

THANKS INNSBRUCK, RIO HERE WE COME!

In this newsletter we look back on the very successful BPM 2015 conference in Innsbruck. Barbara Weber and her team did an excellent job. Over 290 BPM enthusiasts from all five continents participated in the event. Next to an excellent scientific program compiled by the various chairs and committees, the participants could enjoy wonderful social events like the highest BPM

Reception ever (at "Seegrube"). See this newsletter for some impressions and reports or visit http://bpm2015.q-e for photos, slides, etc.

This newsletter also lists the various **awards** handed out in Innsbruck, including the **BPM Test of Time Award** that is handed out every two years.

Moreover, news from the

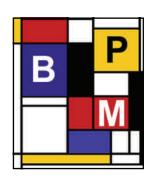


community is reported. For example the BPM/PM MOOCs starting in October, the two new BPM Steering Committee members, the new workflow patterns book, events, etc.

However, it is also time to prepare for BPM 2016 in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. This will be the first time that the BPM conference visits the continent. Make sure you submit your workshop proposal soon and prepare for a great BPM paper to ensure your trip to Rio!

This issue provides information from the organizers and chairs.

Enjoy reading this newsletter and hope to see you in Rio!



- Prepare for BPM 2016 in Rio
- Submit your BPM 2016 Workshop proposal!
- BPM 2015 awards
- Summary by the BPM 2015 chairs
- Two MOOCs starting this month
- Two new BPM Steering Committee members
- News from the community

BPM TEST OF TIME AWARD 2015

The BPM Test of Time Award is given every two years. In 2015 the award was given to the most influential paper presented at BPM 2005 in Nancy and BPM 2006 in Vienna.

Alistair Barros, Marlon Dumas, and Arthur ter Hofstede received the award for their paper "Service Interac-



tion Patterns" presented at BPM 2005 in Nancy. Marlon collected the award during

the conference dinner.

The **Runner-Up Award** was given to Sebastian Hinz, Karsten Wolf (born Schmidt), Christian Stahl for their BPM 2005 paper "**Transforming BPEL to Petri Nets**".

More information on these influential papers is included in this newsletter.

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REFLECTIONS ON BPM 2015 BY THE GENERAL CHAIR

From September 31st to September 3rd BPM 2015 took place in Innsbruck, Austria. Overall, BPM 2015 had 290 participants from all five continents. Already before its official start, the Doctoral Consortium took place on September 30th and the IEEE Taskforce on Process Mining organized a reception in Adler's. On September 31st the conference started with the workshop day and 7 parallel workshops. In the evening a cable car brought us up to Seegrube, which is located at an elevation of 1905m. There we celebrated the highest Welcome Reception in BPM history. Thanks to the wonderful weather we could not only eniov delicious food and drinks, but also breathtaking views of Innsbruck and the surrounding mountains.





From September 1st to September 3rd the main conference took place with an excellent and highly diverse program consisting of the scientific program, 3 keynotes, 4 tutorials and 1 panel, 28 demos, and an industry track with 15 BPM case presentations. The Conference Din-

ner on Wednesday evening took place in Hall where we had the chance to learn more about its rich cultural heritage. Historically three important cornerstones contributed to the wealth of the city: salt production, trading point for navigation on the Inn-river and the Sovereign's Mint. The dinner then took place in the Kurhaus, which originally offered locals as well as visitors a wide range of spa facilities, particularly those involving salt baths, before it was opened as an event center. It was in Hall, in 1486, that the first silver Taler, the precursor of the dollar. was coined and it was in Hall at Kurhaus, on September 3rd 2015, that the first BPM dollar was minted at the Conference Dinner.

As a General Chair of BPM 2015 I would like to thank once again all the organizers, sponsors, authors, speakers, reviewers and participants for helping to make the conference such a great experience! See you next year in Rio!

Barbara Weber

General Chair BPM 2015

BPM STEERING COMMITTEE WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS

During the annual meeting of the BPM Steering Committee (BPM SC) in Innsbruck, the BPM SC decided to invite **Stefanie Rinderle-Ma** and **Manfred Reichert**. They both accepted.

Stefanie Rinderle-Ma is a full professor at Universität Wien and has been active in the BPM community for many years. She was workshop chair for BPM 2009 and PC chair for BPM 2011.



