BPM NEWSLETTER
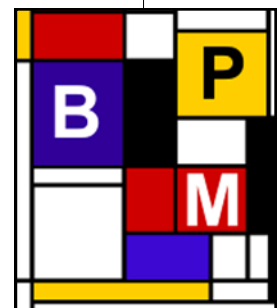
BPM 2012: ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BPM CONFERENCE

The 10th BPM conference took place in Tallinn, Estonia. Again the conference was a big success thanks to the efforts of Marlon Dumas and his team. Later in this newsletter, the general chair reports on the conference.

FIRST BPM NEWSLETTER

Over the last decade Business Process Management (BPM) research resulted in a plethora of methods, techniques, and tools to support the design, enactment, management, and analysis of operational business processes. On the one hand, the area matured considerably. On the other hand, there are still many open problems. Since the first BPM conference in Eindhoven, an active and growing community developed around the annual BPM conference series. This triggered the creation of this newsletter published by the steering committee of the BPM conference series. The goal is to publish two issues per year to report on the conference and important developments for the BPM community. Your input is welcome!

- **A decade of BPM conferences**
- **First BPM newsletter**
- **BPM 2013 in Beijing, China**
- **BPM 2014 in Haifa, Israel**
- **BPM tools database**
- **New events related to the BPM conference**

BPM 2013 IN BEIJING

After Eindhoven (2003), Potsdam (2004), Nancy (2005), Vienna (2006), Brisbane (2007), Milan (2008), Ulm (2009), Hoboken (2010), Clermont-Ferrand (2011), and Tallinn (2012), the BPM conference moves to Beijing in 2013. This is the first time the conference takes place in China. Since there is an active BPM community in China (as is reflected by the annual C-BPM conference), many local participants are expected.

The conference is hosted by Tsinghua University, one of the top universities in China (consistently ranked in the top 3 of Chinese universities). General chair is Jianmin Wang (vice dean of the school of software). Lijie Wen, also from Tsinghua University, is organizing chair. Jiaguang Sun is honorary chair. PC chairs are Florian Daniel, Jianmin Wang, and Barbara Weber. Niels Lohmann, Minseok Song, and Petia Wohed are workshop chairs. See bpm2013.tsinghua.edu.cn for the other

chairs and all PC members involved in the organization of BPM 2014.

Next to the scientific program, there will be interesting social events, including a dinner at the Summer Palace, Beijing Duck from Quanjude, and an excursion to the Great Wall.

Therefore, start submitting your workshop proposals (deadline December 20th, 2012) and start writing your BPM 2013 papers!

BPM 2014 IN HAIFA

BPM 2014 will take place in Haifa, Israel. The hosting organizations will be the Department of Information Systems of the University of Haifa and IBM Haifa Research lab. General chairs are Mor Peleg (University of Haifa) and Avigdor Gal (Technion). The key organizing team includes Pnina Soffer and Tsvi Kuflik from the University of Haifa and Lior Limonad from IBM. Pnina has been the driving force behind the initiative to organize BPM 2014 in Haifa.

Haifa, Israel's beautiful seaport on the Mediterranean, is one of Israel's high-tech centers. The conference will be held at the University of Haifa campus. The campus is located at the top of Mt. Carmel, with a superb view of the Haifa bay, the Mediterranean cost and the Galilee mountains.

More information will be provided at BPM 2013 in Beijing.

BPM TOOL DATABASE

The BPM steering committee decided to create a so-called BPM Tool Database. This database will become available online in the next couple of months (bpm-conference.org). The BPM Tool Database will be searchable based on desired characteristics. For example, one can search for an editor supporting BPMN and Petri nets running on Windows or a process mining tool supporting both discovery and conformance checking.

The initiative is triggered by the growing importance of BPM tooling and the need to share software and datasets. Most BPM papers describe tools ranging from stand-alone analysis tools to full-fledged BPM systems. Moreover, more and more BPM papers are of an empirical nature describing experiments that need to be reproducible.

Groups involved in BPM tool demonstrations in recent years will be asked to

provide descriptions and pointers for this database. Once the database is up and running, others are invited to contribute.

A DECADE OF SUCCESSFUL BPM CONFERENCES

BPM'2012 in Tallinn marked a successful milestone in the development of the field of BPM. The record number of participants - 275 in total from 35 countries - bears testimony of the continuing and vigorous support that the field enjoys.

