Preface

This volume contains the research workshops and doctoral symposium, as well as panel summaries presented at XP 2019, the 20th International Conference on Agile Software Development, held during May 21–25, 2019, at the École de technologie supérieure in Montréal, Québec, Canada.

XP is the premier agile software development conference combining research and practice. Whether you were new to agile or a seasoned agile practitioner, XP 2019 provided an informal environment to network, share, and discover trends in agile for the next 20 years.

Research papers and talks submissions were invited for the three XP 2019 research workshops, namely, Agile Transformation, Autonomous Teams, and Large Scale Agile. The workshops attracted a variety of agile software development topics related to the respective workshops. These included papers and presentations based on empirical studies and those conducted in industrial settings relevant to both researchers and practitioners. Submissions in various stages of progress were encouraged to generate discussions at the workshops. The workshops were structured to include a combination of talks, including keynotes by researchers leading the field in the respective areas, a variety of research talks by new, emerging, and established researchers, and round-table discussion style sessions. Research agendas for the communities represented by the workshops were discussed, refined, and reported in the respective workshop summaries.

The research workshops and doctoral symposium provide a highly relevant, friendly, and interactive platform to share and discuss emerging and late breaking research findings. They represent smaller, close communities of passionate emerging and established researchers and a psychologically safe environment to provide and receive feedback.

The success of the XP 2019 research workshops and doctoral symposium was possible due to the contributions of the organizers, Program Committee members, authors, presenters, and general attendees. Last, but not least, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the XP conference Steering Committee and the Agile Alliance for their ongoing support.

Panels at XP 20NN have been consistently among the best attended and well-received conference sessions following the conference plenary keynotes. This year’s topics included: Security and Privacy; The Impact of the Agile Manifesto on Culture, Education, and Software Practices; Business Agility – Agile’s Next Frontier; and “Agile – The Next 20 Years:”’ In the past we have published panel abstracts with panellist bios and position statements prior to the conference – however these abstracts did not reflect what was discussed at the conference.

For XP 2019, we took a different approach. We prepared extended summaries of the panel discussions, which captured the panellists’ initial reflections on the panel topic, the principal questions from the floor, and panellist discussion. These summary articles
were forwarded to the panellists for review, and the reviewed summaries have been included in these post-conference proceedings. We hope that you find this content useful and relevant to both software research and industrial practice.

Special thanks go to Dennis Mancl for his diligence in capturing and editing the panel conversations, the panellists for their participation and content review, and to the XP 2019 panel audiences for their questions and comments.

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