletter.

The lessons learned during the organization of BPM 2018 will be communicated

carefully to next year's conference chairs, which will allow us to take the next step in the development of our conference series at BPM 2019 in Vienna.

To celebrate the excellent research and engineering results by the BPM community, this newsletter also features a report on the awards handed out at BPM.

Starting from this issue, the October newsletter will feature a people column. In this issue we ask „What is Matthias Weidlich up to?“

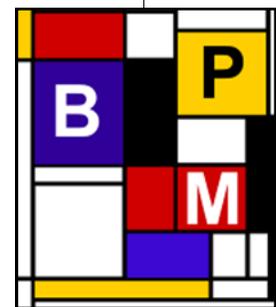
In an interview conducted by Boualem Benatallah, keynote speaker Sanjiva Weera-

warana talks about Ballerina, an open source middleware for process integration.

To get you excited about BPM 2019, this newsletter contains a cordial invitation to Vienna. Please read the call for workshops carefully, since these are the basis for the BPM conference. By proposing a workshop you can actively influence the topics being discussed by the community, in the broad area of BPM research.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter!

Best regards,
Mathias Weske



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Vienna image projected on Sydney Opera House, <https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au>

WELCOME TO BPM 2019 IN VIENNA!

Being located at the heart of Europe, Vienna has scored the highest liveability index in 2018 according to the economist.com survey. Vienna brings together the past and the future, the West and the East.

Vienna hosts nine federal universities as well as several private universities and universities of applied sciences, making Vienna the place to be for around 200.000 students. Two Viennese universities have joined forces to offer a great venue and program for BPM 2019, the University of Economics and Business where the BPM 2019 will be held at and the University of Vienna, one of the oldest and biggest university in Europe. The venue is rich of exciting architecture offering conference facilities of the highest modern standards. Everything is connected in Vienna. Having one of the best public transport systems at low costs, it is very easy to get around in Vienna.

BPM 2019 will continue the track system successfully implemented in BPM 2018. On top of exciting workshops, BPM 2019 will feature the 1st International Blockchain Forum and the 1st Central and Eastern European Forum, the latter celebrating Vienna's vicinity to its Eastern European neighbors. Moreover, the tradition of BPM Forum, Demos, and



Industry tracks will be continued. Together with the keynotes and the research track, BPM 2019 will offer a rich, diverse, and exciting program.

At night BPM 2019 wants to take its participants around Vienna through several social events. Enjoy a mild September night under the beautiful arcades of the historic main building of the University of Vienna, marvel at the stunning architecture of the Vienna city

hall, and enjoy a glass or two of fresh Viennese wine at a typical Viennese "Heuriger".

We are very much looking forward to your contributions and your visit here in Vienna! Find more information at the conference website: <https://bpm2019.ai.wu.ac.at>

Jan Mendling, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma
(BPM 2019 General Chairs)



WORKSHOPS ARE THE PRIME VENUE FOR NOVEL IDEAS—ORGANIZE ONE AT BPM 2019!

Workshops allow you to engage a select community of people who are working on the latest ideas in a particular area of business process management. Why don't you bring these people together?

If you have thoughts on a research area that you think will be important for BPM in the coming years, we would be happy to hear your thoughts. Perhaps you can engage a group of people who are capable of developing an entirely new area of research.

At the same time a workshop can focus on an existing topic. However, where the main conference attracts papers that present finished work, workshops can attract papers that present ideas and preliminary research. They can facilitate presentations on such preliminary research and inspire new (joint) research in existing domains. If you have thoughts on an area of which you know people are rapidly developing novel techniques that have not yet been fully worked out, we would be happy to hear them as well.

Last year BPM featured eight workshops, both to discuss entirely new research areas and to discuss novel ideas in existing research areas. To continue these important discussion forums, we solicit high-quality workshop proposals that focus, for example, on specific sub-



areas of business process management research, on specific application domains, or on standardization activities.

