

Synergy-zing in the GSE Community: How Academia and Industry can educate each other

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Abstract—The ICGSE conference has traditionally had a strong blend of academic and industry participation. But have we fully taken advantage of our joint expertise? The question was posed in 2013: “Who are we doing Global Software Engineering research for? [1]” We note the unequal load sharing between academics, students and industry in teaching GSE-Ed courses [2]. So how can we best learn from each other and contribute to improving practice and impact in GSE research, practice and education? This panel session aims to create a space for such a discussion, and will look for models and ideas that will foster engagement and help synergize endeavours across the discipline.

Keywords—Global Software Engineering Research, Global Software Engineering Practice, Global Software Engineering Education; Engagement, Industry-Academia links.

I. OVERVIEW

The ICGSE conference has traditionally had a strong blend of academic and industry participation. But have we taken full advantage of our joint expertise? The question was posed in 2013: “Who are we doing Global Software Engineering research for? [1].” There is a global skill shortage in software engineering [2]. Yet, we have found that load sharing between academics, students and industry in teaching GSE-Ed courses is not balanced: instructors bear the bulk of responsibility and effort, while we expect industry to employ the students [3]. So how can we best learn from each other and contribute to improving practice and impact in GSE research, practice and education?

Engaged models of research are increasingly in vogue, with organisations such as the OECD measuring academy-industry linkages and imputing economic gains based on the extent of mutual collaboration [4]. The notion of engagement has been described thus:

“Engagement describes the interaction between researchers and research organisations and their larger communities/industries for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge, understanding and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity” [3].

This panel session aims to create a space for a discussion on how best to enable that fruitful collaboration, going beyond solely economic gains to look for models and ideas that will foster engagement and help synergize endeavours across the discipline.

This panel brings together four participants who collectively share experiences in GSE research, practice and education. It is our aim to catalyse a productive discussion which generates ideas and models that we can take further within the GSE Community, enabling Academia and Industry to work together to educate each other.

The open space panel format will provide opportunities for attendees to contribute and help build the agenda.

REFERENCES

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