



20th European Conference on Object-Oriented Programming

Nantes, Cité des Congrès, July 3-7, 2006

<http://2006.ecoop.org/>

FINAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Our strategy in organizing ECOOP 2006 in Nantes was as follows:

- a unique place to welcome all the ECOOP associated scientific events, located in Nantes downtown, very close to the hotels and the train station (according to the AITO feedback following our bid presentation),
- a strict control of the budget since we took the risk of renting the Nantes Convention Center (versus using for free the University or Ecole des Mines facilities **but** outside Nantes downtown),
- a centralised and small organisation, all the budget being managed by a sole entity (Ecole des Mines),
- to reuse and adapt the registration system developed for ECOOP 2003 in Darmstadt (thanks to Mira Mezini) rather than using the Convention Center registration services. Nevertheless we hired on the budget of the conference a temporary assistant for 6 months (March to August) to work at full time on the organization in general and the registration in particular,
- to launch immediately (as soon as our bid was accepted in august 2005 during the AITO annual meeting) the website and to use it incrementally as the main advertising support,
- to invest time (until the opening of the conference itself) in contacting sponsors at the institutional, academic and corporate levels focusing on the celebration of the 20th edition,
- to contract again with Richard van de Stadt for using CyberChair to manage the process review and the proceeding edition,
- to offer attractive fees for the participants including the lunches and a social event per day,

Obviously, you can have a look on ECOOP 2006 website: <http://2006.ecoop.org/>. All the main information should still be available.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FEES

The organizing committee decided to simplify as much as possible the fee categories. Then we introduced only two kind of participants: students and regulars.

ECOOP 2006 - FEES						
	Category		Tutorials			
Regular	Conference	Workshop only	1 Tutorial	2 Tutorials	3 Tutorials	4 Tutorials
Early	500 €	250 €	200 €	360 €	480 €	560 €
Late	600 €	300 €	260 €	450 €	620 €	720 €
On site	700 €	350 €	300 €	520 €	710 €	830 €
Student	Conference	Workshop only	1 Tutorial	2 Tutorials	3 Tutorials	4 Tutorials
Early	300 €	160 €	100 €	180 €	240 €	280 €
Late	400 €	200 €	130 €	225 €	310 €	360 €
On site	500 €	260 €	150 €	260 €	355 €	415 €
Tutorials only			1 Tutorial	2 Tutorials	3 Tutorials	4 Tutorials
Early			250 €	450 €	600 €	700 €
Late			310 €	540 €	740 €	860 €
On site			350 €	610 €	830 €	970 €

On the one hand, we broke down the increasing fees of the past recent ECOOP by providing attractive prices including the conference/workshop pass, the lunches, the social program and the banquet (only for non students). On the other hand, we did not offer special rates for the PC or the AITO members (referring to the ECOOP 2005 financial deficit as an excuse).

We discussed the ECOOP 2000 option of not providing the lunches, by letting the attendees choose themselves a place to eat. But we estimated that in July there were not enough restaurants available around the Convention Center to welcome all the potential attendees during the 12:00-14:00 time slot. Consequently, the lunches were organized at the Convention Center negotiated at the very good rate of 15 euros.

At the very end, when we were sure to balance our budget, we decided to make a special price (at real cost, i.e. **300 euros** for an attendee staying all the 5 days) for twelve members of the organizing LINA laboratory (the computer science lab grouping together Ecole des Mines and the University of Nantes).

GLOBAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

After the ECOOP 2005 difficulties, we were strongly aware that balancing our budget could be a real challenge. At the same time we were expecting that celebrating the 20th edition in France will probably bring some more people together. It turned out that the final total number of participants was **438**, so just below the average ECOOP participation (436 in Norway for ECOOP 2004, 369 for ECOOP 2003 in Darmstadt, 483 for ECOOP 2002 in Malaga, 450 for ECOOP 2001 in Budapest, 600 for ECOOP 2000 in Nice, 480 for ECOOP 1999 in Lisbon and 700 for ECOOP 1998 in Brussels).

Finally, thanks to a strict policy concerning the budget and to a high level of sponsoring (more than **75 000 €**), we got a final benefice of **34 699 €**.

ECOOP 2006 BUDGET			
		INCOME	EXPENSES
Publicity and printing	Advertizing		2 252
	Mailing		89
	Conference guide		1 602
	Badges, banquet tickets		534
Total Publicity and printing		0	4 477
Conference	PC Meeting		8 824
330	Invited speakers		1 618
120	Conference fees	92 370	
450	Donation Pays de Loire Council	14 500	
	Donation Bretagne Council	3 000	
	Donation City of Nantes	10 079	
	Industrial sponsoring	40 711	
	Academic sponsoring	6 784	
	Insurance		
270	Proceedings		9 976
100	Venue		
370	Room rent+coffee breaks+lunches		90 839
	Banquet	2 380	26 363
Total Conference		169 824	137 620
Tutorials	Speaker reimbursement		2 882
0	Material		
participants	Tutorial fees	13 215	
16	Tutorial lunches		
speakers	Tutorial proceedings		402
	Workshop fees	32 780	
Total Tutorials		45 995	3 284
Caterer	Welcome party		8 612
Conf+WK	Wages		
Total Caterer		0	8 612
Exhibition	Booth rental		285
	Exhibition fees		
Total Exhibition		0	285
Merchandise	Bags, goodies		7 042
Total Merchandise		0	7 042
Organisation	Student Volunteers		4 835
	Post Ecoop dinner		732
	Office material		90
	Conference videoprojector		
	AITO meeting		1 461
	Transportation		
	Wifi		863
	Banking		1 339
	Administration		
	External Services		
	Assistant		11 000
	AITO loan	25 000	25 000
Total Organisation		25 000	45 320
Accompanying		520	
Total		241 339	206 640
Balance		34 699	

Some comments about the main items of the budget given on previous page:

- The PC meeting expenses include the PC meeting **plus** the CyberChair convention. The PC meeting was held at the University of Paris-6 on February 2-3 (thanks to J. Malenfant and J.-F. Perrot). We only pay 1 824 € for two lunches, one dinner, and the coffee breaks. Once again Richard van de Stadt was in charge of the review process and the proceedings delivering. Since we have no long term formal agreement between his company (Borbola) and AITO, we have to pay 7 000 € fees for this task (2 000 € in November when the site was open, 3 000 € in February after the PC meeting, and 2 000 € in May when the proceedings were sent to Springer),
- The invited speaker expenses include mainly S. Abiteboul expenses and some hotel nights for the 20th panellists who did not have guest status. Notice that the expenses of E. Gamma and R. Johnson (the Dahl-Nygaard prize winners), were directly paid by the AITO treasurer since this association is also in charge of delivering this prize,
- The proceedings expenses correspond to 300 samples of the proceedings (+ 50 free copies given to the PC chair). The cost¹ of editing the proceeding is evaluated according to the Springer rules taking into account the number of copies (300) and the size of the volume (527 pages),
- The goodies expenses cover “a sailor bag” distributed to every attendee,
- The student expenses covers the cost of the student volunteer program. We welcomed 25 of them for a total cost of 4 835 € (Hotel 2 000 € and extra daily expenses 2 835 €),
- The assistant expenses correspond to the salary of G. Maraval, hired for 6 months to work at full time with the local organizers (and more precisely to manage the registration, to prepare the conference guide and this final report),
- Conference video projectors: all the mobile video projectors were lent by the University and EMN. The only real expense was the rental of the video projector for the conference auditorium. In fact this expense is included in the « room rent, coffee breaks and lunches » line of this final budget.