If you already know you want to organize a workshop, we would be happy to receive your proposal. In that case, please find the call for proposals and the e-mail address to which you can send your proposal below. If you have any thoughts on topics that you think might be interesting, but that you would like to discuss with us first, we would be very interested to hear them as well.

In general, organizing a workshop is a very rewarding activity, because it al-

lows you to drive new and interesting research - possibly even entirely new research areas - to engage people with new ideas and inspire them to develop them further.

We are looking forward to your workshop proposals and hope to see you in Vienna! More information at https://bpm2019.ai.wu.ac.at/?page_id=238

Deadline: 1 December, 2018

Chiara Di Francescomarino, Remco Dijkman, Uwe Zdun (BPM 2019 General Workshop Chairs)



BPM 2018 — GENERAL CHAIRS' REPORT & THANKS

It was our great pleasure to organise BPM 2018 conference in Sydney. Approximately 230 people attended the conference, including attendees from academia and industry. We hope that attendees enjoyed both the scientific and social programs of the conference.

The research program of BPM 2018 included: (i) 27 research presentations from the newly introduced research tracks; namely, foundations, engineering and management tracks, and (ii) BPM Forum track on innovative research and emerging ideas. The BPM 2018 industry track/day included both research and practitioner talks.

The conference included several other tracks and events including workshops on numerous emerging topics, a demonstration track, and a doctoral symposium in which research students presented their work, shared suggestions and received feedbacks from senior colleagues and peers. In addition, the conference included 3 outstanding keynotes, 4 tutorials and a lively panel discussion. Speakers and attendees shared insights on the latest BPM research, and discussed topics on the interactions between BPM and emerging topics such as IoT, Blockchain, Big Data Analytics and AI.

There were co-located events including a one day post-conference event, where industry case studies were presented that looked into IoT solutions from a business process perspective, in addition to a keynote and a panel discussion.

BPM 2018 was more than just presentations, demonstrations and workshops. The conference included two celebration social events: A welcome reception experiencing Sydney Harbour with a night cruise and a gala dinner at the Australian National Maritime Museum.

We would like to thank all people and organisations whose efforts made BPM 2018 a big success! We thank BPM steering committee for selecting Sydney as the host city of BPM 2018. We would like to thank the local organisation team and volunteers for their outstanding efforts and dedication. Our thanks to all colleagues whose efforts produced an excellent program: PC chairs, industry track chairs, demo track chairs, tutorial and panel chairs, doctoral consortium chairs, workshop chairs and organisers.

Our thanks to publicity, sponsorship, Web and social media, finance, mini-sabbatical and proceedings chairs for their professional and devoted efforts. We would like to thank keynote speak-



ers, speakers and authors for presenting and showcasing their work at BPM 2018. We thank and acknowledge BPM 2018 sponsors: Data 61 | CSIRO (Conference Partner), Signavio (Platinum), Celonis (Gold), IBM (Gold), Bizagi (Bronze), Springer (Bronze), UNSW Sydney (Academic Partner), Macquarie University (Academic Partner).

Finally, we would like to thank all colleagues who attended BPM 2018.

Boualem Benattallah and Jian Yang (General Chairs BPM 2018)



Thanks to Søren Debois for the pictures taken during the BPM 2018 conference dinner, on pages 4, 6, 7, and 10

PC CHAIRS' REFLECTIONS

To present the PC Chairs' reflections at the steering committee meeting in Sydney, Marco found the picture of a balancing man to indicate the risk level that was involved with introducing the track system at BPM 2018.

For any scientific conference, the paper submission number is an important performance indicator. Since the idea was to broaden the BPM conference we were hoping for a higher number of submissions than in recent years, which actually materialized. We received 140 full papers, which were almost evenly distributed among the tracks. We were particularly impressed about the turnout in the management track.

After an intense reviewing process, we could accept nine papers in each track, so that the acceptance ratio turned out to be almost identical among the tracks as well. This held for the BPM Forum as well. The acceptance rate for the main conference was 19.3%, and 29.3% including BPM Forum papers.

