Welcome to the 14th IEEE International Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC 2006). This year marks an important event, the change of the title of the venue from its former title “IEEE International Workshop on Program Comprehension” (IWPC) to its current new title. This change better reflects the caliber and the scope of the venue as it has evolved during the past thirteen years since its first offering in 1992, in Orlando, Florida. As the General and Program Chairs of this year’s venue, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Steering Committee members, and to the members of the IEEE Technical Committee on Software Engineering who proposed and approved, respectively, this title change. The new venue will certainly follow the steps of high quality and excellence set by the IWPC community over the years.

Program comprehension is a vital software engineering and maintenance activity. It is necessary to facilitate reverse engineering, inspection, reuse, maintenance, and evolution of software systems. More recently, with the use of iterative and incremental process models for software development, and the concept of Round-Trip software engineering, program comprehension, modeling, and evolution are now taking new meanings, where techniques and models primarily used for the comprehension of existing legacy systems can be also considered to support the forward engineering process. In this respect, ICPC aims to provide a top quality forum where these new challenges can be addressed and where researchers and industry practitioners can present, discuss, and debate state-of-the-art and state-of-the-practice approaches, theories, techniques, and tools.

The ICPC 2006 venue boasts an excellent program that consists of two keynote talks, twenty-three technical paper presentations distributed in eight single track sessions, seven short technical paper presentations structured around a special short papers session, eight research tool demonstrations presented in a special tools session, and three half-day parallel working sessions. To ensure a high-quality venue, all papers have been reviewed by at least three expert reviewers who anonymously provided comments to the authors. We hope that you enjoy the program, and that you will find it useful for planning and conducting your future research or industrial projects.

At this point, we would like to thank IBM and the University of Waterloo for providing support and resources for the organization of the conference, the Reengineering Forum as a collaborating organization, and the University of Sannio for hosting the paper submission and paper review site. We would also like to thank the IEEE Computer Society for supporting the event. Finally, we would like to thank the authors, the attendees, the Program Committee, the fellow members of the
Organizing Committee, and the members of the ICPC Steering Committee for their work, comments, and support, which were invaluable for making this conference a success.

This year’s venue is hosted in Athens, Greece, a vibrant, cosmopolitan, and historic city. We encourage you to explore on your leisure time the exciting city of Athens, its archaeological sites, surrounding areas, night life, and culinary delights!

We hope you will enjoy the conference!

Welcome to Athens,

Kostas Kontogiannis, General Chair
Jürgen Ebert and Panos Linos, Program Co-Chairs