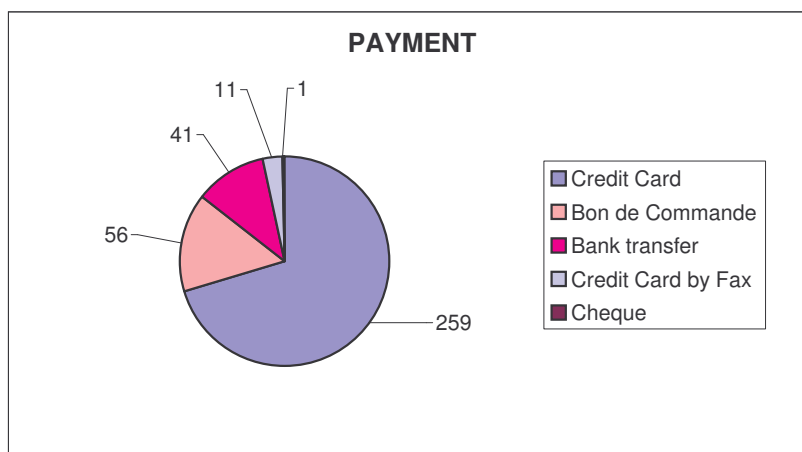
Finally since the French State is its own insurer we don't have to budget any insurance expense.

¹ 9 976 € = (300 * 0,475 * 64) + 335,61 [transportation] + 520 [VAT]

PAYMENT

We offered a wide range of means of payment: credit card (on line through the ECOOP website, or by fax), cheque, bank transfer, and «purchase order» for French academic attendees (a kind of institutional order). Most of the participants chose to pay on line by credit card, which was for us a considerable gain of time. We had very few problems with this kind of payment, and they were all solved during the conference. If possible, avoid proposing the credit card payment by fax. In that case, most of the people forgot to fulfil the on line registration form, and then were not registered in our database.

We had some post-payment problems, either from the sponsors or from the attendees. In fact we had to wait more than two months after the end of the conference to recover all the due amounts.



SPONSORING

It was a continuous effort to get sponsoring from corporate and institutional partners. At the end, the result of 75 000€ was beyond our initial expectation. In fact we proposed three sponsoring levels (see also the annex), as listed below:

- ✓ Gold level: sponsoring up to 15 000 €
- ✓ Silver level : sponsoring up to 5 000 €
- ✓ Bronze level: sponsoring up to 1 500 €

We received 6 bronze grants from national and regional companies. We got 3 silver and 1 gold grant from companies involved since a long time with the ECOOP community. To get these grants, the main difficulty was to identify the right contact person.

	Paid	Pending	Total
Institutions			
Pays de Loire Council	14 500		
Bretagne Council	3 000		
City of Nantes	10 079		
			27 579
Academics			
ERCIM	2 000		
University of Nantes		1000	
LINA		1000	
INRIA	4 784		
			6 784

Companies			
ILOG	1 500		
France Telecom	2 000		
Sodifrance	1 500		
Softeam	1 500		
IST	1 500		
Sodius	1 500		
IBM (Reserach+France+US)	5 000		
GOOGLE	5 000		
SUN Microsystems	4 922		
Microsoft Research UK	5 000		
Microsoft Research USA	6 289		
Microsoft France	5 000		40 711
Final amount		75 074	

One suggestion for the next ECOOP would be to increase the bronze level up to 3 000 € and the silver level up to 8 000 €. It would also be interesting to memorize among the AITO board the name of the contact persons for companies such as Sun, Microsoft, Gold and IBM. Notice also, that this year some PC members help in identifying this contact point.

Another suggestion would be not to forget a European society such as ERCIM that has a special sponsorship policy: once a year they make a special call for sponsoring events such as ECOOP. This is important for the ECOOP organizers not to miss it. Finally we spent a lot of time trying to get support from the EEC, and once again it turns impossible to transfer EEC money for sponsoring a conference (nevertheless it was the opportunity to organize an EEC workshop on Fundamental Research in Software Engineering!)

ORGANIZATION

GENERAL ORGANIZATION

Dave Thomas the PC-Chair was nominated by AITO shortly after acceptance of the Nantes bid in August 2005.

The organizing co-chairs were Pierre Cointe and Jean Bezivin on behalf of Ecole des Mines and the University of Nantes..

Thomas Ledoux (EMN-INRIA, LINA) and Antoine Beugnard (ENST Bretagne) acted as our tutorial co-chairs, while Mario Südholt (EMN-INRIA, LINA) and Charles Consel (LABRI, INRIA) acted as the workshop co-chairs. In fact, for tutorials and workshops the idea was to constitute a tandem with a local chair and an external chair. This choice had the practical advantage to facilitate the interface with the organizing committee.

Didier le Botlan (EMN-INRIA, LINA), our webmaster and registration chair, did the wonderful job of improving Darmstadt (ECOOP 2003) registration program, which greatly helped us. This program was mainly used by Geneviève Maraval to anticipate the number and the repartition of attendees. This program is obviously still available and if you are interested in reusing it, please contact Didier Le Botlan at his new affiliation: lebotlan@insa-toulouse.fr

Catherine de Charette (EMN) was our treasurer. She also coordinated the interactions with the Convention Center, managed the social program, and finalized the relations with the regional sponsors. Christian Attiobé was the local arrangement chair. He worked with Catherine de Charette and the tutorial/workshop chairs to optimize the rooms allocation before and around the conference.

Yann-Gaël Guehéneuc (Montréal University) acted as the Student Volunteers Chair and had the hard task to select and coordinate 26 PhD students (10 locals and 15 from all over the world).

Hervé Grall (EMN-INRIA, LINA) and Julien Cohen (EPUN, LINA) were responsible for the Posters and Demos sessions.

Christian Janin (EMN) and Jean-Marc Menaud (EMN-INRIA, LINA) were in charge of providing the computers and the network for the conferences, but also providing and managing the Wifi hot spots at the Convention Center.

