

## **Preface**

The BPMDS workshops have successfully served in the past eight years as a forum for raising and discussing new ideas in the area of business process development and support.

During the previous BPMDS workshops, various issues were discussed that could be related to different, but isolated phases in the life-cycle of a business process. In BPMDS'08 the focus is on interaction between two or more phases of the life-cycle, as well as on the holistic view of the whole life-cycle. Furthermore, the relationships between the phases and their associated purposes are investigated.

Various methods dealing with the life-cycle of business processes have been provided in the literature. Even if their process models are more or less different, the principal phases they suggest are similar in terms of targets: design, deployment, operation and evaluation. The design phase starts with requirements definition and their support systems. In the deployment phase, the business process is tested under performance, compliance considerations etc. It is also verified for fulfilling the customer's requirements. After successful testing, the business process is released to operation. In the operation and evaluation phase, both normal operation and the processing of exceptions have to be considered. To identify needs for improvement, the business process has to be measured and analyzed. Then the (re)design phase can start again and the wheel of the continuous improvement (PDCA) turns so.

Each of the phases has one or more purposes. The design phase has the purpose to align the business process with the requirements of the business and to assure its compliance with legal rules etc. The deployment phase has the purpose to verify that the process fits the customer's requirements and to test its performance. In the operation & evaluation phase, the process has to be flexible while supporting the business goals, and evaluation serves the purpose to enhance and improve the process.

The main issues for discussions have been:

- Goals and approaches for Business process life-cycles and their applicability

- Approaches, methods and technologies for the coupling of life-cycle phases
- Management of the business process lifecycle
- Purposes of the business process lifecycle phases and ways to achieve it
- Support for the business process lifecycle
- Metrics and continuous improvement of processes in the life-cycle

The 15 papers accepted to BPMDS'07 cover various phases of the business process lifecycle. They are organized under the following section headings.

### **Opening**

#### **Business process life cycles**

Business process lifecycle may differ in number and types of their phases. Therefore, in this section, business process life cycles for different purposes are presented.

#### **Web Services and the business process life cycle**

Web services and service-oriented architecture (SOA) form challenges concerning the business process lifecycle. These are discussed in this section.

#### **Systematic business process evolution**

The life cycle of business process includes its evolution, aimed at improving the process over time. The papers in this section address methods for systematically achieving such improvement.

#### **Business process evolution: the human perspective**

Evolution and improvement of business processes involves humans, who either initiate process changes or are affected by them, as discussed in the papers of this section

#### **Specific forms of business process life-cycle**

This section is devoted to specific forms of business process life cycle, designed for specific types of situations.

Finally, we wish to thank all the people who submitted papers to the workshop for having shared their work with us, as well as the members of the BPMDS'08 program Committee and the workshop organizers of CAiSE'08 for their help with the Organization of the workshop.

### **Organizers**

Selmin Nurcan - University Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne, France  
Rainer Schmidt - University of Applied Sciences, Aalen, Germany  
Pnina Soffer – University of Haifa, Israel

### **Workshop Program Committee**

Ian Alexander – Scenario Plus, UK  
Ilia Bider– IbisSoft, Stockholm, Sweden  
Signe Ellegaard Borch – IT University of Copenhagen, Denmark  
Stewart Green – University of the West of England, UK  
Elke Hochmüller – Carinthia Tech Institute, Austria  
Paul Johannesson – Royal University of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden  
Marite Kirikova – Riga Technical University, Latvia  
Agnes Koschmider – University of Karlsruhe, Germany  
Peri Loucopoulos – Loughborough University, UK  
Jan Mendling – Vienna University, Austria  
Murali Mohan Narasipuram, City University of Hong Kong  
Selmin Nurcan – University Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne, France  
L.F. Pau – Erasmus University, Netherlands  
Jan Recker – Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia  
Gil Regev – Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale, Lausanne, Switzerland  
Manfred Reichert – University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands  
Peter Rittgen – University College of Borås, Sweden  
Michael Rosemann – Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia  
Rainer Schmidt – University of Applied Sciences, Aalen, Germany  
Pnina Soffer – University of Haifa, Israel  
Markus Strohmaier – University of Toronto, Canada  
Lars Taxén – Linköping University, Sweden  
Barbara Weber – University of Innsbruck, Austria  
Jelena Zdravkovic – Royal University of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden  
Michael zur Muehlen – Stevens Institute of Technology, USA