Many accepted papers would probably not have been accepted with the traditional conference structure. By tailoring



the reviewing evaluation criteria to the research methods used in the tracks, more adequate reviewing results could be obtained. A concrete example is actually the paper that won the BPM 2018 Best Paper Award. In their paper, Elisa Marengo, Werner Nutt, and Mathias Perktold introduce a language and

verification techniques in a particular application domain. As a paper submitted to Track I, the focus is on fundamental aspects of business process management and less on an empirical evaluation of artefacts in a concrete business environment. This observation indicates that the track system actually provides adequate reviewing results for different types of papers.

BPM: Foundations, Engineering, Management

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Abstract. This paper reports on the introduction of a track system at the BPM conference series and the experiences made during the organization of BPM 2018, the first issue implementing the track system. By introducing dedicated tracks for foundations, engineering, and management, with dedicated evaluation criteria and program committees, the BPM steering committee aims at providing a fair chance for acceptance to all submissions to the conference. By introducing a management track, the conference reaches out to the management community, which investigates phenomena in business process management from a non-technical perspective that complements the technical orientation of traditional BPM papers. We elaborate on the background of and motivation for the track system, and we discuss the lessons learned in the first iteration of the track structure at BPM 2018.

Since BPM 2018 was the first issue of the track system, it should not come as a surprise that several aspects can be improved in the years to come. We could observe different levels of criticality and different levels of detail in the reviewing among the tracks. There were also cases in which reviewers base their evaluations on evaluation criteria of a different track. In these cases—which led to over-critical reviews—we tried to moderate and influence the discussion in a positive direction. These circumstances have led to a comparatively high number of conditional accepted papers.

These and several other lessons learned have been reported in an editorial paper by the track chairs in the BPM 2018 proceedings, and they will be carefully communicated to next year's PC Chairs.

Mathias Weske, Ingo Weber, Marco Montali, Jan vom Brocke (BPM 2018 PC Chairs)



BPM 2018 BEST PAPER AWARD

It is a good tradition to hand out a best paper award at BPM conferences. Due to the new track system, the best paper award process changed this year.

To acknowledge the excellent research work reported in the three tracks, each track nominates one paper for the BPM best paper award. On Wednesday, we had a best paper session, in which the three nominees presented their work. Based on the reviewing results and the quality of the presentation, the PC chairs decided on the best paper award.

This year, the nominees for the best paper award were as follows:

- Track I: Elisa Marengo, Werner Nutt and Matthias Perktold: Construction Process Modeling: Representing Activities, Items and their Interplay
- Track II: Vincent Bloemen, Sebastiaan van Zelst, Wil M.P. van der Aalst, Boudewijn van Dongen and Jaco van de Pol: Maximizing Synchronization for Aligning Observed and Modelled Behaviour
- Track III: Amy Van Looy: On The Synergies Between Business Pro-



cess Management and Digital Innovation.

Since all three tracks presented high-quality research results, it should not come as a surprise that it was a close finish between the nominated papers. After an intense discussion, we decided to hand out the BPM 2018 Best Paper Award to the Track I paper by Elisa Marengo, Werner Nutt, and Matthias Perktold. The PC Chairs were particular-

ly impressed by the focus on a highly relevant application domain and by the combination of adequate modeling elements and rigorous formal analysis of the resulting models. The picture above shows Elisa Marengo and Werner Nutt receiving the award during the BPM 2018 conference dinner.

The best student paper award went to the Track II nominee; Vincent did an excellent job in presenting his work on a novel approach to aligning process models and observed behavior.

As we see in the picture on the left hand side, not only Vincent Bloemen was happy to receive the award, but also his co-authors Boudewijn van Dongen and Wil van der Aalst had a lot of fun.

Finally, we like to acknowledge the reviewing work at BPM 2018 by handing out the BPM 2018 Best Reviewer Award to Rick Hull. Rick provided thoughtful and detailed reviews, and he was very active during the discussion phase, with his critical, yet positive and balanced opinions on the papers in his stack.