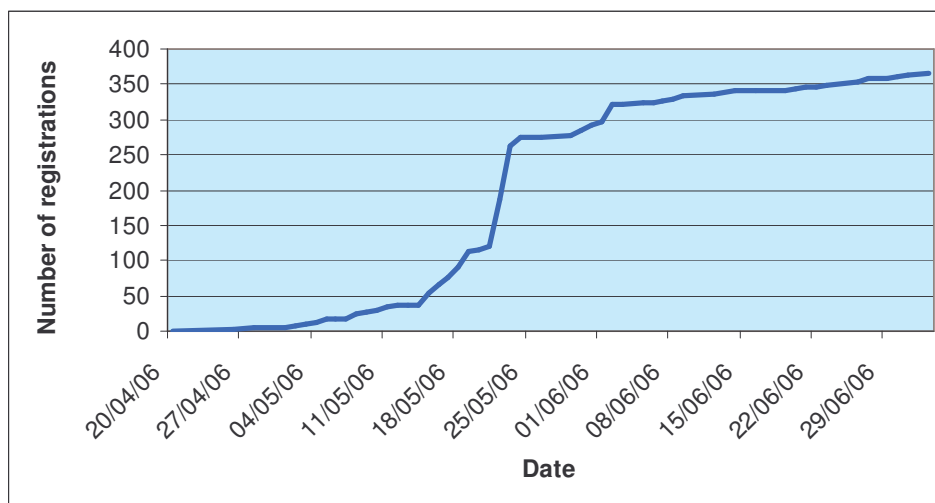
Olivier Roux (ECN, IRCCyN) and Nathalie le Calvez (EMN) were our publicity chairs.

Once again Richard van de Stadt “served” as the ECOOP Cyber chair. He did the great job of delivering in time the proceedings to Springer.

Mircea Trofin was the PhD/Doctoral Symposium chair.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Like the former ECOOP organisers, we used an online registration system which worked really well as it was an extension of the ECOOP 2003 one. The system was made available in mid

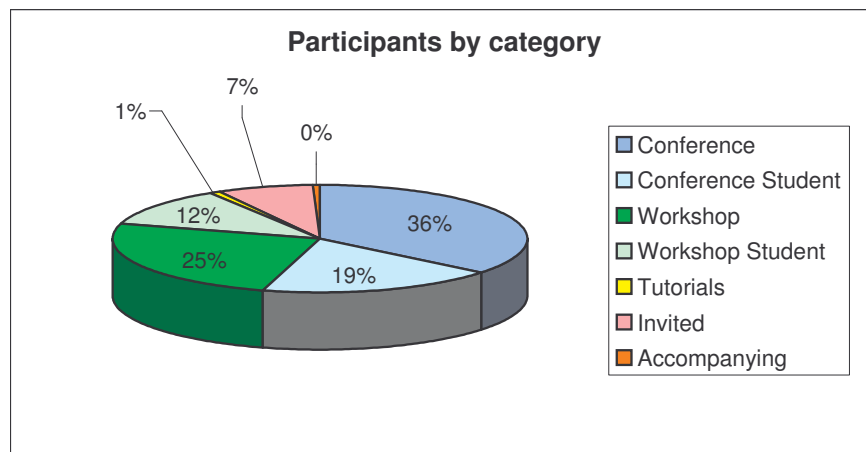


April. We had to propose some registration forms by fax, as our first attendees were strongly willing to register early! Anyway, opening the system more than 2 months before the conference appeared to be sufficient. We indeed had no surprise with the registration curve that looks like the standard one.

At the end of the early registration, it was decided to extend it for ten days as the number attendees numbers was under our previsions and launched at the same time a new advertising campaign. This brought us 48 new participants.

At the end, there were a total of **438 participants** (including 366 regular conference/workshops attendees). Around 80% of them came from the academic world, and only 20% from the industry.

REGISTRATIONS ECOOP 06							
	CONFERENCE		WORKSHOPS		TUTORIAUX		
	Regular	Student	Regular	Student	Reg 1 Tut	Reg 2 tut	Reg 3 tut
Early	124	75	88	42	1		1
Late	12	6	11	4		2	
TOTAL	136	81	99	46	1	2	1
	217		145				
TUTORIALS REGISTRATIONS							
	PACK 1		PACK 2		PACK 3		PACK 4
Early regular	8	Early regular	6	Early regular	1	Early regular	3
Early student	9	Early student	6	Early student	1	Early student	
Late regular	1	Late regular	2	Late regular	1	Late regular	2
		Late student	1	Late student	1	Late student	
FREE REGISTRATION							
Accompanying	Organizers	Tutorial speakers	Conference speakers		Student Volunteers		Sponsors
2	17	14	3		25		11
							72
Total participants :							438

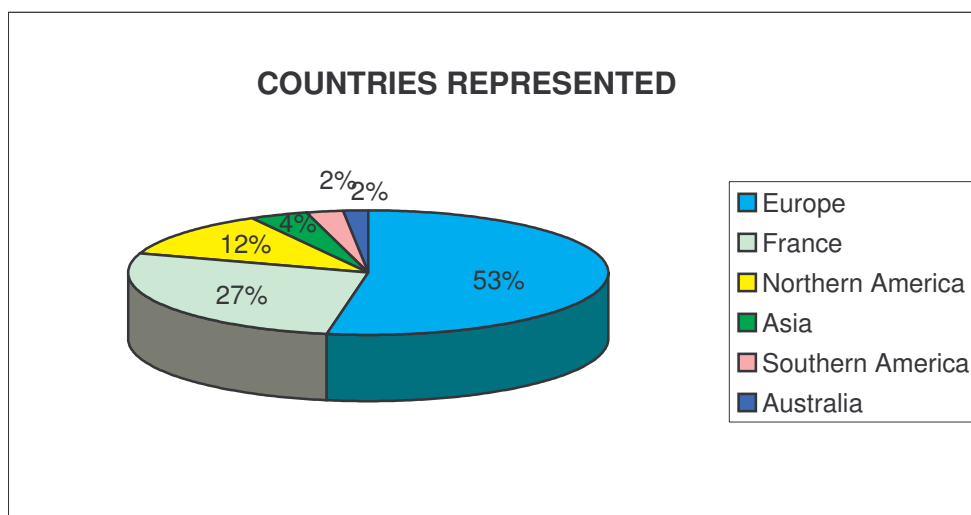


We were a bit surprised by the big ratio of students among the total number of participants. It is also a fact that more and more people come **only** to the workshops (145) and leave before the beginning of the conference itself. We hadn't expected such a big proportion of workshop attendees only. It will be quite important to deal with this new trend for the next ECOOP (a discussion should be raised at the AITO level). For our bid, we had based our initial budget on a larger proportion of regular conference attendees and were expecting a bigger income, which could have been a real problem without our good level of sponsoring.

