

Preface

Business Informatics is a discipline that combines Information and Communication Technology (ICT) with the knowledge of management. It is concerned with the development, use, application, and the role of management information systems and other ICT solutions. It is an established academic and research discipline. This is evidenced by the fact that many universities offer degrees in business informatics. The academic teaching programs are not detached from the research. The area of research that lies in the focus of business informatics is constantly evolving. It is clearly visible when you look at the topics of subsequent conferences under the eternal name Perspectives in Business Informatics Research (BIR). The BIR conference series was established 13 years ago as the result of a collaboration of researchers from Swedish and German universities. The goal was to create a forum where researchers in business informatics, both senior and junior, could meet and discuss with each other. The conference series has a Steering Committee, to which one or two persons from every appointed organizer are invited. So far, BIR conferences were held in: Rostock (Germany – in 2000, 2004, 2010), Berlin (Germany – 2003), Skövde (Sweden – 2005), Kaunas (Lithuania – 2006), Tampere (Finland – 2007), Gdańsk (Poland – 2008), Kristianstad (Sweden – 2009), Riga (Latvia – 2011) and Nizhny Novgorod (Russia – 2012). This year's 12th International Conference on Perspectives in Business Informatics Research (BIR) was held in Warsaw (Poland), during September 23rd and 25th, 2013, at the Warsaw School of Economics (SGH), the oldest and most prestigious Polish university of economics and business.

This year the BIR conference attracted 54 submissions from 14 countries: ranging from Taiwan to Peru, and from Sweden to Israel. They were rigorously reviewed by 41 members of the Program Committee representing 21 countries. As the result, 19 full papers (presenting novel research results) and 5 short papers (reporting on preliminary results of ongoing research) from 12 countries have been selected for publication in this volume. The volume also includes invited papers by Witold Abramowicz and Bernhard Thalheim. The papers presented at the conference cover many aspects of the business informatics research, and this year there is a particular emphasis on business process management, enterprise and knowledge architecture, information systems and services, organizations and information systems development. Apart from the main conference satellite events: workshops and a doctoral consortium took place during the first day of the conference.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the BIR 2013 conference. First of all we thank the authors for presenting their research, we appreciate invaluable contributions from the members of the Program Committee and external reviewers and we thank all the members of the local organization team from the Department of Business Informatics at the Warsaw School of Economics for

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their help in the organization of the conference. We acknowledge the EasyChair development team for providing a convenient tool for preparing the proceedings and the Springer publishing team for their collaboration. Last but not least, we thank the Steering Committee and we hope that BIR 2013 will be a memorable link in the BIR conference series.

July 2013

Andrzej Kobyliński
Andrzej Sobczak

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