Mathias Weske, for the BPM 2018 PC Chairs



BPM 2018 DEMO TRACK AND AWARD

This year the BPM Demo track received 22 submissions, 13 of which were selected for presentation at the BPM conference. The demos covered a wide spectrum of BPM topics: blockchain-based business process management, process and/or decision modeling, visual analytics, generation and management of event logs, monitoring and simulation, performance analysis, business process compliance, translation of process textual description to formal models and vice versa.

Such a large effort to develop reasonably mature tools that touch several topics of the entire BPM lifecycle nicely illustrates how BPM is a very lively and continuously expanding field. The wide interaction of attendees with the presenters led to many fruitful discussions, which provided insights to the audience and points of further development for the presenters.

Based on the results from the reviewing process, three demos were short-listed to receive the BPM 2018 Demo Award:



- The Process Yellow Marker: From Texts to Declarative Processes and Back by Hugo A. López, Søren Debois, Thomas Hildebrandt and Morten Marquard

- MIDA: Multiple Instances and Data Animator by Flavio Corradini, Chiara Muzi, Barbara Re, Lorenzo Rossi and Francesco Tiezzi
- A Tool for Generating Event Logs from Multi-Perspective Declare Models by Vasyl Skydanienko, Chiara Di Francescomarino, Chiara Ghidini and Fabrizio Maria Maggi

For determining the winner, these three demos were assessed by a jury during the live demo session to further assess robustness, novelty and maturity. Finally, the award went to the demo „MIDA: Multiple Instances and Data Animator“ by Flavio Corradini, Chiara Muzi, Barbara Re, Lorenzo Rossi and Francesco Tiezzi, which was handed over during the conference dinner. The proceedings of the BPM 2018 Demo Track can be found at <http://ceur-ws.org/Vol-2196/>.

Raffaele Conforti, Massimiliano de Leon, Barbara Weber (BPM 2018 Demo Chairs)

BEST BPM DISSERTATION AWARD 2018

Starting from 2017, the BPM Steering Committee grants an annual award to a PhD thesis in the field of BPM defended in the previous calendar year.

The winner of the 2018 Best BPM Dissertation Award was Sander Leemans, for his thesis "Scalable Process Discovery With Guarantees" defended at Eindhoven University of Technology. Among other contributions, this thesis proposes a method for automated process discovery, namely the Inductive Miner, which has received wide attention both in the research community and in the tool development community. Sander received the award certificate at the BPM Conference 2018 in Sydney, Australia, together with a prize of 1,500 AUD provided by Springer, and a free registration for the conference. The two runner-ups for the award were Luise

Pufahl for her thesis "Modeling and Executing Batch Activities in Business Processes" defended at Hasso-Plattner Institute, University of Potsdam and Han van der Aa for his thesis "Comparing and Aligning Process Representations", defended at VU Amsterdam.

The competition for the award attracted 11 excellent submissions, which were evaluated by a committee headed by Jan Mendling, and including Wil van der Aalst, Marlon Dumas, Akhil Kumar, and Brian Pentland, and numerous other reviewers. The competition for the next best BPM Dissertation Award is open. For details, check the BPM'2019 web site.

Jan Mendling and Marlon Dumas (BPM Dissertation Award)



INTERVIEW WITH DR. SANJIVA WEERAWARANA, FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF WSO2

Dr. Sanjiva Weerawarana was one of the keynote speakers of BPM 2018. Sanjiva is Founder, Chairman and until recently Chief Architect of WSO2, where he led the design, architecture and development of Ballerina programming language.

After the conference, we had the pleasure to interview Sanjiva about his journey at WSO2, Ballerina language, unstructured business processes, open source BPM, BPM and IoT, future of BPM.

Can you tell us about your journey at WSO2?

Sure. We started around 13-15 years ago. We focused on how we will build middleware that brings service computing to its heart. The vision was to identify reusable services like identity and access control, analytics and streaming, and all of those kinds of concepts deep into the stack itself. On the business side, we wanted to make it open source, we wanted to have a different kind of business model, we wanted to change the selling point, and lots of aspects about publicity. We now have a complete stack of products that covers the whole middleware space. While doing that we also have this mental model of linear algebra and vector spaces and a view of middleware space as a n-dimensional space. When a user has a problem to solve, we help them figure out what the right tool set is for solving that problem.