The other surprise came from the low number of tutorial attendees, (especially in comparison with ECOOP 2004 in Oslo). We finally sold **96** tutorial units, but most of them a few days before the end of the early registration. This may be explained by the fact that coming to a tutorial is not a habit for most of the French companies. We indeed got very little participation from them.

This year we only had two people registered as accompanying persons. Most of the other didn't register to the conference, but only bought tickets to come to the banquet.

We received more than 400 registrations coming from 40 different nationalities : Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, Austria, Hungary, New Zealand, USA, Chile, Spain, Argentina, Romania, Italia, Turkey, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Czech Republic, China, Colombia, India, Israel, Japan, Ireland, Macao, Malta, Netherlands, Korea, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Switzerland but also Ghana, Guinea, Uzbekistan, Tunisia and Morocco, which was a time problem (see the next section concerning the invitation letters).



The registration desk was opened on Sunday afternoon (from 4 to 7 PM), which was really useful. On the other days, the desk was opened at 8.30 every day until Thursday. We then started at 8.45. We experienced some capacity problems on Monday morning. Some people had to queue for up to 15mn.

We had decided to make three teams composed of a student volunteer and a member of the organization staff. This brought 2 kinds of problems: at least one of the members of the organization staff had to deal with everyday problems or emergencies and then couldn't stay at the registration desk. The 2nd problem was that the student volunteers would change every half day and so were not very « professional ». If possible, it should be better to choose one or two student volunteers for the registration desk during the whole week.

INVITATION LETTERS

27 persons from Ghana, but also from Tunisia, Morocco and Uzbekistan registered online (some of them with a great number of accompanying persons). All of them asked for invitation letters. Like the previous ECOOP organisers, our policy was to send such letters only when the attendees had paid and, if possible, proved that they really were interested to come in Nantes to participate to the conference.

At the end, none of them came. Even if we knew that it might be so, we definitely lost a lot of time answering their numerous emails or phone calls.

We also had such queries from 3 people coming from India and China. All of them had either submitted for a workshop or were coming from a computing laboratory, and they came to the conference.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Traditionally Monday and Tuesday were dedicated to workshops and tutorials. The main conference took place from Wednesday until Friday (closing after the lunch).

WORKSHOPS

Timeline

- 4 Oct. 05: invitation of program committee
- 2 Dec. 05: workshop proposals received
- 30 Jan. 06: workshop acceptance notification
- 21 Feb. 06: fix distribution of workshops
- 27 Feb. 06: workshops CFPs due
- 5 May 06: paper acceptance notifications, info on submissions due
- 8 May 06: workshops schedules fixed
- 19 Jun. 06: choice of room configurations, etc.
- 18 Sep. 06: CFC for workshop reader (Springer LNCS)
- 18 Oct. 06: contributions for workshop reader
- May 07: publication of the workshop reader

Pre-conference organization of the workshops went rather smoothly. The major problematic issue has been that some workshop organizers did not respect the deadlines we had fixed, in particular, delaying the deadline for paper submission and acceptance notifications of their workshops. This caused problems with respect to the timing of the early registration deadline. All other potential issues turned out to be unproblematic. Workshop selection was especially simple because the number of proposals roughly matched the number of available slots: we just merged two proposals and sent half of the workshops instructions on how to delimit the scope in order to reduce overlap between the proposals.

The 19 workshops(see appendix for details) featured 5-18 accepted papers (often adding an invited speaker) and attracted between 10-40 participants (a majority being on the small side). All but one workshop have been one-day events, one workshop has been scheduled on two days. Notice that 4 workshops were cancelled (initially we accepted 23 of them).

The on-site organization of the workshops has not revealed serious difficulties either. The main problem at this point was that we did not know about the actual numbers of participants until just before the beginning of the workshops. As a result, two workshops had to be relocated dynamically. There have been some minor issues concerning the infrastructure provided to workshop organizers (insufficient bandwidth for the Internet connection, etc.).

Finally, there are two remarks concerning dissemination. We have not provided workshop organizers with any support to publish their proceedings. We have, however, negotiated with Springer a 2006 edition of the ECOOP workshop reader (published as LNCS 4379 in May 2007).

TUTORIALS

12 tutorials were selected out of 25 proposals. They were only had half day tutorials. We had to cancel one tutorial due to a lack of attendees. They were hosted during the conference: 6 on Monday, 5 on Tuesday. They are listed in the following table.

T	Title	Contact	Final Reg.
T1	MDA: Techniques for letting MDA be accessible to all	P. Desfray (Softeam)	7
T2	EJB3 and Annotations: annotation driven metadata of domain models	E. Bernard (JBoss Europe)	6
T3	An Introduction to .NET using Visual Basic 9 and C# 3.0	E. Meijer (Microsoft)	9
T4	A Language Geek Perspective of LINQ, XLINQ, DLINQ	E. Meijer (Microsoft)	15
T5	The Eclipse Debug Framework	B. Freeman-Benson (Eclipse Foundation)	2
T6	Java Tool Smithing - Extending the Eclipse JDT	J. Lanneluc (IBM France) and M. Aeschlimann (IBM Switzerland)	3
T7	The Fractal component model and ecosystem: supporting platforms, extensions and usages in real life	J.-B. Stefani (INRIA) & T. Coupaye (FT R&D)	7
T8	Aspect Oriented Programming with Spring AOP and AspectJ	A. Colyer & R. Harrop (Interface 21)	10
T9	Software Factories	S. Cook (Microsoft)	20
T10	Developing a Domain-Specific Modeler with the Eclipse Graphical Modeling Framework (GMF)	R. Gronback & A. Tikhomirov (Borland)	10
T11	Agile Software Development in the Large	Jutta Eckstein (IT communication)	cancelled
T12	Feature Modularity in Software Product Lines	D. Batory (University of Texas at Austin)	7

Tutorial attendance varied greatly (from 2 to 20 participants). We can notice the good result of the Microsoft tutorials which attracted about 45% of the participants!

As a whole, we served 96 tutorial units (a tutorial unit corresponds to half a day). This is rather disappointing and the economic result was not profitable. Generally, what can be said is that the tutorial organization took a lot of time for little profit. It could be worth reconsidering the tutorials fees (200 € for one unit, early registration price) in order to attract a bigger academic audience.

Proposals were selected by the two Tutorial Chairs, who also asked for advice from the Organizing Chairs and the Program Chair. We tried to give an innovating and various point of view on programming languages and software engineering: from Microsoft technology (.NET, DSL) to open-source community (Eclipse, JBoss, Interface 21), from specific topics of languages (annotations, aspects, VB9&C#3) to MDA (software factories, GMF) via CBSE (Fractal, EJB). Some of the tutorials were held for the first time in Europe.

This year a few things changed concerning the Guidelines for tutorials.

