It is an interesting time to be a researcher in the field of service-oriented and cloud computing. While the former has been one of the most important paradigms for the development of distributed software applications for a number of years now, the use of services in cloud infrastructures is increasing constantly and rapidly. The European Conference on Service-Oriented and Cloud Computing (ESOCC) is the premier conference on advances in the state of the art and practice of service-oriented computing and cloud computing in Europe. ESOCC evolved from the ECOWS (European Conference on Web Services) conference series. The first edition of the new series, ESSOC 2012, was successfully held in Bertinoro, Italy, the second edition, ESOCC 2013, was held in Malaga, Spain, the third edition, ESOCC 2014, was held in Manchester, UK, and the fourth edition, ESOCC 2015, in Taormina (Messina), Italy. ESOCC 2016 was the fifth edition and was held in Vienna, Austria, during September 5–7, 2016.

ESOCC 2016 featured a research track dedicated to technical explorations and findings in service-oriented computing and cloud computing. After thorough reviewing, 16 papers were accepted for presentation at the research track of ESOCC 2016. These contributions are included as full-length papers in these proceedings. The Program Committee (PC) did a thorough review of the submitted papers. While each paper received at least two reviews, the majority received three. The reviews were provided by the members of the PC, sometimes with the help of additional reviewers. The program chairs initiated discussions and worked closely together to make the final decisions.

As part of the main technical program, we had two excellent keynote talks given by Frank Leymann (Professor of Computer Science at the University of Stuttgart, Germany) and David Costa (CTO and Head of R&D at Fredhopper, The Netherlands). Their talks represent explorations and success stories on topics such as formal methods, loose coupling, architectures, software as a service, and distributive laws.

Along with the main conference program, ESOCC 2016 featured five workshops: the 4th International Workshop on CLoud for IoT (CLIoT 2016), the Second International Workshop on Cloud Adoption and Migration (CloudWays 2016), the First International Workshop on Patterns and Pattern Languages for SOCC: Discovery and Use (PATTWORLD), the First International Workshop on Performance and Conformance of Workflow Engines (PEaCE), and the IFIP WG SOS Workshop 2016 Rethinking Services ResearCH (ReSeRCH). The program of ESOCC 2016 also included a PhD symposium and an EU-projects track.

The end result was a successful ESOCC 2016 program. We express our deep appreciation to the track chairs for the organization of the review process. We also thank all 53 PC members and additional reviewers for taking part in the reviewing and selection process. Our gratitude extends to the chairs and organizers of the EU-project track, workshops, and PhD symposium. We thank the invited speakers for their
valuable contribution to the program. We are grateful to the local Organizing Committee for their support, organization, and hospitality.

Finally, we thank all the authors of technical papers and those who presented their research for contributing to this successful conference. With their work and dedication, ESOCC continues its tradition in advancing the field of service-oriented computing and cloud computing.

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