We were reasonably successful in that because we've built a reusable component model for a number of middleware and integration services. While working on that, we ended up creating multiple languages because you know, middleware is a tool for somebody else to express some desired outcome, and then express the desired outcome using some language. The language can be graphical, can be textual, etc. We in-

vented a language for describing mediations, we invented a language for describing data integrations. Obviously BPEL and BPMN were also adopted and supported. We invented language for stream processing, as well as adopted a language for batch processing that we were supporting for a while, and so forth.

When you look at the whole thing, the interesting question is: what's the best way to solve the whole problem?. One of the problems in enterprise application architecture is that you're always dealing with type system impedance mismatches, because you have SQL on one side, you have JSON on the other side, you're always dealing with transac-



tion complexity, you're always dealing with data movement and data transformation, and yet doing it in languages that are not designed for these problems. So that's what led us to create Ballerina. We want to solve that whole problem and doing it in a way that is very programmer focused. I mentioned in my talk that the idea that we can lift programming to a higher level so non-programmers can write programs – has use cases for which you can solve that, but not as a general problem. So, we basically wanted to give up on that and say, do programmers love writing XML documents? Do programmers love writing YAML documents? Or do programmers love writing programming lan-

guage code? That is how we ended up saying, look, the right way to solve this is to take the idea of a full programming language. In the past, data was mostly at rest. Now, data can also be in motion. Identity management has become even more strategic security aspect, scale has changed, the environment on which we run software has changed, cloud is everywhere now. Given this new set of challenges, what is the optimal way to solve them using one programming language? That is what Ballerina is trying to address.

What are the typical programming aspects that Ballerina is optimised for?

If you're doing something that involves services calling APIs and other integrations, Ballerina is designed to optimise for this kind of problems. In terms of design principles, Ballerina is trying to kind of be in the middle between dynamic and strongly typed programming languages: a programming language that has the flexibility of a dynamic language, but also has safety, reliability and other properties that are associated with a traditional compiled language.

How is open source impacting BPM and integration market in general?

I think in the integration market in general, open source is pretty much the leading approach. From an adoption point of view, open source technology is very widely used for integration in general. For BPM in particular, there are a number of open source BPM vendors. But as far as I know, none of them are really large at this point. They have been around for a while. The question is, why aren't they growing faster? There are customers obviously and these companies are making money, some companies have been sold, but none of them were really large sales. In my opinion open source BPM has not been very landscape changing, even though there are tools around and it is great for experimental work and so forth.

What are the limitations of the existing BPM technologies regarding management of unstructured processes.

I stand by what I said at the talk, which is that if a process is unstructured, it is not going to be a software enabled process. In the next 20, 30, 50 years, almost anything, which is not a software-driven process, will not survive. The limitation I see is when you have a model and then you have an implementation that is somehow decoupled to the model, evolving it becomes very difficult. Organizations may need to reorganize their processes very rapidly, and obviously, nobody can do that right now.

Current technologies do not support requirements like: I need to rewrite this process, so that I can remodel it, deploy the new model, etc. Changing a process and making it live immediately is hard simply because of the complexity of being implemented, and then integrated to existing tools and so forth are complex issues. However, I believe languages like Ballerina can help reduce some of that complexity. But Ballerina is not by any means fully solving the problem.

What is the future of BPM technologies? Especially in the age of big data, robotic process management, and blockchain?

It is always hard to predict the future. I would say that some technologies are created to improve productivity of some specific area and some business problems. Robotic Process Automation may be one of these trends. Now big data technology is primarily implying, we now have the

physical and economic capacity to save everything. If we can save everything, how does it affect how we behave? I think that there is lots of humanity-related questions as well. You know, imagine you're married and then every single thing you said or did in the last 10 years is immediately searchable for your spouse or for you, that would be a problem. Big Data is going to have that kind of impact on society in various forms. You basically can't forget now.