First of all, we offered **no honorarium**, but only travel compensation, free pass to the conference, and accommodation up to 2 nights.

In fact, speaker reimbursements were limited thanks to speakers who accepted to pay for their travel: we only had to reimburse part of their travel cost to 4 tutorial speakers.

One student volunteer was allocated to a tutorial and up to 3 or 4 when there was room.

Some of the tutorials were set up in small offices, when the participants were less than 10. This was more or less appreciated by some of them.

We made a special questionnaire for tutorials. We can conclude that most attendees are not regular ECOOP participants. For almost 50%, this is their first participation and 50% expect to attend the next edition. The overall rating of tutorial is 4 – good - (on a scale of 5 from very bad to very good). We asked for an evaluation of documentation, animation of the tutorial, its organization and consistency with the expectations.

Among the remarks made by the attendees, we can note:

- suggested topics: declarative programming languages, CBSE
- organization improvements: smoker corner, make the presentation available on the web
- other remarks were directed to the speakers (thus we suggest to the next organisers to return the questionnaire to speakers)

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The Programme Committee received 162 submissions, and accepted 20 of them (12%). These papers were presented in a single track programme.

DAHL NYGAARD PRIZE

This year the Prize was given to the « Gang of Four » for their work on « Design Patterns ». Unfortunately, two of the prize winners were not present: John Vlissides (and Richard Helm. Like for ECOOP 2005, this Dahl-Nygaard Prize provided 2 of the 3 keynotes (invited speakers).

Notice that the ECOOP organizers do not have to support any hotel or transportation cost for the prize-winners, this is done directly by the AITO treasurer.

20th EDITION SESSION

ECOOP 06 hosted a special session for its 20th edition: a panel of 6 pioneers of the OO technology (C. Chailloux, S. Cook, W. Cook, O. Lerhmann Madsen, H. Lieberman and A. Yonezawa) were invited to discuss about the future. After discussion with D. Thomas (PC Chair), their position papers were included in the proceedings.

EXHIBIT

Initially, 2 booksellers should have come: Springer-Verlag and Thomson-Gale. But a few days before the conference Thomson-Gale informed us that they couldn't send anyone on their stand (then we decided to cancel their participation rather than allocating some SV to animate this stand).

Our agreement with Springer was saying that we could get the unsold books in return for the stands. It would have been more useful and interesting to ask for more free proceedings.

Some of our sponsors like Google, IBM, and IST (a local company) had a booth too.

All of them were settled in the convention centre's mezzanine, i.e. next to the refreshments area and to the registration desk. We did not experience any problem, since the convention center agreed to manage the exhibit material deliveries.

POSTERS

Time line

- 15 feb. 2006: Call for posters
- 5 may 2006: Submission deadline
- 15 may 2006: Acceptance notification (before early registration deadline)
- 15 may 2006: Deadline extension
- 28 may 2006: Summary due (to be included in the conference guide)
- 29 jun. 2006: Call closure (one week before ECOOP conference)

Selection

- Before 5 may 2006: 13 accepted / 15 submissions
- Before 29 jun. 2006: 3 accepted / 4 submissions
- Total: 16 accepted / 19 submissions

ECOOP 2006 finally presented **16** posters from Tuesday evening until Friday. In comparison with the previous ECOOP (very few at ECOOP 05, 9 posters at ECOOP 04), we were quite satisfied with this number.

Our relative « success » with the posters may be due to an extension of the deadline (some posters were submitted a few days before the conference), and to the fact that we had decided to accept all the posters, provided they would have a scientific interest, evaluated according two criteria:

- relevance to ECOOP,
- clarity of submission.

In addition to a permanent display, we organized two dedicated sessions. We began with a poster session during the Tuesday evening cocktail which took place in the Convention Center. We thought it would be practical and convivial. It worked out well.

The other poster session took place during the longer Thursday afternoon coffee break.

We also made a call for posters for the "industrial day" to the attention of local companies. But we hardly received anything: only one poster.

DEMONSTRATIONS

Time line

- 15 february 2006: Call for demonstrations
- 5 may 2006: Submission deadline
- 15 may 2006: Acceptance notification (before early registration deadline)
- 15 may 2006: Deadline extension
- 28 may 2006: Description due (to be included in the conference guide)
- 29 jun. 2006: Call closure (one week before ECOOP conference)

Selection

- Before 5 may 2006: 10 accepted / 10 submissions
- Before 29 jun. 2006: 1 accepted / 1 submissions
- Total: 11 accepted / 11 submissions
- 2 demonstrations cancelled

9 demonstrations took place between Wednesday and Thursday, which is more than during ECOOP 05 (4 demos) and ECOOP 04 (3 demos). As for posters, we had decided to accept all the demonstrations, provided they would have a scientific interest, evaluated as the posters according to two criteria:

- relevance to ECOOP,
- clarity of submission.

It was a real debate among the organization committee to decide whether the demonstrations would be set up in parallel with the technical program or not. We finally decided to do so.

However, we avoided proposing some demonstrations during the keynotes and the special 20th edition session, and we tried to ensure that the demonstration was a real alternate to the technical program in order to avoid a participant being interested in both the conference talk and the demonstration.

We had also planned to propose some additional sessions on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, a la carte.

Actually, only one demonstration was played twice. Each demonstration lasted 30 minutes.

Perhaps this duration is too short since some demonstrators seemed frustrated.

BOFs

The Organizing Committee was aware that providing rooms on a large period was quite important for the attendees' satisfaction. But it brought some extra costs, as hiring a room after 7PM implicated that a security agent had to make extra hours. For this reason we only planned 2 rooms from 5 to 9PM on Tuesday and Wednesday evening, and during the longer afternoon coffee break on Thursday. It seems that 2 rooms available during the whole day would have been more efficient. Because of the lack of chairs and tables in the common areas, we received quite a lot of demands for places where to work, alone or with a little group.

SOCIAL PROGRAM

The social events program began on Monday evening by a Welcome Party organized in Le Lieu Unique (an ancient biscuit factory transformed into a modern cultural centre), which was very close to the convention centre. For this party we had chosen a wine and cheese theme, and it was a big success. On Tuesday evening, 2 cocktails were organised at the convention center: a first one, offered by the Pays de la Loire council, and a second one by Eclipse. This was a bit of a problem to have them both on the same evening. Eclipse didn't get so many participants, at least at the beginning.

On Wednesday was the civic reception which took place in the museum of Fine Arts instead of the traditional Town Hall. After the cocktail and speeches, the participants were offered to visit the museum. The idea was really appreciated but unfortunately there was no English-speaking guide... Even if we had asked for this!

Our banquet took place on Thursday evening in the Château de la Poterie, after a boat trip on the river Erdre. After some long discussions between the organizers, no special activity was planned during the banquet, except for a special « birthday cake » and some champagne. After all, it seems that it would have been nicer to choose something, either fireworks or jazz band/music, but something!

