7th Educators' Symposium @ MODELS 2011: Software Modeling in Education (EduSymp2011)

Preface

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3 pages

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Abstract: The Educators' Symposium focuses on the wide topic of software modeling education ranging from experience reports and case studies to novel pedagogical approaches. Traditionally collocated with the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Model-Driven Engineering Languages and Systems (MODELS), it offers the opportunity for teachers from both academia and industry to present and discuss new ideas and challenges concerning software modeling education. This preface shortly reports on the 7th edition of the Educators' Symposium held in October 2011 in Wellington, New Zealand.

Keywords: Teaching Modeling, Modeling Education

1 Background

Modeling systems plays an important role in todays software development and evolution. Modeling provides goal-oriented abstractions in all phases of software development, which requires deep knowledge on modeling techniques and broad experiences in applying these techniques. Software Engineering is supported by various modeling techniques, providing modeling languages, modeling language definition technologies, and model transformation technologies. Industry and academia successfully realized expressive modeling and meta-modeling languages and mature tools for the practical application.

The Educators' Symposium at MODELS focuses on discussing educating these technologies to software engineers at universities and software industries. Although most computer science curricula include some education in modeling technologies and therefore provide the basic building blocks for modeling, meta-modeling, and model transformation, the whole spectrum of modeling in software engineering is rarely captured, even a curriculum on modeling is not available to define education standards in modeling.

2 Résumé on Educators' Symposium 2011

The Educators' Symposium started with a keynote entitled "Teaching Student Programmers How to Model: Opportunities & Challenges" by Robert France. In this talk he stated that students with some programming expertise tend to view software modeling with great skepticism. He also discussed some challenges of teaching students how to discover and use "good" abstractions in their models.

EduSymp 2011 received 13 papers which have gone through a rigorous review process. Finally, 7 papers have been presented at EduSymp 2011. Those papers are included in this volume.

The last session of the Symposium comprised an intensive discussion on skills and competencies to be educated in modern modeling education. The discussion was introduced by a stimulating position paper by Martina Seidl and Peter Clarke on Software Modelling Education, presented by Jeff Gray. Especially this last session was attended by a lot of participants, indicating that software modeling education is an important issue within the modeling research community.

3   Acknowledgements

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