Manfred Reichert is a full professor at

the University of Ulm and has been involved in the BPM conference series since its inception. He organized BPM 2009 in Ulm, was PC chair in 2008, and contributed to our conference series in many other ways.



Both Stefanie and Manfred were coauthors of the paper "Evaluation of Correctness Criteria for Dynamic Workflow Changes" presented at BPM 2003 . This paper won the first BPM Test of Time Award.

Given the many contributions of Stefanie and Manfred to the conference, the BPM SC is looking forward to working with them. See http://bpm-conference.org/ for a list of all ten SC members.



MOOC ON FUNDAMENTALS OF BPM

Marlon Dumas, Marcello La Rosa, Jan Mendling and Hajo Reijers – co-authors of the textbook "Fundamentals of Business Process Management" – will launch a MOOC with the same title starting on 12 October. This will be the first MOOC to cover the full lifecycle of business processes, all the way from process identification and modeling, down to automation and monitoring.

In addition to lectures, interactive learning tasks, quizzes and an optional project, the course will feature **special appearances** by:

- Michael Rosemann talking about strategic alignment of BPM.
- Anne Rozinat introducing the Disco process mining tool.
- Wil van der Aalst reflecting on the status and future of process mining.

Participants in the MOOC will also be given the opportunity to practice their acquired skills using different tools: Signavio (Academic Edition) for process

modelling, BIMP for simulation, Bizagi BPM Suite for automation and Fluxicon Disco for process mining. Special access to these tools will be provided to course participants.

The MOOC is designed so that participants can take it at their own pace. To cover all the content and to complete all the learning activities, participants will need to invest around 3 hours per week. However, participants may select

the topics they wish to focus on depending on their interests and level of expertise.

Registration is free. Participation may lead to a certificate delivered by Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

For further information and to register, visit the MOOC's web page:

https://moocs.qut.edu.au/learn/fundamentals-of-bpm-october-2015



SUCCESSFUL PROCESS MINING MOOC RUNS AGAIN

The Coursera course "Process Mining: Data Science in Action" will run again in October (opens on October 7th). Data science is the profession of the Process mining bridges the gap between traditional model-based process analysis (e.g., simulation and other business process management techniques) and datacentric analysis techniques such as machine learning and data mining. Process mining seeks the confrontation between event data (i.e., observed behavior) and process models (hand-made or discovered automatically).

You can register and participate for free via https://www.coursera.org/course/procmin. The course "Process Mining: Data science in Action" explains the key analysis techniques in process mining and provides practical tips to apply process mining immediately. Close to 70,000 participants joined in the first two runs where they learned various process dis-

covery algorithms. These can be used to automatically learn process models from raw event data. Various other process analysis techniques that use event data are also presented. Moreover, the course provides easy-to-use software, real-life data sets, and practical

skills to directly apply the theory in a variety of application domains.

To give everyone who missed the previous runs a chance to follow this course, the course runs again as of October 7, 2015.



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BPM 2015 - REPORT FROM THE PC CHAIRS

The 13th edition of Business Process Management (BPM) conference was held in Innsbruck over the period of August 31st, 2015 to September 3rd, 2015. The event was a huge success both in terms of large participation from academia and industry (290+ participants), as well as in terms of the lively and vibrant discussions that the keynotes, paper presentations, panel discussions and tutorials created.

On Monday 31 of August, the conference was preambled with the workshop day featuring 7 workshops on diverse topics as decision mining and process visualizations. High attendance and an interactive spirit created an ideal setting to discuss fresh ideas and various perspectives on BPM. The conference reception was held on Monday evening in Seegrube Alpenlounge, a scenery location on top of Innsbruck. Nice weather and magnificent views of the city plus superb authentic Austrian food made the event a perfect opening ceremony of the conference and a great networking opportunity for the participants.



The main conference was opened on Tuesday September 1, 2015 with a keynote on "noBPM" by Prof. Munindar Singh from North Carolina State University. As an expert in closely-related areas offering an outsider view of the core BPM field, he argued that the BPM community so far has focused much on the computational aspects and implementation of processes, and not enough on

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abstractions and bridging the link between business and IT in the process domain. The NoBPM approach that he put forward suggests focusing on identifying abstractions for business processes at the business and IT level, and bridging the gap between them. And, at the business level, focusing on business relationships and interactions among business entities in terms of contractual relationships and assuming flexibility on the flow of activities among them, which hints to the "noBPM" part of the argument.