ACCOMPANYING PERSON'S PROGRAM

Our offer for the accompanying persons included all lunches and breaks, plus the social program, at self cost. We did not propose some special tourist tour, and were not asked to do so.

ACCOMMODATION

Nantes Convention Center offers an online accommodation system, and we were happy to delegate this work.

Additionally, we gave some hotel addresses on our website, with a quick description. We only made the hotel reservations for the tutorial speakers, some of the « VIPs » and the student volunteers (silver plan). Even so, it took a lot of time to handle with all the time schedule changes!

It also seems that some participants experienced a few problems with the convention center system. At the end, very few people registered through this system: only 10% and most of the participants did their hotel reservations by themselves. This had an unexpected consequence for us: we couldn't know the exact number of meals to order to the caterer, and ordered too many on Monday, Tuesday and Friday!

TRANSPORT

We provided all the attendees with a free pass for all public transports during the whole conference. It also included the airport shuttle, which was really appreciated.

INTERNET ACCESS

The conference building could be supplied with a Wifi access, but at a very high cost. It was decided to deploy our own Wifi network on the Ecole des Mines account (by reusing later the Wifi hotspots/terminals). All the common spaces were covered extensively during the conference. We experienced a few problems with the connections, which were solved quite quickly, as there always was someone in charge of all the computers and the network questions.

Another problem was that the Wifi area didn't offer enough chairs and / or tables for those who wanted to work on their laptops. The participants used any chair available and we sometimes had to chase them away...

We opened a cyber room with 6 computers during the conference. But it seems that it wasn't much used, mainly because it was not very easy to find, and located far from the refreshment area and from the auditorium. We did not put any printer in this room, and received no complaints about this.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Yann-Gaël Gueheneuc who was in charge of the SV. 26 students were selected: 10 from Nantes, 15 from all over the world. The choice was made on the following criteria :

- to be fluent in English,
- working on a research field related to ECOOP, at a level at least equal to a Master degree,
- first participation as a SV if possible.

The SV were on duty from Sunday afternoon until Friday afternoon.

Their tasks were quite different:

- preparing the attendees bags and badges,
- setting up the exhibit area,
- help at the registration and information desk,
- material/equipment control and dispatching,
- technical help for tutorials and workshops speakers,
- cloakroom,
- co-hosting during the social events,
- remove the exhibition staff,
- ...

In the « call for student volunteers », we initially presented 3 categories: bronze, silver and gold level presented below in the annex.

We finally did not apply the gold level to any student volunteer but created a kind of silver + plan, which provided a little travel compensation for those who really needed to. We booked rooms in a hotel located next to the Convention Center for all the silver plan level students, and pre paid the hotel for them. We also offered them to stay from Saturday July 1st until Saturday 8th. This way they could enjoy making a little bit of tourism, as most of them were coming from far countries.

The other SV were local students, and in consequence did not need accommodation.

Additionally, we offered to pay for all SV meals and extras upon 25 euros/person/day.

During the conference the SV were organized in 5 groups of 5, with a local team leader. They all had a lot to do on Monday and Tuesday because of the workshops and tutorials. After that, they were probably too many for the job...

In fact their assistance was very useful, especially before the conference and during the two first days (to help us filling the attendees bag before the conference, for the registration and the workshops and tutorials). But we also had a few problems. We didn't take enough time for the SV briefing, that might explain why some tasks weren't strictly executed (no filtering at the workshop/tutorial doors, bad day to day communication between the SV chair and the organizing committee, frequent exchanges of tasks among the SV, bad organization of the last days (SVs hanging around or talking together at the registration desk....)). It may be useful to remind the students that being a student volunteer is really a job and not only a way to attend a conference for free!

PRACTIONER REPORTS and HALF INDUSTRIAL DAY

This year ECOOP did not host practioner reports but what we called « the half industrial day ». On Tuesday afternoon, this co located event was dedicated to all the local software companies concerned by new trends in software engineering and programming languages. This created a good occasion for the LINA researchers to present their research projects.

QUESTIONNAIRE

We got very few returns of our paper version at the end of the Conference. That's why we decided to send an e-mail to all the attendees and to ask them to fill it on line. Then we gathered 114 answers!

These answers essentially show a good level of satisfaction concerning the technical program and the organization, which a special point for the high quality of the lunches.

Among the critics and suggestions, some of them are interesting and can be useful for the future. You will find them in the annex.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS (SELF EVALUATION)

- We only began the organization of ECOOP 2006 in August 2005, which was a little bit late. We strongly recommend when possible, to begin earlier.
- Some attendees would like to see AITO sort out specific dates for ECOOP. This is highly difficult, as every country has its own specifics. For our part, the dates were mainly decided by the Convention Center availability and the French vacations.... Even beginning of July was not the best for us as some professors were busy (either with hiring committee or final exams)
- Concerning the PC meeting, this is important to organize it in a main town and place easy to reach by plane/train, to help reducing the time and the cost of the journey for the participants. That is why we moved the location from Nantes to Paris.
- This is our feeling that the quality of the website and of the registration program has a great impact on the future attendees. Indeed, our webmaster spent quite a lot of time (more than 200 hours) developing and improving both, and the questionnaires showed the good results of this work.
- We only used our own video projectors instead of renting them from the venue. Thanks to a good collaboration between Ecole des Mines, and the University (including EPUN), we managed to collect as many as we needed. This helped sparing money !
- For the same reasons, a very simple advertising policy was chosen : our website did the main part, and we printed a few flyers.
- One of our big expenses came from the Cyber Chair line. The future Ecoop organizers might be interested to know that Richard van de Stadt proposes to reduce this cost by signing a mid-term agreement with ECOOP for the next years.
- In order to get the proceedings on time, the copies must be camera-ready 3 months before the conference. They are then collected by the cyber-chair and sent to Springer, at least 2 months and half before the D-Day.
- We realised that having a large organising committee was not practical. At the end, a reduced team was in charge of all the logistical questions and we only kept organizing regular meetings (once a month) with the complete committee.

