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Message from the NIER Chairs of ICSE 2022

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It is our honour to welcome you to the ICSE 2022 Track on New Ideas and Emerging results (NIER). NIER is a vibrant forum for forward-looking, innovative research in software engineering. Our aim is to accelerate the exposure of the software engineering community to early yet potentially ground-breaking research results, and to techniques and perspectives that challenge the status quo in the discipline. As also proposed in previous editions of the track, we solicited two types of papers: forward-looking ideas, and thought-provoking reflections.

New to this year, we also encouraged the establishment of new research collaborations by proposing the Idea-Matchmaking process. Ahead of the NIER deadline, researchers could anonymously submit an abstract describing their ideas. These abstracts were made available publicly so that other researchers could bid for ideas to which they were interested in contributing. We subsequently put the authors and the bidders in touch to encourage future collaborations and possibly the submission of a paper to the NIER track.
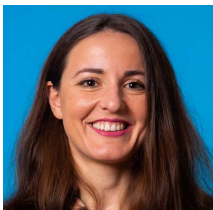
This proceedings volume contains the 26 papers accepted for presentation, which were selected from 94 high-quality submissions (an acceptance rate of 27.6%). 3 additional submissions were desk-rejected due to formatting and scope issues.

The submissions involved 313 authors from 28 countries: 68 from USA, 34 from India, 26 from Canada, 20 from Australia, 20 from Japan, 18 from China, 16 from Austria, 16 from France, 14 from Germany, 14 from South Korea, 14 from the UK, 9 from Italy, 9 from the Netherlands, 8 from Brazil, 6 from Finland, 5 from Switzerland, and 16 from other countries.

The NIER program aims to encourage and support new directions for software engineering. To support this aim, we have asked the authors to include a paragraph in their paper to discuss future plans to continue their research. Before the conference we assigned an expert to each accepted submission from the pool of PC members and conference attendees. The role of the expert is to challenge the authors of the assigned paper, by asking questions in advance, with the goal of increasing the value of conversations during the conference.

We would like to thank all authors of submissions for their interesting ideas. We are particularly thankful to the program committee members and external reviewers for their thorough and timely reviews of the submissions, their constructive feedback, and for participating in the online discussion. Their work has allowed us to put together a very strong and exciting program.

Finally we would like to thank the attendees for contributing to making NIER 2022 a success. We hope that these proceedings will serve as a valuable reference for inspiring future research directions and for sharing new ideas in the software engineering community.

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