In the remainder of the first day, the conference was continued by two parallel sessions, one on runtime process management and the 2nd on process modeling, each with 3 full papers. The afternoon sessions contained one research paper session on the topic of process model discovery. Interestingly, in this session, two papers that received best paper awards were included: the best research paper awardee, i.e.,. "Ensuring Model Consistency in Declarative Process Discovery" by Claudio Di Ciccio, Fabrizio Maria Maggi, Marco Montali and Jan Mendling, and the IBMsponsored best student research paper awardee, i.e., "Mining invisible tasks in non-free-choice constructs" by Qinlong Guo, Lijie Wen, Jianmin Wang, Zhiqiang Yan and Philip S. Yu. In parallel, there was a panel on agile methods in the implementation of business process management projects. The last part of the day contained three parallel activities, two papers sessions, one with five short paper presentations on business process models and analytics, and the other with 2 industry paper presentations, and 2 short papers in a session called "BPM in industry". In parallel, there was a tutorial session on how to write a BPM paper given by Jan Mendling and Hajo Reijers for PhD students and early career BPM researchers.



The 2nd day of the conference was started with the industry keynote talk given by Gustavo Gomez, CEO of Bizagi with a talk on the topic of "Adaptability, Architecture and CX (customer experience)" of BPM applications. Bizagi, arguably, is one of the earliest industry partners of BPM conference. Gustavo admitted that their BPM suite has incorporated a number of concepts and methods introduced in papers in BPM conference series over the years. In this talk, he argued that while BPM has made a great progress in the BPM engine level, BPM developers do not enjoy the same support and maturity at the abstraction and toolset level. This was positioned as the prerequisite to enable a modeldriven design and development of process-centric applications starting from the customer journeys and customer experience in an application design and development.

The Research track of the conference in the 2nd day continued by paper presentation session on process compliance with 3 paper presentations. In parallel, there were a tutorial on design science research in information systems and software systems engineering by Roel Wieringa, and the first session of the Industry/Practice Track in which

there were 4 presentations on use case studies and implementation projects of BPM in industry.

The afternoon sessions started by a research papers presentation session on emerging and practical areas of BPM



with 3 papers. In parallel, there was a tutorial on social BPM by Nicola Burkhardt. And, the 2nd session of Industry/Practice Track with 4 more BPM practice presentations was held in parallel. The final session of the day was very vibrant and exciting session on demos with total of 28 demos presented. The session started with a 1-minute teaser presentation of each demo followed by demo booth visits and discussions by conference attendees, which resulted in them voting for the best participants-selected demo of "The Multi -perspective Process Explorer" by Felix Mannhardt, Massimiliano de Leoni and Hajo A. Reijers.

The social event in the evening of the 2nd day of the conference included a trip to the historic city of Hall. After guided tours exploring the old city or the Mint Museum in the Burg Hasegg, the conference dinner took place in the Kurhaus Hall. Excellent food and a festive atmosphere created the perfect environment to honor the authors of the best research paper and best student paper, who were awarded by the PC Chairs. Apart from the best research paper awards that were mentioned above, Ingo Weber was recognized as the best BPM'15 reviewer. Finally, all participants went home with silverware, a specially minted coin would remind them of the Tyrolean history.

The 3rd day of the conference was started with the keynote talk of Prof.

Marlon Dumas, who presented an insider view of the BPM field with the topic of "From Models to Data and Back: The Journey of the BPM Discipline and the Tangled Road to BPM 2020". In his talk, Marlon started with highlighting the results of a study on the topical distribution of BPM papers over the years, and the fact that while there has been notable amount of work on identification, process implementation and process discovery, the areas of process monitoring, process governance and strategic alignment with business, and process redesign have been less worked on. Then, through presenting a history of BPM field evolution since early 1990s, he made the concluding remark that, as a research community, we should be doing more of process analysis and less of model and log analysis going forward, and pay attention to combining research methods in conducting BPM research.

