



45th International Conference on Software Engineering

14-20 May 2023

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

70% of attendees vote for future fully in-person program

Following three virtual events in past years the in-person 45th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE) in Melbourne in 2023 proved a hit with attendees, with 70 per cent calling for an end to online attendance in future.

Just 21 per cent of delegates called for a hybrid format and nine per cent suggested alternating between in-person and virtual moving forward.

For the bulk of attendees, it was good to be back face to face.

And, with such a comprehensive conference program, the 2023 iteration certainly proved its value for the sector, with 1,448 attendees from 62 countries.

ICSE is clearly the premier software engineering conference. Since 1975 it has provided a forum where researchers, practitioners, and educators can come together to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, experiences and issues in the field of software engineering.

ICSE 2023 included a three days main program with a further four days consisting of workshops and co-located events. Fourteen social functions were held including focus group lunches, recreational activities and breakfasts along with the Welcome Reception and the Conference Dinner.

Fast Facts

Client: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and Association for Computing Machinery

Full name of the event: 45th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2023)

Date: 14 - 20 May 2023

Venue: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

Format: In-person

Delegates: 1,448



Conference Highlights



1,448

Delegates
(including sponsors
and exhibitors)



3

Keynote
Speakers



24

Workshops



10

Co-located
Events



63

Remote
Presenters



1,002

In-Person
Presenters



17

Sponsoring
Organisations



14

Social
Functions



Co-located events and workshops

A total of 10 co-located events and 24 workshops were held over the week. These all had their own organising committee, submission process, budgets and their own social functions including dinners and even tennis at Olympic Park.

The co-located events are described as “mini conferences” that the key stakeholder believes may one day attract a large enough delegation that they will no longer be run in conjunction with ICSE.

Within these co-located events and workshops there were 25 virtual presenters with the rest participating in-person.





Main conference program

The main Conference program consisted of 21 different tracks that had their own submission, review and acceptance process. At any one time during ICSE there was as many as 13 concurrent sessions occurring.

The two Program Chairs, with the assistance of the ICMS Australasia team, were responsible for overseeing the whole main conference program, while the 10 Area Chairs ensured reviews were consistent and papers were high quality. There were a further 194 Program Committee Members who assisted with reviewing submitted papers.

The main program included three keynote speakers who presented on controversial and interesting topics within the software engineering sector. These included Sarah Pink, Liming Zhu and Paolo Tonella.

Digital poster boards were prominently displayed to allow delegates to browse and view submitted posters during breaks. Dedicated poster sessions were also promoted, allowing presenters to display their poster and answer questions during afternoon tea breaks.

The strongly supported exhibition space was the primary networking area where all catering was served to ensure exhibitors could have meaningful interactions with delegates.

Also located here was a 'charging station desk' where delegates could sit and re-charge their electronic devices.

Strong website traffic

The ICSE 2023 website was managed and designed by the client with content being created by ICMS Australasia. The website acted as an informative guide and included important key dates and information about the conference.

The website included pages under headings:

- **Attendance** - registration, venue, accommodation, destination, childcare and visa information
- **Tracks** – sub-pages for the numerous tracks that were in the ICSE program
- **Organisation** - individual webpages for the co-located events and workshops as well as committee information
- **Sponsorship** - links to the prospectus and confirmed sponsor acknowledgment
- **Program** - the full final program

The website received more than 1.2 million views. China and the United States were the countries that recorded the most visits to the website which correlates to them having the two highest registration attendance numbers.



Conference App

773

Total Downloads

1,644

Total Profiles

52,149

Total Views

25,431

Unique Views



Strong social program

The Welcome Reception was held in the Level 1 Foyer at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Delegates were treated to modern Australian canapés and Victorian sourced beverages while networking with their industry peers from around the world.

To add to the subtle Australiana touches, Australian wildlife was on display with their professional handlers to allow for some unique photo opportunities. Animals included koalas, snakes, lizards, kangaroo joeys, possums, birds and even crocodiles. Many delegates identified this interactive experience as one of the highlights of ICSE 2023.

The conference party took place at the Showtime Event Centre on the South Wharf Promenade. The Showtime Event Centre was the perfect location for the party due to its close proximity to the conference venue as well as its indoor outdoor feel that truly replicates Melbourne's iconic laneways.

Guests were greeted by body painted Australian native flora and fauna. As the evening progressed the flora and fauna dispersed throughout the venue, providing the ultimate photo opportunity.

Delegates were able to indulge in multiple food stations that highlighted Melbourne's unique and multicultural cuisines including Asian, Spanish and Italian.

To appeal to the software engineering delegation multiple Sketchbots were present. The Sketchbots took a photo of the guest using an iPad and then stencilled out their face on an ICSE 2023-branded piece of paper, leaving the guest with their own take home memento.

To really get the party going a seven piece band, Hit Parade, helped to fill up the dancefloor and ensure delegates had a great evening to remember.

