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PREFACE

The 9th International Conference on Geographic Information Science (September 2016) continued the highly successful GIScience series of conferences. GIScience regularly brings together more than 200 international participants from academia, industry, and government organizations to discuss and advance the state-of-the-art in the field of geographic information science. Since 2004, the biennial conference thas alternated between locations in North America and Europe. For example, GIScience 2012 was in the American Midwest, at Columbus, Ohio, and GIScience 2014 was located in the heart of Europe, hosted by the Vienna University of Technology in Austria. GIScience 2016 took place in Montreal, Canada.

Since its inception in 2000, the biennial GIScience conferences have adopted a two-track program soliciting submissions that describe the highest quality of completed research as well as those that describe the latest work in progress. There is a full paper track with papers up to 15 pages and a short paper track (formerly referred to as the extended abstract track) with papers of 4 pages and up to 1500 words. The short papers are contained in these proceedings, and they are complemented by the the full papers published by Springer as Volume 9927 in the *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* series.

The two-track program is ideally suited to the diversity of disciplines that converge on GIScience, which include (but are not limited to) geography, cognitive science, computer science, engineering, information science, linguistics, mathematics, philosophy, psychology, social science, and (geo)statistics. The combination of full papers and short papers presented through talks and poster sessions has a proven record of delivering an exciting conference program that is both fast-moving and high quality.

The accepted papers provide a snapshot of the breadth of active research topics in the vibrant field of GIScience. The full and short papers showcase a mix of advanced research in topics of long-standing relevance to GIScience (e.g., spatial analysis, spatial cognition, geovisualization, and geo-ontologies) as well as topics of more recent research interest such as user-generated content, linked data, computational movement analysis, and text-based navigation systems.

For GIScience 2016, 152 short papers were submitted. Each paper was thoroughly reviewed by two to four independent members of the international Program Committee. Based on these reviews, supplemented by careful meta-reviews from the program chairs, 51 were accepted for oral presentation and 54 as poster presentations (69% acceptance rate). 102 papers were eventually presented and appear in these proceedings. In addition,

there were 63 full paper submissions, of which 21 were selected for presentation, corresponding to an acceptance rate of 33%. These are published in Springer's *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* Vol 9927.

The conference could not have happened without the work of the general chairs, Renee Sieber and Scott Bell, and the local organizer Raja Sengupta. We would also like to thank Steven Farber and Michael Widener as the workshop and tutorial chairs. And, we are appreciative of the work done by Mir Abolfazl Mostafavi and Gaurav Sinha as sponsorship co-chairs and of Jing Hoon Teo for logistical support.We are also deeply grateful to the GIScience Program Committee for their considered and thorough reviews, as well as those additional reviewers who also contributed their expertise. We would like to thank all the authors who contributed to the conference by submitting full and short papers. Most importantly, we would like to thank all those who came to GIScience as presenters and participants, without whose contributions there would be no conference. The submitters, reviewers, and participants are critical to keeping the field of GIScience fresh, cutting edge, and alive.

Program Chairs

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