The 3rd day continued with two research sessions, one on process mining and the other on process model discovery, each with three papers. In parallel, the 2nd day of the Industry/Practice Track presentations continued on practical issues such as consulting in BPM area, application of process mining tools, and supporting sector-specific hybrid process models. Also, in the afternoon, the last tutorial of the confer-



ence was held on the topic of "The OMG DMN (Decision Model and Notation) Standard and its Relation to BPM(N)", which was presented by Jan Vanthienen from OMG.

Finally, the **good mix of young and senior participants**, as well as academia and industry participants, in the conference was a showcase that the field is actively being researched in the universities and industry by PhD students, early-career as well as senior researchers, and practitioners. We certainly enjoyed the conference in our part and we are looking forward eagerly to BPM 2016!

BPM 2015 PC Chairs

Hamid Motahari, Jan Recker, and Matthias Weidlich



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BPM 2015 AWARDS

The **BPM 2015 Best Paper Award** was handed out by the PC chairs to Claudio Di Ciccio, Fabrizio Maria Maggi, Marco Montali and Jan Mendling for their paper "Ensuring Model Consistency in Declarative Process Discovery".



The **Best Student Paper Award** was awarded to Oinlong Guo for the paper "Mining invisible tasks in non-free-choice constructs" co-authored with Lijie Wen, Jianmin Wang, Zhiqiang Yan and Philip S. Yu. Lijie collected the award for Oinlong.



Ingo Weber received the **Best Reviewer Award** for his excellent review work.



The **Best Demo Award** was awarded to Felix Mannhardt, Massimiliano de Leoni and Hajo Reijers for the demo of the "Multi-perspective Process Explorer".





The Fifth International **Business Process Intelligence Challenge** (BPIC'15) was won by Ube van der Ham of Meijer & Van der Ham Management Consultants. This year's data was provided by five Dutch municipalities over a period of approximately four years.

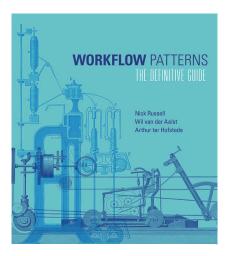
Irene Teinemaa, Anna Leontjeva and Karl-Oskar Masing from the University of Tartu, Estonia, won the prize for the best BPIC'15 student submission.



The Best Process Mining Dissertation Award is a yearly award conferred by the IEEE Task Force on Process Mining to the author of an outstanding PhD thesis on business process intelligence. This years award was won by Jorge Munoz-Gama for this PhD thesis entitled "Conformance Checking and Diagnosis in Process Mining". He received 1000 euro and will be invited to publish a book based on his thesis by Springer.



The **Innovation Award** was given to Mirko Kloppenburg, Janina Kettenbohrer, Daniel Beimborn, Michael Bögle for their process management work at Lufthansa Technik Group.



WORKFLOW Patterns book

The MIT Press book "Workflow Patterns: The Definitive Guide" by Nick Russell. Wil van der Aalst and Arthur ter Hofstede will appear in later this month. The book is based on the Workflow Patterns Initiative. It provides a comprehensive introduction to the well-known workflow patterns collection-recurrent, generic constructs describing common business process modeling and execution scenarios, presented in the form of problem-solution dialectics. The underlying principles of the patterns approach ensure that they are independent of any specific enabling technology, representational formalism, or modeling approach, and thus broadly applicable across the business process modeling and business process technology domains. Visit https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/ workflow-patterns for more information.



SEE YOU @ BPM 2016 IN RIO DE JANEIRO!!

BPM 2016 will take place in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. Rio is best known as the Wonderful City, celebrated for its passion for soccer and music, and its pristine nature with stunning beaches and tropical forests. The city never fails to impress its visitors with its modern outlook that reflects its evolution throughout the years, but also with its historic sites and overjoyed attitude of the locals. Rio has also been the stage for many of the major events that have shaped Brazil: facts that have marked out the times and left -as part of the country's history- milestones, cultural heritage, monuments and buildings that are still standing. The climate is tropical, warm and humid, with local variations; especially pleasurable in September with daily averages among 25° centigrade.

