Preface

The papers presented at the Fifth Workshop on Language Descriptions, Tools, and Applications (LDTA ’05) are contained in this volume. These papers include both technical papers and tool demonstration papers. LDTA ’05 was a satellite event of the European Joint Conferences on Theory and Practice of Software (ETAPS ’05) and was held in Edinburgh, UK, on April 3, 2005. Previous instances of this workshop have been held as satellite events of ETAPS in Barcelona, Spain in 2004, in Warsaw, Poland in 2003, in Grenoble, France in 2002, and in Genoa, Italy in 2001.

As in past instantiations, the aim of this one day workshop was to bring together researchers from academia and industry who have an interest in the field of formal language definitions and language technologies. A special emphasis is placed on the development of tools based on formal language definitions.

The program for LDTA ’05 consisted of 7 regular papers, 4 tool demonstrations, and an invited talk by David Watt entitled “The Design of Monty: a Programming/Scripting Language”. The regular papers and tool demonstrations were selected from a record number of 37 submissions. Each submitted paper was reviewed by at least three program committee members. The papers cover a range of topics including tools for transformation, program analysis, refactoring, compilation, and debugging.

We would like to thank the members of the program committee for the careful review of the submitted papers. We also thank the ETAPS organizing committee for handling the local organization of the workshop. We are again very pleased that this workshop is held in cooperation with ACM SIGPLAN and with the publication of these proceedings as a volume in the Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science (ENTCS) by Elsevier. We are especially grateful to Ericsson Eurolab Germany and to AM Informatik GmbH for their financial contributions.

The organization and program committee work has been done in the
shadow of the inconceivable and tragic fate of our friend and colleague Isabelle Attali, who perished together with her two children in the tsunami catastrophe on Sri Lanka, Dec 26, 2004. Isabelle was a member of the program committee of the first LDTA workshop in 2001 and a member of the organizing committees of LDTA 2003 and LDTA 2004. She had been a cornerstone in forming the LDTA community, and in making LDTA as successful as it is now. Her generosity and open-minded intellect made it so pleasant to work with her, and we are very grateful for having the privilege to have known her. We all miss her very much.

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April, 2005