Preface

The goal of the IFL symposia is to bring together researchers actively engaged in the implementation and application of functional and function-based programming languages.

This volume contains the proceedings of IFL 2020, which was held in the period 2nd – 4th September 2020. Originally the symposium was planned to take place on the Canterbury campus of the University of Kent in Canterbury, UK. However, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was changed to a virtual online event with presentations, discussions and social gatherings all done via the online video meeting system Zoom.

The chairs of IFL 2019, Jurrien Stutterheim (Standard Chartered Bank Singapore) and Wei Ngan Chin (National University of Singapore), gave their financial surplus to IFL 2020. Together with free administrative and technical support from the University of Kent, especially by technician Daniel Knox, this enabled free participation at IFL 2020. Thus a record number of 156 people registered and up to 80 people at a time participated on Zoom.

Following IFL tradition, IFL 2020 used a post-symposium review process to produce the formal proceedings. Before the symposium authors submitted draft papers via EasyChair. These draft papers were only screened by the program chair to make sure that they are within the scope of IFL. The draft papers were made available to all participants at the symposium. 28 papers were presented at the symposium. After the symposium every presenter was invited to submit a full paper, incorporating feedback from discussions at the symposium. Again via EasyChair 20 papers were submitted of which 14 were accepted by the program committee for these final proceedings. Reviewing was single blind with at least 3 reviewers per paper.

The programme committee also selected the best paper presented at IFL 2020 and awarded it the Peter Landin Prize. The winners are

Kavon Farvardin and John Reppy
with their paper

A New Backend for Standard ML of New Jersey

The prize, which carries a cash award equivalent to €150, is provided by Greg Michaelson and Kevin Hammond.

Finally, a (virtual) meeting of the steering committee took place at the symposium. After more than 30 years the founder of IFL, Rinus Plasmeijer, stepped down as steering committee chair. The steering committee elected Jurriaan Hage as new chair and Pieter Koopman as new publicity chair. IFL 2021 will be organised by Pieter Koopman and Peter Achten, Radboud University, The Netherlands.

Olaf Chitil, Chair
Canterbury, June 2021
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