



Preface

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Paris and welcome to the 10th Annual EuSpRIG Conference. It is a considerable achievement for any organisation, especially a non-profit and voluntary organisation such as EuSpRIG, to be able to celebrate such an anniversary. I extend a special welcome to our keynote speakers Martin Erwig, University of Oregon, and Louise Pryor, Financial Reporting Council, together with delegates and authors who have travelled from outside of Europe to be with us this year.

I thank once again the members of our various committees, our reviewers and our hosts at ENS Cachan for their efforts in bringing the conference together. It is remarkable that so many of the people involved with EuSpRIG at the outset are still actively supporting us, and we welcome the new faces who are keen to progress our work. We thank our sponsors for their support and encouragement.

EuSpRIG has been going so long now that one of our founders, Pat Cleary, is retiring this September. It would thus seem timely to say a special thank you to our three founders – Pat Cleary, David Chadwick and Ray Butler, together with Ray Panko, who initially brought them together – for their contributions over the last ten years.

This year's programme sees contributions from far and wide and evidence of an agenda expanding far outside our original "errors" domain. There is evidence that our work is being picked up in fields not previously associated with EuSpRIG. Conversely, thinking from well-established disciplines such as manufacturing engineering and behavioural analysis is being brought into our domain. We are again offering a twin tracked agenda on our first day so that delegates can choose the thread that best matches their interests.

As you can see, we have come up with a new logo, which we believe represents our conservative, respectable and forward-looking nature. This is now being fed into the design of a new website which we hope will be ready very soon. Once the new website is up and running, we will increase our marketing activities to promote future conferences.

Congratulations are due to Dr Simon Thorne for his doctoral achievement. He joins a small elite who have achieved doctoral status in spreadsheet related research work. Our academic colleagues continue to be successful in securing significant research grants to further work in our discipline. EuSpRIG itself is in the position of being able to fund some academic work, and we have recently resurrected the bursary committee to investigate this. We continue to upload our work to www.arxiv.org so that it remains as visible and as freely accessible as is possible. Attempts are being made to publish some of our work in mainstream journals to broaden our reach.



The credit crunch has made life difficult for many of our commercial supporters. It would be amusing were it not so tragic that the many of the purchasers of Enterprise Spreadsheet Management systems (for example) are, were or became recently insolvent and had to be bailed out by the authorities. We hope that the recession ends soon enough and further commercial progress can be made by our wide vendor community.

The conference this year is followed immediately by our biennial General Meeting, which you are most welcome to attend.

Again, welcome to Paris and enjoy the 10th EuSpRIG conference.

Kind Regards

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