You are welcome to participate in the BPM conference in September and to contribute to shaping the BPM methods and technologies of the future in the unique atmosphere of Rio. BPM will take place at Othon Palace Rio Hotel situated in front of one of the most famous and beautiful beaches in the world: Copacabana Beach!

Tenderly named by the people of Rio as

the little princess of the sea, Copacabana beach is located in the quarter of Copacabana, in the South Zone of the city of Rio de Janeiro. Copacabana has bicycle stations, bicycle tracks, kiosks, hotels, bars and restaurants, which are full of people both day and night. Besides that, it has two Military Forts, one on each extremity of the beach, and they offer panoramic views and are open for visitors. Copacabana has an extensive infrastructure with hotels and kiosks that attract tourist from all over the world. The beach is also a stage for the biggest New Year's eve party in the planet, its fireworks display is well known all over the world, gathering more than three million people each year.

BPM 2016 promises to be a very special edition of the BPM conference series. This will be the **first BPM conference edition to be hosted in South America** and the second one to be hosted in the American continent. It comes at very exciting times for the BPM community, as we're witnessing a renewal in the discipline brought about by the vigorous adoption of data-driven process management methods and tools, which open up possibilities to manage and improve processes at levels of details

that could hardly be envisaged a decade ago. The **renewed interest in BPM is evidenced by the record attendance at the BPM 2015 conference**, which reached close to 300 participants.

See more about BPM 2016 at: http://bpm2016.uniriotec.br/

Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BPM2016

Flavia Maria Santoro

BPM 2016 General Chair





CALLING FOR BPM 2016 WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

More than 180 delegates participated in the BPM 2015 pre-conference workshops in Innsbruck, which continued to perpetuate the tradition of diversity and bottomup community building that has characterized the BPM workshops for already a decade.

The BPM 2016 pre-conference workshops will leverage this momentum in order to further enrich the range of topics actively discussed in the BPM conference. In addition to soliciting proposals for workshops in well-established areas of BPM research, we are actively soliciting workshop proposals that expand the traditional scope of the BPM conference. In line with the current directions of the main confer-

ence, we are looking forward to receiving workshop proposals that:

- Reach into areas of BPM not typically represented at the conference, such as change management, governance, maturity and capability management, strategy and innovation.
- Seek to establish bridges between BPM and other disciplines, such as computer-supported collaborative work, knowledge representation and management, enterprise architecture, cloud computing and Internet of Things (IoT).

A detailed call for workshop proposals can be found in the BPM'2016 confer-

ence web site:

http://bpm2016.uniriotec.br.

The deadline for submission of workshop proposals is 4 December. If you have an idea, don't hesitate to share it with us (the general workshop chairs) as soon as possible. We are very open to providing early feedback to prospective workshop proposers.

Contact us at: bpm2016ws@lists.ut.ee.

Marlon Dumas and Marcelo Fantinato

BPM 2016 General Workshop Chairs

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BPM 2016: START WRITING YOUR PAPERS!

On the wake of the success of BPM 2015, we encourage BPM research along multiple directions. First, we seek papers in the traditional areas of interest of the conference, such as business process modeling, analysis, execution and mining, with a particular focus on approaches and tools that extend the state of the art in business process improvement and innovation. Next, we aim to expand the conference's traditional focus on operational BPM, by soliciting work on the management aspects of the discipline, such as BPM strategic alignment and governance, where now more than ever research is needed as organizations have reached high levels of BPM adoption. Finally, we encourage work that embraces emeraing and interdisciplinary aspects of BPM, such as decision management and BPM, collective adaptive processes and mobile processes, with the ultimate goal of expanding the horizons of the discipline.

These interests are reflected in the **six thematic areas** of the call for papers:

- BPM in a broader context
- Emerging areas of BPM
- Management aspects of BPM
- Process identification and modeling foundations
- Process analysis and improvement
- Process execution, monitoring and intelligence

Besides the main research track, there will be a dedicated industry track to host papers reporting on problems and experiences related to the deployment of BPM in practice. Moreover, a new track, the "BPM Forum", will gather a selection of the papers that didn't make it to the main research track, yet that present stimulating and innovative ideas, to be discussed at the conference.