APPENDIX

A1 Workshops

Monday, July 3rd

W1 — [ACE « Architecture-Centric Evolution »](#)

__Uwe Zdun (U. Vienna), Paris Avgeriou (U. Groningen)

W2 — [ADI « Aspects, Dependencies and Interactions »](#)

__Ruzanna Chitchyan (U. Lancaster), Johan Fabry (VU Brussel), Lodewijk Bergmans (U. Twente), Andronikos Nedos (TC Dublin), Arend Rensink (U. Twente)

W3 — [DSPD « Domain-Specific Program Development »](#)

__Laurent Réveillère (INRIA/LaBRI Bordeaux), Julia Lawall (DIKU, Copenhagen)

W4 — [ELW \(1st day\) « European Lisp Workshop »](#)

__Pascal Costanza (VUB), Theo d'Hondt (VUB), Arthur Lemmens, Christophe Rhodes (U. London)

W5 — [Fractal « Fractal Workshop: leveraging an European open source community around the Fractal component model »](#)

__Thierry Coupaye (FT, Grenoble), Jean-Bernard Stéfani (INRIA, Grenoble)

W6 — [ICOOOLPS « Implementation, Compilation, Optimization of Object-Oriented Languages, Programs and Systems »](#)

__Roland Ducournau (U. Montpellier), Etienne Gagnon (UQAM, Montréal), Chandra Krintz (U. California, Santa Barbara), Philippe Mulet (IBM, Saint Nazaire), Jan Vitek (Purdue U.), Olivier Zendra (INRIA/LORIA, Nancy)

W7 — [MA « Models and Aspects — Handling Crosscutting Concerns in MDS »](#)

__Christa Schwanninger (Siemens, Munich), Markus Voelter, Iris Groher (Siemens, Munich), Andrew Jackson (Trinity College, Dublin)

W8 — [POOSC « Parallel/High-Performance Object-Oriented Scientific Computing »](#)

__Wolfgang Bangerth (Texas A&M University), Kei Davis (Los Alamos National Laboratory), Jörg Nolte (Brandenburg University of Technology), Hans Petter Langangen (Simula Research Lab), Tiago Quintino (von Karman Institute), Jeremy Siek (Rice University), Jörg Striegnitz (Eupidus Consulting)

W9 — [QAOOSE « Quantitative Approaches in Object-Oriented Software Engineering »](#)

__Fernando Brito e Abreu (U. Lisbon), Coral Calero (U. Extremadura, Ciudad Real), Yann-Gaël Guéhéneuc (U. Montréal), Michele Lanza (U. Lugano), Houari A. Sahraoui (U. Montréal)

W10 — [RDL « Revival of Dynamic Languages »](#)

__Wolfgang De Meuter (VU Brussels), Roel Wuyts (U. Brussels), Stéphane Ducasse (U. Savoie, Annecy), Mira Mezini (TU Darmstadt), Mehmet Aksit (U. Twente, Enschede)

W11 — [TLOOC: « Pedagogies and Tools for the Teaching and Learning of Object Oriented Concepts »](#)

__Jürgen Börstler (Umea U.), Isabelle Michiels (VU Brussels), Kim Bruce (Pomona College, Claremont), Morten Lindholm (Aarhus U.)

W12 — [WCOP « Component-Oriented Programming »](#)

__Ralf Reussner (U. Oldenburg, Karlsruhe), Clemens Szyperski (Microsoft, Redmont), Wolfgang Weck (Zurich)

Tuesday, July 4th

W14 — [FTfJP « Formal Techniques for Java-like Programs »](#)

__Elena Zucca (U. Genova), Davide Ancona (U. Genova), Sophia Drossopoulou (Imperial College, London), Susan Eisenbach (Imperial College, London), Gary T. Leavens (U. Iowa, Ames), Peter Mueller (ETH Zurich), Arnd Poetzsch-Heffter (U. Kaiserslautern), Erik Poll (U. Nijmegen)

W16 — [OT4AmI « Object Technology for Ambient Intelligence »](#)

__Holger Mügge (U. Bonn), Pascal Cherrier, Wolfgang de Meuter (VU Brussels), Éric Tanter (U. Chili, Santiago)

W17 — [PASSWORD « Program Analysis for Security and Safety »](#)

__Francesco Logozzo (ENS Paris), Marco Pistoia (IBM T.J. Watson)

W19 — [RAM-SE « Reflection, AOP and Meta-Data for Software Evolution »](#)

__Walter Cazzola (U. Milano), S. Chiba (Tokyo Tech), Y. Coady (U. Victoria), G. Saake (U. Magdeburg)

W21 — [TEAM « Towards Evaluation of Aspect Mining »](#)

__Silvia Breu (U. Saarbruecken), Magiel Brunting (CWI, Amsterdam), Jens Krinke (U. Hagen), Leon Moonen (U. Delft)

W22 — [WCAT « Coordination and Adaptation Techniques for Software Entities »](#)

__Steffen Becker (U. Karlsruhe), Carlos Canal (U. Malaga), Nicolai Diakov (CWI, Amsterdam), Juan Manuel Murillo (U. Extamadura), Pascal Poizat (U. Evry), Massimo Tivoli (U. L'Aquila)

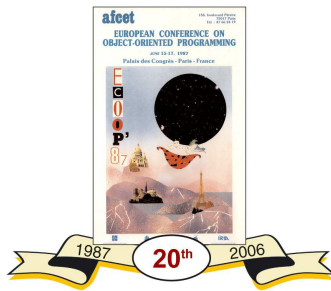
W23 — [WOOR « Workshop on Object-Oriented Reengineering »](#)

__Serge Demeyer (U. Antwerp), Stéphane Ducasse (U. Savoie, Annecy), Yann-Gaël Guéhéneç (U. Montréal), Kim Mens (U. Leuven), Roel Wuyts (U. Brussels)

A2 Student Volunteers

- **Bronze.** The bronze plan requires a minimal amount of work (~12 hours) with all the conference benefits but no other support. It is primarily aimed at local students who would not incur expenses while attending ECOOP.
- **Silver.** The silver plan is primarily targeted for students within a few hundred miles of Nantes (France), who would need a place to stay during the conference but do not have heavy transportation expenses. In addition to the conference benefits, silver plan provides SV with support (up to a limit of the equivalent of 250€) to cover part of hotel accommodation and travel costs. More work is required (~16 hours) for silver plan than for bronze plan.
- **Gold.** The gold plan aims at students who would need to fly to Nantes, France to participate. In addition to conference benefits, gold plan provides SV with the equivalent of 600€ to cover hotel accommodation and travel costs. It requires the most amount of work (~20 hours) and is very difficult to obtain because of large demand and limited availability.

A3 Call for sponsoring



Ecoop 2006

20th edition Nantes - France

<http://ecoop2006.emn.fr/>

ECOOP 2006 needs your support.

The next European Conference on Object-Oriented Programming ECOOP will be in Nantes from July 3-7 2006. This will be the 20th anniversary of one of the major European events in software engineering. We are looking for industrial sponsors to support ECOOP on this special occasion.

ECOOP, like the OOPSLA conference in North America, has been instrumental in Europe helping academy and industry adopt this new way of building software systems. The ECOOP community has had a significant impact on industrial practices and products.

