

# Preface

Having the international Qualitative Reasoning (QR) workshop in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, started out as an idea during the fourth QR workshop in Lugano, Switzerland, and became specific in the form of a written proposal at the sixth QR workshop in Edinburgh, Scotland. One year later, during the seventh QR workshop in Seattle, USA, it was decided that the ninth QR workshop would be in Amsterdam. It goes without saying that we are proud to have the workshop here in Amsterdam.

We received paper submissions from twelve different countries from all over the world. This is a good sign! About half of the submitted papers were accepted as full papers. To be precise: out of 40 submitted papers, 22 papers were accepted for full paper presentations and 9 papers were accepted for poster presentations.

During the reviewing process it became clear that we had many interesting papers for this year's workshop. Most of the papers that were accepted as full papers received very positive comments from the reviewers. Despite this positive feature, I am personally a little bit worried about the direction that the QR workshop is taking and has been taken over the past few years. It is mainly the diversity of the accepted papers that I feel somewhat uneasy with. It is sometimes hard to see what the common research goals are for the accepted papers. It was even difficult for us to cluster the papers into coherent sessions for the workshop. It seems to me that as a community of researchers we should put more effort in defining what the problems are that we want to tackle and what the solutions are that we think are acceptable. I hope that during this year's panel-discussion we will be able to make a step in this direction.

The program committee of this year's workshop did a very good reviewing job. Despite the huge amount of work, they all carried it out well within the tight schedule that was set out. I was also pleasantly surprised by the strong agreement among independent reviewers. In fact, there was not a single dispute. The program committee would also like to acknowledge the reviewing work done by external reviewers. In particular: Patrick Bourseau, Marie-Odile Cordier, Patrick Danés, François Guerrin, Kees de Koning, Jean-Pierre Lorre, Cis Schut, Spyros Xanthakis and Bernard Yannou.

Finally, I would personally like to thank Kees de Koning and Cis Schut for their seemingly inexhaustible support in helping me to organise this workshop. This was really much appreciated! I will not forget the laughs we had when we held our little brainstorm session about the design for the cover-page of the working papers. Marcel Schut made an excellent drawing out of it.

Bert Bredeweg  
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