BPM'2012 also marks the consolidation of several connections between BPM and related fields that have been built up over the last years. For instance, the successful first edition of the Workshop on Data and Artifact-Centric Business Processes, which attracted around 25 participants, is a milestone in the convergence between BPM and data management. In a similar vein, the success of the first edition of the workshop on Adaptive Case Management (around 30 participants) demonstrates the openness of the BPM research community towards alternative approaches to pro-

cess management. We are also happy to have hosted a keynote on BPM and event-driven architectures and a tutorial on social BPM. The spectrum of topics covered at the BPM'2012 conference and workshops reaffirms the conference's vocation to be problem-driven and to embrace any approach that contributes to addressing problems faced by practitioners in the field.

Finally, the presence of almost 80 industry representatives at the conference and workshops reflects the continued tradition of the BPM conference series to serve as a bridge between theory and practice. It also underscores the strong need that practitioners have for more rigorous and effective methods and tools to address the challenges raised by the wide variety and sophistication of business processes in today's

organizations.

The organizers of BPM'2012 are grateful for the tremendous level of attendance. It was heartwarming to see you all gathered in Tallinn and we hope you took away refreshing ideas and long-lasting memories.

If you missed the conference, we invite you to check the video gallery available at the BPM'2012 web site (bpm2012.ut.ee). In any case, we hope to see you all at BPM'2013 in Beijing for the start of another decade of successful BPM conferences.
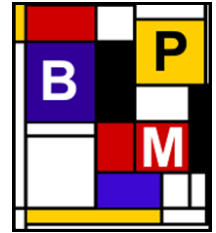
Marlon Dumas
(general chair of BPM 2012)

Visit bpm-conference.org

This newsletter is a new activity related to the BPM conference series. The goal is to further strengthen the BPM community that formed over the last decade. 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.).

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMUNITY

Recently, the **European BPM Round Table** was established following several successful national initiatives to provide a forum for collaboration between academics and practitioners. The focus is on the valorization and promotion of BPM research in practice. The European BPM Round Table provides a European infrastructure, in which national BPM round tables share, among other things, knowledge, speakers and contacts. Activities and meetings between researchers and practitioners are organized by the national BPM round tables. Currently there are 22 of them and their number is still increasing. **On the 5th of October there will be a workshop of the European BPM Roundtable in Eindhoven.** See bpmroundtable.eu for more information.

Each year the authors of the best papers of the BPM conference are invited to submit an extended version of their papers for a **special issue of Elsevier's Information Systems** (IS). Mathias Weske, Area Editor of IS, serves as liaison between IS and the BPM conference. The special issue based on BPM 2011 is now in press: www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03064379.

Springer's **Computing** journal will be extended with **Business Process Computing** as a new area. Wil van der Aalst will serve as field editor, Barbara Weber and Avi Gal will serve as associate editors.

The deadline for **BPM 2013 workshop proposals** is 20-12-2012. Workshop proposals should be sent to bpm2013workshops@informatik.uni-rostock.de following the instructions on bpm2013.tsinghua.edu.cn.

Springer's **Lecture Notes in Business Information Processing** (**LNBIP**, www.springer.com/series/7911) series provides the possibility to turn excellent PhD theses on BPM topics into published monographs. There should be objective indicators of high quality and relevance for a larger audience (e.g. best paper awards, citations, H-index, reports in professional magazines, etc.). Candidate PhD theses should be appealing for many, i.e., an excellent thesis may be very technical and focus on a specific topic, but at the same time be less interesting for the larger LNBIP au-

dience. Each year the BPM PC chairs are requested to suggest potential candidates.

Springer not only publishes the BPM conference and workshop proceedings, but recently also published various **monographs on BPM and related topics such as process mining**. See the list of BPM books in the following interview: www.springer.com/computer?SGWID=0-146-6-1390044-0.

The **BPM Academic Initiative** www.signavio.com/en/academic.html now provides various model collections that can be used for teaching and research.

The annual meeting of the **IEEE Task Force on Process Mining** took place after the BPI workshop as part of the BPM 2012 conference. One of the decisions was to make **XES** into an official IEEE standard.