I think the impact on BPM is TBD (to be decided). But the fundamental concept of processes or ways of doing things in an organization, so they can be managed, re-engineered, monitored, scale up, will never go away. I think these are two orthogonal dimensions. Obviously, as new technology comes along like blockchain, it might mean that some processes can change because now instead of relying on explicit flows where you know everything about who's doing what, maybe you can use blockchain as a way of building trust, whereas earlier, it was all done differently.

What do you think about the following trends and their underlying challenges: processes using IoT as a service, IoT used as means to improve processes, e.g., processes related to Industry 4.0?

Definitely, the use of IoT as a way to improve processes is very real, going from the lkes of the factory scenario to people assignment in a supermarket

and based on how many people that are there, so many things that you can imagine doing efficiently or improving the process. Because you have more sensors available, that gives you the ability to tap into things live. So, developing techniques for how IoT integrates to business process management is very useful from that point of view. The panel discussion was also about if BPM missed the IoT boat. I don't think we missed the boat, because the technology is still evolving and then IoT is still in hype stage, where there is so many points at the top of the hype curve. Achieving wide and scalable industry deployment is probably going to take decades.

Finally, what is your advice to young researchers in general and BPMers in particular?

In general, my advice to young people always is, the world is changing very fast. So, doing a PhD in BPM, or whatever it is, doesn't mean you're going to be done anymore. I think more and more research will involve multi-disciplinary work and will involve evolving the position that you started with. In my time as a student, I could learn Computer Science. That was good enough, I could do a whole bunch of stuff based on that. Now, just learning Computer Science isn't enough, because now everybody knows some degree of Computer Science. The cross disciplinary nature of education in general, and just learning how to apply technology in other domains is very, very important. The same would probably apply to BPM, it is important to think about various aspects including management side, connectivity to services and so on. So, putting yourself in a position where you can evolve as the world change is very, very important.

(Interviewer: Boualem Benatalah)



PEOPLE COLUMN: WHAT IS MATTHIAS WEIDLICH UP TO?

Matthias Weidlich started his career at Hasso-Plattner Institute, University of Potsdam (Germany), where he completed his PhD thesis in 2011 on “behavioural profiles” – an approach to represent business processes in terms of binary behavioural relations for the purpose of consistency checking. During his postdoctoral years at Imperial College (UK) and Technion (Israel), he conducted research on a wide range of topics including process model quality, process model matching, schema matching and queue mining. In 2015, he joined Humboldt University of Berlin as junior professor, and recently advanced to a full professorship. We took this opportunity to ask Matthias what’s keeping him busy in his new position. Below is his response.

Thanks for asking, there are indeed a few things that keep me busy.

One stream of research aims at bringing a statistical perspective into process mining. It started with a simple observation: When applying process

discovery to a small sample of an event log, the resulting model is likely to be as good as a model obtained when processing the complete log. But, how can we determine what is an appropriate sample size? We recently developed a first approach this question by exploiting an idea by Busany and Maoz, who phrase sampling of a log as a sequence of statistical tests. This approach allows us to provide statistical guarantees when sampling for automated process discovery. It makes some assumptions, which we hope to be able to lift in future work.

I am also involved in initiatives to consolidate the field of conformance checking between models and event data. There will soon be a textbook on this topic, published by Springer. Writing it together with Josep, Boudewijn, and Andreas was great fun and I hope the community will find it useful. In this context, I currently explore ways to improve my lectures, for instance, by getting interac-



tive with Python notebooks that enable students to play around with conformance checking algorithms. Stay tuned for updates as part of the PMLab project!

Last but not least, I started to work on models and methods for formal analysis of complex event processing (CEP) systems. While the number of applications for pattern detection in event streams is growing, most design and implementation choices in CEP systems are still taken in an ad hoc manner. Here, I think one can do better, so that, in my group, we strive for formally grounded approaches to reason on properties of CEP systems.

Edited by Marlon Dumas

BPI CHALLENGE AND AWARDS

The BPI Challenge has been organized for the eighth time at the BPI workshop in Sydney. In this challenge, sponsored by Celonis, NWO’s DeLiBiDa project and Minit, we provide participants with a real-life event log; the dataset was provided by the German company data experts. Participants were invited in categories: academic, student, and professional.

