I would like to begin my editorial this month by congratulating the JRPIT Associate Editor, Professor Shirley Gregor, on being awarded an Officer (AO) in the General Division in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List in recognition for her wonderful contributions as an educator and researcher.

In this issue we have four papers.

The first paper is “IS/IT Investment Evaluation and Benefits Realization Issues in Australia” written by Chad Lin, Graham Pervan, and Donald McDermid. The authors say: “IS/IT investments in many organizations are huge and increasing rapidly every year and yet there is still a lack of understanding of the impact of the proper IS/IT investment evaluation processes and practices in these organizations. Thus, an in-depth case study of these practices and processes in a large government department, with several major IS/IT projects, was conducted.”

A paper written by Aybüke Aurum, Claes Wohlin, and Håkan Petersson is next, and is titled “Increasing the Understanding of Effectiveness in Software Inspections Using Published Data Sets”. The authors begin by saying: “Since its inception into software engineering, software inspection has been viewed as a cost-effective way of increasing software quality. Despite this, many questions remain unanswered regarding, for example, ideal team size or cost effectiveness. This paper addresses some of these questions by performing an analysis using 30 published data sets from empirical experiments of software inspections. The main question is concerned with determining a suitable team size for software inspections.”

Next we have a paper entitled “Summarisation for Mobile Databases” written by Darin Chan and John F. Roddick. The authors’ summary says: “In mobile computing, issues such as limited resources, network capacities and organisational constraints may cause the complete replication of large databases on a mobile device to be infeasible. At the same time, some on-board data storage is attractive as communication to the main database can be inconsistent. Thus, as the emphasis on application mobility increases, data summarisation offers a useful solution to improving response times and the availability of data. This paper surveys summarisation techniques used for mobile distributed databases.”

The fourth and final paper in this issue is entitled “Advanced Very Low Bit Rate Video Coding Using Preferential Pattern Selection Algorithms” written by Manoranjan Paul and Manzur Murshed. They say: “Reducing the transmission bit-rate while concomitantly retaining image quality continues to be a major challenge for efficient very low bit-rate video compression standards. In this paper a novel idea of selecting a subset of best-matched patterns through (a) preferential selection technique is developed.”

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