Preface

Applied semantics: Selected topics

Applied Semantics II (APPSEM II) is a 36-month FP5 IST thematic network project that started in January 2003. The network consists of 20 sites (and some sub-sites) coordinated by Prof. Martin Hofmann (LMU München), and is structured around 9 themes:

1. Program structuring: object-oriented programming, modules,
2. Proof assistants, functional programming, and dependent types,
3. Program analysis, generation, and configuration,
4. Specification and verification methods,
5. Types and type inference in programming,
6. Games, sequentiality, and abstract machines,
7. Semantic methods for distributed computing,
8. Resource models and web data,

More information can be obtained from the network web page (http://www.appsem.org/).

The first annual meeting of the network (APPSEM’03) was in Nottingham, and the second one (APPSEM’04) in Tallinn. The first meeting was so well-attended and successful, that it was decided that future meetings should leave a “permanent” trace in the form of a special issue, and Theoretical Computer Science seemed the most appropriate journal, because of the spectrum of topics covered in APPSEM II.

The papers in this special issue have been selected among the contributions presented at APPSEM’04. The intent was to select those contributions that were almost ready for journal publication, with no attempt to cover the full research spectrum of APPSEM II.

The selection took place in two steps: in the first step the PC of APPSEM’04 identified a set of contributions that could undertake the second step (these contributions were granted a longer presentation at the APPSEM’04 meeting), in the second step revised contributions were evaluated according to TCS standards (but with a tight review schedule).

I would like to thank the PC members of APPSEM’04 (Gavin Bierman, Thierry Coquand, Pierre-Louis Curien, Philippa Gardner, Fritz Henglein, Neil Jones, Achim Jung, Peter O’Hearn, Uday Reddy, Didier Remy, Glynn Winskel) for the key contribution given
in the first step of the selection process, and the authors and reviewers for complying with the tight schedule of the selection process.

Eugenio Moggi  
Guest Editor  
DISI, Univ. di Genova, via Dodecaneso 35, 16146 Genova, Italy  
E-mail address: moggi@unige.it  
URL: http://www.disi.unige.it/person/MoggiE/.