

Preface: REFSQ 2020 Doctoral Symposium

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This section of the proceedings contains the research proposals submitted by students enrolled in a doctoral program, whose research interests include aspects of Requirements Engineering. Continuing a long and honoured traditions of Doctoral Symposium at REFSQ, the goals of the Symposium were to provide early feedback and advice on research objectives and methods to students in the initial stages of their journey, to allow more advanced students to present their initial results, and to provide networking value, by facilitating dissemination and discussion between students in the initial stages of their career and senior researchers active in the field of Requirements Engineering.

Unfortunately, the unique logistic challenges faced by the 2020 edition significantly affected the organization of the doctoral symposium, which by its very nature is a more time-sensitive event, compared to a workshop or conference. That resulted in only one proposal being accepted for inclusion in the proceedings, whereas a number of other participants submitted a short abstract outlining their plans for a possible oral presentation at a future date.

The paper by Mariana Maia Peixoto, titled “Privacy Requirements Engineering in Agile Software Development: a Specification Method”, reports on the author’s proposal for embedding specifications for privacy requirements into agile processes. The proposal includes a literature survey establishing the relevance of the subject, followed by a case study to anchor the research to common professional practice. That is followed by the sketch of a method to guide agile software developers in specifying privacy requirements, which is the main contribution of Mariana’s thesis.

The organizers would like to thank the members of the Doctoral Symposium’s panel for their dedication to helping the next generation of researchers in Requirements Engineering in their initial steps as research professionals and academics; special thanks should also be reserved to the organizers of REFSQ, and especially to Mehrdad Sabetzadeh and Andreas Vogelsang (Workshop co-chairs) for their patience and support, to Alessio Ferrari and Stefania Gnesi (Local organizers) for handling all the difficult logistic decisions, and of course to the General co-chairs Nazim Madhavji and Liliana Pasquale for providing guidance and support.

Panel of experts

- Joao Arujo, University of Nova Lisboa, Portugal
- Nelly Bencomo, Aston University, UK
- Fabiano Dalpiaz, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Stefania Gnesi, ISTI-CNR, Italy
- Barbara Paech, University of Heidelberg, Germany
- Angelo Susi, FBK, Italy

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In: M. Sabetzadeh, A. Vogelsang, S. Abualhaija, M. Borg, F. Dalpiaz, M. Daneva, N. Fernández, X. Franch, D. Fucci, V. Gervasi, E. Groen, R. Guizzardi, A. Herrmann, J. Horkoff, L. Mich, A. Perini, A. Susi (eds.): Joint Proceedings of REFSQ-2020 Workshops, Doctoral Symposium, Live Studies Track, and Poster Track, Pisa, Italy, 24-03-2020, published at <http://ceur-ws.org>