Preface

In today's technological environment, models play a major role in understanding business needs, in requirement elicitation, and in software development. These activities are supported by modeling languages such as UCM (for requirements), BPMN (for business process modeling) and the UML (for software development) that have been developed and adopted both in academia and in industry. Nevertheless, the use of models and modeling languages has not been universally adopted and there are many areas that we believe would benefit from these technologies and methods. Arguably, a contributory factor limiting the use of modelling is the lack of appropriate educational resources.

To better understand the gaps and to propose solutions for the existing problems, the Educators Symposium at MODELS brings together colleagues who are interested in challenges and activities related to modeling education. In general the symposium aims at addressing the challenges, techniques and best practices involved in teaching modeling technologies to various stakeholders and refers the following topics:

- Topics to be included in modeling education and at what stages.
- Tool support for teaching modeling.
- How to engage students with modeling methods and tools?
- Use of appropriate and novel assessment techniques.
- Use of appropriate and novel modeling technologies to enrich the student experience.
- Ensuring that theory and practice are balanced in modeling teaching.
- Exploiting innovative teaching methods in order to enhance the student learning experience.
- Exploiting effective learning and teaching mechanisms for distance learning.

The Educators Symposium @ MODELS 2015 consisted of a rich program starting with a keynote speech given by **Martina Seidl** about a new book aimed at teaching UML: UML @ Classroom: Yet Another Book on UML??? Two paper sessions followed:

Session I:

- An Approach to Employ Modeling in a Traditional Computer Science Curriculum, **Martin Gogolla**
- Flipped Top-Down is Systematic Bottom-Up, **Vadim Zaytsev**
- Uncovering Students' Common Difficulties and Strategies During a Class Diagram Design Process: an Online Experiment, **Dave Stikkolorum, Bilal Karasneh, Truong Ho-Quang, Michel R.V. Chaudro**n

Session II:

- Experiences of teaching model-based development**, Kevin Lano, Sobhan Yassipour-Tehrani, Hessa Alfraihi** (was not presented)
- Quality Assessment of UML Class Diagrams - A Study Comparing Experts and Students, **Bilal Karasneh, Dave Stikkolorum, Enrique Larios, Michel R.V. Chaudron**

- Evaluating Student Work in Model-Driven Engineering Courses, **Richard F. Paige, Dimitrios S. Kolovos, Fiona A.C. Polack and Louis M. Rose**.

The symposium concluded with a panel on software models in practice in student projects, which its moderator was **Mira Balaban**, with the panelists: **Betty Chang**, **Dan Chiorean**, **Peter Clarke**, **Tim Leithbridge** and **Gunter Mussbacher**.

Arnon Sturm and Tony Clark
Educators Symposium 2015 Organizers

Organization

Educators Symposium Organizers

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