Preface

“How often we recall, with regret”, wrote Mark Twain about editors, “that Napoleon once shot at a magazine editor and missed him and killed a publisher. But we remember with charity, that his intentions were good.” Fortunately, we live in more forgiving times, and are openly able to express our pleasure at being the editors of this volume containing the papers selected for presentation at the 14th International Conference on Inductive Logic Programming.

ILP 2004 was held in Porto from the 6th to the 8th of September, under the auspices of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computing of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto (FEUP), and the Laboratório de Inteligência Artificial e Ciências da Computação (LIACC). This annual meeting of ILP practitioners and curious outsiders is intended to act as the premier forum for presenting the most recent and exciting work in the field. Six invited talks—three from fields outside ILP, but nevertheless highly relevant to it—and 20 full presentations formed the nucleus of the conference. It is the full-length papers of these 20 presentations that comprise the bulk of this volume. As is now common with the ILP conference, presentations made to a “Work-in-Progress” track will, hopefully, be available elsewhere.

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Apreciam.

Porto, June 2004

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Additional Referees

Annalisa Appice  Murdoch J. Gabbay
Teresa Basile  Kristian Kersting
Margherita Berardi  Nicola Di Mauro
Michelangelo Ceci  Richard Maclin
Yann Chevaleyre  Martijn van Otterlo
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Damjan Demšar  Philip Reiser
Frank DiMaio  Kate Revoredo
Nicola Fanizzi  Taisuke Sato
Stefano Ferilli  Antonio Varlaro
Daan Fierens  Joost Vennekens

Invited Speakers

James Cussens  University of York, United Kingdom
Luc Dehaspe  Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
Jude Shavlik  University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
Wray Buntine  Helsinki Institute of Information Technology, Finland
Pedro Domingos  University of Washington, USA
Steve Oliver  University of Manchester, United Kingdom
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