Created in 1987 in Paris, ECOOP is now one of the main events in software engineering. It is the annual forum where academic researchers, PhD students and software engineers can exchange their expertise and discuss latest research and experiences. For the 20th anniversary, we are expecting 450 attendees, 60% of them coming from outside France (Europe, North and South America, Japan, etc.). ECOOP offers an excellent opportunity for your company to meet leading thought leaders, researchers, educators and most importantly the next generation of talented software engineers.

The conference continues its focus on new trends in software engineering (components, aspects, patterns, models, domain modeling, domain specific languages, etc.). As such, it is the meeting point of those who want to share their views on the current rapid technological evolution.

ECOOP 2006 is looking for the following levels of support:

- Gold (more than 15.000 euros). The sponsor will be namely associated with one of the main conference dinner or reception plus Silver privileges but with 5 free passes to the conference.
- Silver (more than 5.000 euros). A stand may be offered for the sponsor to present his technology plus bronze privileges but with 2 free passes to the conference.
- Bronze (more than 1.500 euros). The logo of the sponsor will be printed on the proceedings and all conferences materials. This logo will be displayed on the ECOOP Web site with a link to the sponsor Web site. The sponsor will get a free pass to the conference.

We hope that your company will join with those companies who have already committed to support ECOOP 2006.

Thanks for your consideration and support,

Pierre Cointe, Jean Bézivin, Dave Thomas and Gilles Muller on behalf of the ECOOP 2006.

A4 Questionnaire results

Additional comments and suggestions

10814 Forgot one comment on my previous response. ECOOP really needs to get its dates sorted out. It's extremely awkward to plan when the date of the conference varies so much (e.g. from June in some years to August). It's highly unlikely that I'll attend ECOOP in Berlin because it is so late, i.e. in the middle of my holidays. You need to pick a time that does not clash with either PLDI or typical holiday periods. Tricky I know. I'd also like ECOOP to actively encourage colocation of other related programming language conferences such as ISMM, VEE etc in order to facilitate getting these conferences to cross the Atlantic. I know that ISMM are keen to do so provided the logistics works. At the moment they get a lot of support from the ACM and the conferences with whom they often colocate (PLDI, OOPSLA, etc).

10834 Make sure demos are actually demos (and not mere short theoretical introductions to a subject). A nice way of doing this could be asking attendants to read an introduction to the subject as a pre-requisite to attending the demonstration, so that the presenter can jump into the demo right away.

10849 Not everyone has a laptop with wifi, so wifi access is not enough.

10855 It would be nice to have an official wiki area for handling logistical issues among participants and for supporting ad-hoc note-taking areas.

10871 The registration fee seems to be spiraling out of control--is there a profit being made from this?

10881 I think that ECOOP is lost. ECOOP will stay as an institution with a good reputation but the technical tracks will continue be deadly boring. Ecoop is a journal that has a conference, while I would like to see a living conference. There is not enough new ideas and the acceptance rate kills everything. Too bad. I cannot do anything so I will not join next conferences.

10921 Get more students to participate, maybe many of them from nearby universities (priority should be for them to get acquainted with the research content and to start networking, and then it should somehow be cheap for ECOOP to have them, e.g., because they don't get a banquet ticket etc.)

10927 Consider adopting the AOSD2006 "automatic registration" where conference bags etc can be delivered to the conference hotels.

What additional topics would you like to see at ECOOP?

10825 Model Driven Engineering (MDE)

10837 MDA

10841 OO databases, caching (distributed), high throughput applications

10845 Topics related to Software Quality and Metrics, Software Quality Assurance

10852 More practical experience

10861 more languages, architectures, design, distributed systems, embedded systems, modeling, ...

10868 Would it be possible to organize debates (panels ?) on some fundamental issues, e.g. "the present status of strong typing in OOP", or "OOP, XML and the WWW" ?

10871 Declarative/functional programming

10881 My dislike is not about missing topics but about the narrow selection process. I would like to be able to pick from the program different presentations and get bombarded by new work (even if not 100% finished/validated). I would like to get new ideas when I come back from ECOOP and this is not the case.

10890 more on MDSOC, but is not a problem of Ecoop, it is just the trend ;)

10891 More RE, Architecture topics

10892 More on OO low level stuff, e.g., on virtual machine impl problems, GC, etc.

10895 more theoretical-related topics

10914 metalevel architectures

10921 I would like to see research topics associated with important, deep principles and concepts rather than topics associated with very small increments in a vendor/technology specific context. So this is not really an additional topic, but ECOOP has the potential to be the most important forum for this approach to OO research.

10924 More foundational work on OOP

10941 mixture between objects and aspects. Avoid to have a conference with trends in the research Have more a conference with a more extensive set of subjects

10950 Component-oriented topics in the main program. (There already are component-oriented workshops, seeing more "components" in the main program would more match my research interests).

10975 - Seeing the number of workshop on components, perhaps some component paper in the technical session could be interesting. - Perhaps a little more on designing oop issues...

10986 more directly software engineering related topics

10987 dynamic evolution

10989 A dedicated session to formal techniques for object oriented programs.

What did you dislike most about ECOOP 2006?

10818 Much of the technical programme I found uninspiring.

10819 The divergence of topics in the workshops. It was practically impossible to have a discussion around a common subject.

10827 Organizers should have printed receipts for the conference fee right away: everyone needs them for reimbursement, and it was a hassle to have to request them first.

10848 Technical program was only to a small extend interesting to me. Too few talks, no parallel sessions. I'd like to have two parallel sessions and more accepted papers.

10861 too many theory papers

10866 The paper accepted at the main conference (the level was surprisingly low)

10869 Not enough free rooms and free time to talk or work with other participants.

10895 the schedule is quite busy. Many workshops/tutorials/Demos were held in parallel

10989 Invited talks - were very general . More depth was expected.

INTRODUCTION	2
FINANCIAL STATEMENT	3
FEES	3
GLOBAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT	3
PAYMENT	6
SPONSORING	6
ORGANIZATION	8
GENERAL ORGANIZATION	8
REGISTRATION PROCESS	9
INVITATION LETTERS	11
CONFERENCE PROGRAM	12
WORKSHOPS	12
TUTORIALS	13
TECHNICAL SESSIONS	14
DAHL NYGAARD PRIZE	14
20th EDITION SESSION	14
EXHIBIT	14
POSTERS	14
DEMONSTRATIONS	15
BOFs	16
SOCIAL PROGRAM	17
ACCOMPANYING PERSON'S PROGRAM	17
ACCOMMODATION	17
TRANSPORT	17
INTERNET ACCESS	17
STUDENT VOLUNTEERS	18
PRACTITIONER REPORTS and HALF INDUSTRIAL DAY	19
QUESTIONNAIRE	19
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND REMARKS (SELF EVALUATION)	20
APPENDIX	21
A1 Workshops	21
A2 Student Volunteers	23
A3 Call for sponsoring	24
A4 Questionnaire results	25