Find out more about the call for papers at http://bpm2016.uniriotec.br/. And if you plan to submit to BPM for the first time, you can ask to be considered for a pre-submission shepherding program, through which you can get advice on the positioning and presentation of your paper. If interested, contact the PC

Chairs at bpm2016@easychair.org by February 5th 2016.

The key dates for the main research track are:

- Abstract submission: 7 March, 2016
- Full papers submission: 14 March, 2016
- Notifications: 13 May, 2016
- Camera ready papers: 12 June, 2016

We are looking forward to your papers!

Marcello La Rosa, Peter Loos and Oscar Pastor

BPM 2016 Program Committee Chairs



BPM TEST OF TIME AWARD 2015

The BPM Test of Time Award is given every two years. In 2015 the award was given to the most influential paper presented at BPM 2005 in Nancy and BPM 2006 in Vienna. The decision was made by the Steering Committee of the BPM conference series and was based on impact of the paper on the BPM field (both from a scientific and practical viewpoint), number of citations (Google Scholar and Scopus), technical quality, and presentation.

The "Service Interaction Patterns" paper Alistair Barros, Marlon Dumas, and Arthur ter Hofstede from BPM 2005 proposes a set of 13 patterns describing interactions between different collaborating partners. The paper extends the workflow patterns with a crucial, but often forgotten, perspective. It links service-orientation with BPM by focusing on behavior in multi-party collaborative environments. For example, the authors describe the "Request with Referral" pattern (Pattern 11) where one party sends a message to another party with the request to reply to a specified set of parties (that may not have been involved in the initial communication). Next to describing the patterns, the authors evaluate BPEL in the context such interactions.

The BPM 2005 paper is one of the most cited BPM papers of its period. Several research groups in Germany, The Netherlands, Austria and China followed up on this work. The paper provides a bridge from BPM to the services community. Moreover, it helped to raise more awareness for the inter-process communication challenges in BPM.

Since there were multiple excellent candidates, the Steering Committee decided to also hand out a Runner-Up Award to Sebastian Hinz, Karsten Wolf (born Schmidt), Christian Stahl for their BPM 2005 paper "Transforming BPEL to Petri Nets". The paper provides detailed Petri net semantics for the Business Process Execution Language for Web Services (BPEL). The authors provided the first feature complete translation of BPEL to Petri nets supporting also exceptional behavior (e.g., faults, events, compensation). The approach was implemented as a parser that translates BPEL specifications into the input language of the Petri net model checking tool LoLA. Moreover, the paper demonstrates that

these semantics could be used to advanced complex verification tasks.

The paper is frequently cited and the work was used by many people and organizations in need of formal semantics for BPEL specifications. Although the interest in BPEL has decreased in recent years, the translations are still very valuable and partly timeless. Many WFM and BPM languages and tools use higher-level languages that need to be translated to Petri nets for verification, enactment, reasoning, and compliance checking. Mappings from this paper can be used in most situations that require such a translation.



CALL FOR PAPERS: SMART BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT

The submission deadline for the Special Issue of **Decision Support Systems** on **Smart Business Process Management** is July 1st 2016. This Special Issue invites researchers that work at the intersection of BPM and Smart Technologies to submit original research papers.

Submissions should address research problems in the area of BPM and the intersection of, among others, the follow-

ing (and related) topics: BPM and formal ontologies, BPM and natural language processing, BPM and social media content, BPM and machine learning, BPM and decision support, BPM and process mining, BPM and sensor data, etc.

The special issue embraces submissions on new concepts, techniques, methods and approaches as well as studies that empirically investigate new or existing techniques for their feasibility, effectiveness, efficiency, and usability.

The **call for papers** can be found here.

Special Issue Editors

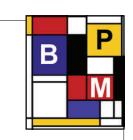
Bart Baesens, Abraham Bernstein, Michael Fellmann, Asunción Gómez Pérez, and Jan Mendling

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For contributions and comments, contact the Editor (Wil van der Aalst), WWW: vdaalst.com, E-mail: www.p.v.d.aalst@tue.nl.

Visit bpm-conference.org



The goal of this newsletter is to further strengthen the BPM community that has been formed over the last decade. The newsletter appears twice per year. Input for the next newsletter is welcome (e.g. activities related to the BPM conference, interviews, contests, new datasets, tools, etc.).

