Preface

This fourth edition of the EURO Working Group on Decision Support Systems (EWG-DSS) includes selected and extended papers from two major events organized by EWG-DSS in 2014, complemented by an open call on the topic “Information and Knowledge Management in Decision Processes.” The events include the GDN 2014 conference, co-organized by the EWG-DSS and the INFORMS-GDN group; and the DSS Stream organized by the EWG-DSS in the IFORS international conference. Both events were partially supported and sponsored by the EURO Working Group on Decision Support Systems (EWG-DSS) and the Association of European Operational Research Societies (EURO), respectively, in cooperation with: the Business Administration Department of the University of Macedonia in Greece; SimTech Simulation Technology in Austria; University of Toulouse and the Institut de Research en Informatique de Toulouse (IRIT) in France; the University of Liverpool Management School (ULMS) in the UK; UNINOVA Computational Intelligence Research Group (CA3) in Portugal; School of Management, University of Plymouth in the UK; Instituto de Lógica Filosofía e Teoria da Ciência (ILTC) in Brazil; the University of Namur in Belgium; and the University of Belgrade in Serbia.

The major objective of both the GDN 2014 Conference held in Toulouse, France, during June 10–13, 2014, and the 20th IFORS International Conference – DSS Stream (with eight sessions) held in Barcelona, Spain, during July 13–18, 2014, was to bring together academics, researchers, practitioners, and enterprise professionals interested in modeling, implementing, and deploying decision support systems for enhancing the decision-making process in different types of environments, considering conceptual as well as applied approaches. Contributions in both events involved a rich variety of themes. Particular attention was focused on information and knowledge management in decision processes.

At the two events, over 120 papers were presented and assessed by a group of experts and reviewers, including members of the EWG-DSS. In conjunction with the two important events organized by EWG-DSS in 2014 and the open call, we assembled a collection of high-quality submissions. Ten papers of the highest quality as ranked by the Selection Committee were chosen and the authors were invited to extend their papers and submit them for consideration to the LNBIP publication. Moreover, the open Call for Papers attracted another four submissions. The submitted papers were then put through a rigorous review process. Finally, eight papers that received the best evaluation results from the reviewers were selected for publication in this book.

by Nikolaos Ploskas, Ioannis Athanasiadis, Jason Papathanasiou, and Nikolaos Samaras; and the contribution entitled “Trust and Understanding in Face-to-Face and Online Negotiation,” by Yvonne van der Toorn, Per van der Wijst, and Debby Damen.

A second set of four papers studies the information models developed to support the decision process: “Discovering Characteristics That Affect Process Control Flow,” authored by Pavlos Delias, Daniela Grigori, Mohamed Lamine Mouhoub, and Alexis Tsoukias; “Study on Temporal Change of Social Context: In the Case of Bicycle Riding Issue in Japan,” authored by Madoka Chosokabe, Hiroki Takeyoshi, and Hiroyuki Sakakibara; and the contribution entitled “Timing and Decision Making” by Gil Greenstein.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who contributed to the EWG-DSS research events in 2014, including authors, reviewers, Program Committees, and institutional sponsors. Finally, we hope you will find the contents of this EWG-DSS LNBIP edition useful and interesting for your own research activities.

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