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Modular Programming Languages

Joint Modular Languages Conference, JMLC'97
Linz, Austria, March 19-21, 1997
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Preface

The Joint Modular Languages Conference deals with languages, techniques, and tools for the development of modular, extensible, and type-safe software systems. It started out in 1989 as a Modula-2 conference but soon broadened its scope to include languages such as Modula-3, Oberon, Ada95, Eiffel, Sather, and Java, to name just a few. While other conferences such as OOPSLA and ECOOP focus on object-oriented software, JMLC encompasses all kinds of software relying on data abstraction, modular decomposition, and type-checked interfaces. The success of object-oriented technology and componentware is a clear indication that industry and academia are aware of the importance of modularity and extensibility. Although this is a good sign, much remains to be done. The papers in this volume are a step in that direction.

For JMLC'97 we received 55 submissions from which the Program Committee selected 24 to be included in the proceedings. The submissions came from 21 countries spread over all continents. The selected papers deal not only with programming language issues such as language design, compilers, typing, and inheritance, but also with general aspects of software development such as distribution, concurrency, real-time programming, data structures, and teaching. The papers provide a well-balanced view on state-of-the-art software development techniques.

JMLC'97 featured not only technical papers but also two invited talks (included in the proceedings), four tutorials, and a series of short presentations (found in a separate proceedings volume). The short presentations were combined with posters and served as a forum for presenting ongoing research or results that were considered interesting to a more focused audience. Finally, the conference also included a report on the progress of the ISO Modula-2 standardization effort as well as a birds-of-a-feather session on Oberon.

As the Program Chair of JMLC'97 I would like to thank Springer-Verlag for publishing the proceedings as well as Addison Wesley Longman for sponsoring a Best Presentation Award encouraging high-quality presentations at the conference. Many people at the University of Linz and elsewhere helped us to make the conference as convenient as possible for the participants. Last but not least, the authors provided the spirit of the conference, and I would like to thank them particularly.

January 1997

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OCG – Österreichische Computergesellschaft

GI – Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V., Fachausschuß 2.1

SI – Schweizer Informatikergesellschaft

BCS – British Computer Society, Modular Languages SIG

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