

WICSA 2004 Workshop Call for Participation

A Wiki WAN Party: Capturing Experience in Software Architecture Best Practices

June 12-15, 2004
Oslo, Norway

Held in conjunction with the 4th Working IEEE/IFIP Conference on Software Architecture (WICSA 2004)
<http://wicsa4.cs.rug.nl/>

Workshop Theme and Goals

WICSA is a working conference and working sessions have long been a tradition at previous conferences. They have been used to collect examples of existing best practices; identify characteristics of existing methods and techniques; identify gaps in the state of the practice; and propose new techniques to fill those gaps. This year we add a new twist to this idea by using wiki software as a group communication mechanism that allows users to freely create and edit Web page content using any Web browser. Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page) is our model for on-line collaboration. The goal is to encourage ideas about software architecture to evolve as an ongoing discussion among members of the software architecture/WICSA community in the form of wiki entries.

Topics of interest will include (but not be limited to) themes from the WICSA technical program:

- Architecture Analysis
- Architecture Evolution
- Architecture in practice
- Architecture Methods
- Architecture Tools
- Architecture Styles
- Architecture of Large systems

Martin Wattenberg, IBM Watson Research Center, will assist us in visualizing the collaborative process through use of his History Flow application (<http://researchweb.watson.ibm.com/history/>). The history flow application charts the evolution of a document as it is edited by many people using a very simple visualization technique. We will use the application to evaluate how the collaboration is progressing. We will post intermediate results during the conference and report on final results during the plenary session of the conference.

Agenda

The “workshop” will occur in four segments.

1. Saturday morning, June 12, 9:00 - 12:30. Workshop Session: Kick Off
 - Introductions and position statements from the participants.
 - Discussion on the goals of workshop.
 - Visualizing the collaborative process with the history flow application (intended use)
 - Wiki walkthrough – adding an entry, monitoring changes, making changes
 - Capturing experience in software architecture best practices
2. Saturday afternoon, Jun 12 – Tuesday morning, June 15. Virtual Workshop
WICSA attendees contribute new material and revise existing material on the wiki server.
3. Tuesday afternoon, June 15, 13:30-15:00. Working session: Wrap Up
 - Workshop wrap-up to reflect on the wiki experience.
 - Visualizing the collaborative process with the history flow application (results)
 - Summary of software architecture best practices
4. Tuesday afternoon, June 15, 15:30-16:30. Workshop summary.
Plenary session at end of the WICSA conference to report on the wiki experience to the WICSA conference attendees.

Expected audience

This workshop is intended for anyone interested in distilling software architecture best practices (software architects, software lead designers, students, researchers, managers, educators, etc). Participants are asked to prepare for the workshop by submitting the following to the workshop chairs (jas@cs.tufts.edu):

- (1) Short bio or statement on background.
- (2) A position or observation on the state of the practice in software architecture in the form of a wiki excerpt that will be the raw material for an online wiki submission.

Submission materials will not be used for choosing participants. The morning workshop session is a preparatory session, and all WICSA attendees can join into the virtual workshop and later working session. The advantage of submitting a position and attending the morning session is to influence the themes and organization of the initial wiki online material so that it reflects the issues important to you and to discuss these with your peers. The morning session will also provide an opportunity to learn about wiki and history flow visualization.

Important Dates

Submission Due	June 2, 2004
Workshop	June 12-15, 2004

Workshop Chairs (alphabetical order)

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