In the student category, Jarno Brils, Nina van den Elsen, Jan de Priester and Tom Slooff of the Honors Academy of Eindhoven University of Technology won with their report entitled Analysis and Prediction of Undesired Outcomes. In the academic category, Stephen Pauwels and Toon Calders of the University of Antwerp won with their report entitled

Detecting and Explaining Drifts in Yearly Grant Applications, and in the professional category, Lalit Wangikar, Sumit Dhuwalia, Abhilasha Yadav, Bhavy Dikshit and Dikshant Yadav from Cognitio Analytics won with their report entitled Faster Payments to Farmers: Analysis of the Direct

Payments Process of EU’s Agricultural Guarantee Fund.

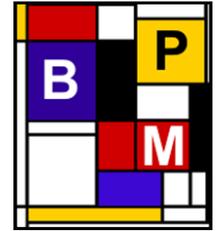
I thank all sponsors and participants for their efforts and we hope to see all of you again for the next BPI Challenge.

Boudewijn van Dongen



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Wil van der Aalst, Boualem Benatallah, Jörg Desel, Marlon Dumas, Jan Mendling, Manfred Reichert, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma, Barbara Weber and Mathias Weske (chair).



<http://bpm-conference.org>



This newsletter is an activity of the BPM conference series.

The goal is to further strengthen the BPM community.

This newsletter will appear twice per year. Input for the next newsletter is welcome (e.g. activities related to the BPM conference, interviews, contests, new datasets, tools, etc.); please contact mathias.weske@hpi.de

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMUNITY

The first **IEEE International Conference on Process Mining (ICPM)** will take place in Aachen (Germany), 24-28 June 2019. ICPM will be co-located with the 40th International Conference on Application and Theory of Petri Nets and Concurrency (Petri Nets 2019), and the 19th IEEE International Conference on Application of Concurrency to System Design (ACSD 2019). The three events will take place in the conference area of the Tivoli football stadium and are organized by the Process and Data Science (PADS) group led by Wil van der Aalst at RWTH Aachen University. Interestingly, the first BPM conference was also co-located with the Petri Nets conference in 2003. Hence, this could be the start of a very successful conference series.

The objective of ICPM 2019 is to explore and exchange knowledge in this field through scientific talks, industry discussions, contests, technical tutorials and panels. The conference covers all aspects of process mining research and practice, including theory, algorithmic challenges, applications and the connection with other fields. The event

unifies activities done within the context of the IEEE Task Force on Process Mining. The task force was established in 2009 to promote process mining activities and to create awareness. Over 70 organizations are supporting the IEEE Task Force on Process Mining. Wil van der Aalst is general chair, and Josep Carmona, Mieke Jans, and Marcello La Rosa lead an international program committee composed of 45 process mining experts. See <http://icpmconference.org/> for more information about ICPM 2019.

The developments in research and teaching (see the success of the process mining MOOC) have been mirrored by a strong industry uptake, mainly in Europe but now also spreading to other continents like to US and Asia. This further supports the need for a dedicated conference and meeting place.

The event will celebrate 40 years of Petri nets with speakers reflecting on the historical role of Petri's work.

Business Process Analytics in the Springer Encyclopedia of Big Data Technolo-



gies: The recently released Encyclopedia of Big Data Technologies is a compendium of over 300 short introductory articles (entries) covering a wide range of topics in advanced data management and analytics.

Alongside other topic areas such as Big Data storage, NoSQL databases, machine learning and social media technologies, the encyclopedia features a section dedicated to business process analytics. This section contains 22 entries on topics at the intersection between data analytics and business process management, including automated process discovery, conformance checking, predictive process monitoring and business process querying. The section was edited by Marlon Dumas and Matthias Weidlich with contributions from 30+ active members of the BPM community. A "live" version of the encyclopedia is available at:

<https://link.springer.com/referencework/10.1007/978-3-319-63962-8>

