



# **A History of the International Requirements Engineering (RE) Conference**

**Nancy R. Mead, SEI  
nrm@sei.cmu.edu**



---

Copyright 2013 Carnegie Mellon University

This material is based upon work funded and supported by the Department of Defense under Contract No. FA8721-05-C-0003 with Carnegie Mellon University for the operation of the Software Engineering Institute, a federally funded research and development center.

This material has been approved for public release and unlimited distribution.

The Government of the United States has a royalty-free government-purpose license to use, duplicate, or disclose the work, in whole or in part and in any manner, and to have or permit others to do so, for government purposes pursuant to the copyright license under the clause at 252.227-7013 and 252.227-7013 Alternate I.

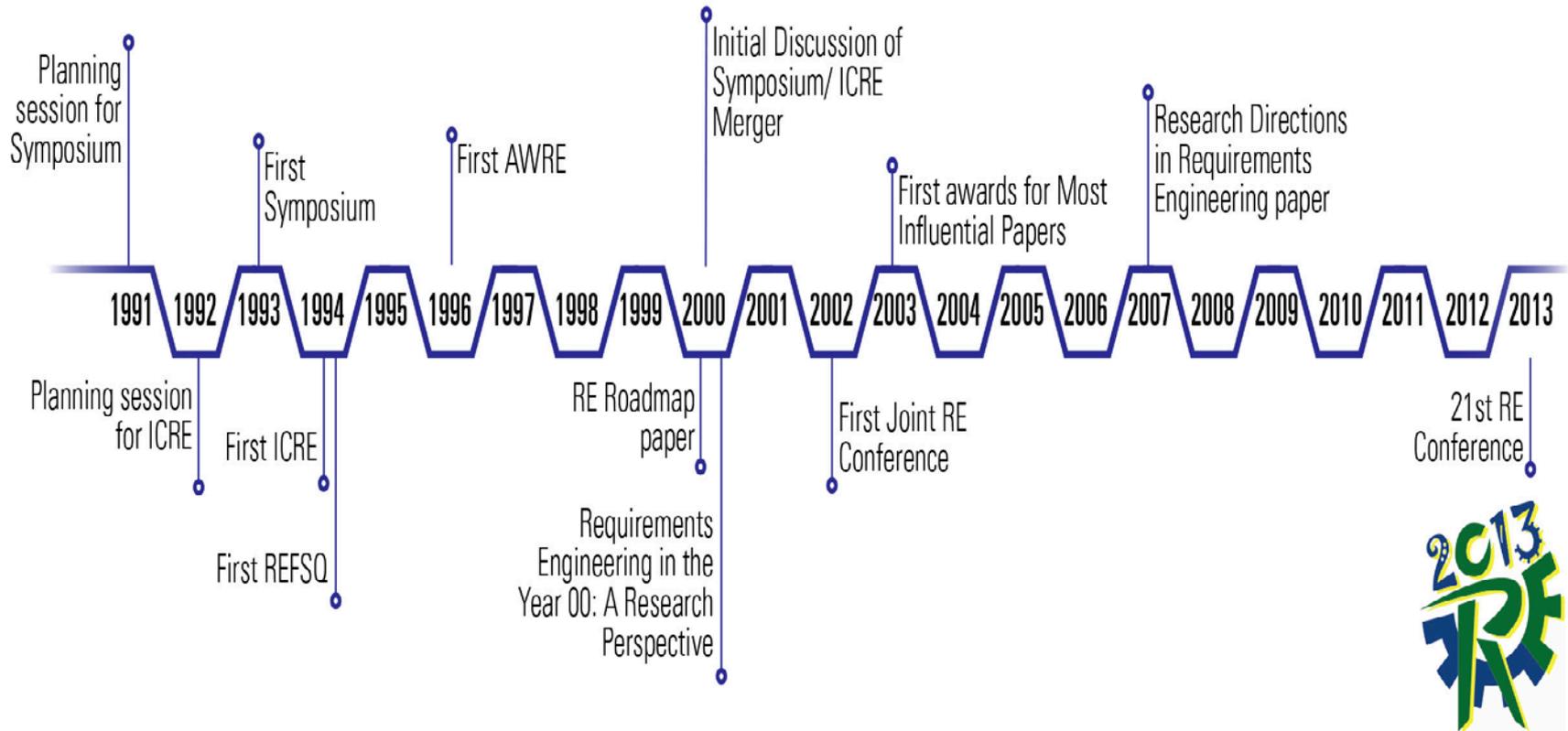
DM-0000151

# Outline

---

1. RE Conference Timeline
2. Early Conference History and Merger
3. Conference Innovations
4. RE Roadmaps and Conference Challenges
5. Questions

# RE Conference and Workshop Timeline





# Early Conference History and Merger

# Initial Requirements Engineering Conferences

---

- First International Symposium on Requirements Engineering held in 1993, with Anthony Finkelstein initiating the proposal and Steve Fickas quickly joining in.
- Bashar notes, *“Anthony and I received the hard copies of the submissions at Imperial, and I recall sorting them out in piles on the floor of Anthony's office to send on to PC [Program Committee] members for review.”*
- First International Conference on Requirements Engineering held in 1994 with Al Davis initiating the proposal and Carl Chang quickly joining in.

# First Symposium and ICRE Locations

---



Hotel del Coronado

Cheyenne Mountain Resort



# Motivation for the Conference Merger

---

- Two major conferences on the same topic created confusion among authors and attendees.
- It became difficult to get two sets of motivated volunteers, and many volunteers were involved with both conferences.
- The conferences had complementary aspects.

# Conference Merger Details

---

- Initial discussions in 2000, formal merger in 2001, first joint conference in 2002.
- Joint Steering Committee, name change, logo, charter.
- Steering Committee member term limits.

# RE Steering Committee

---

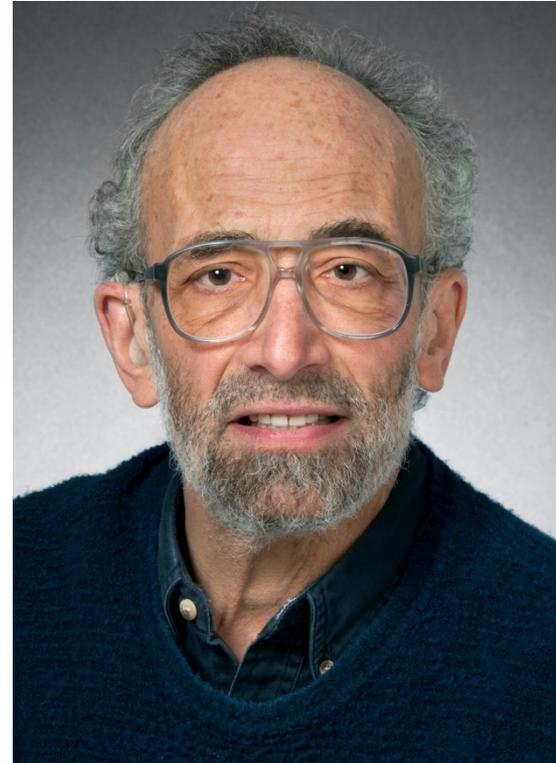
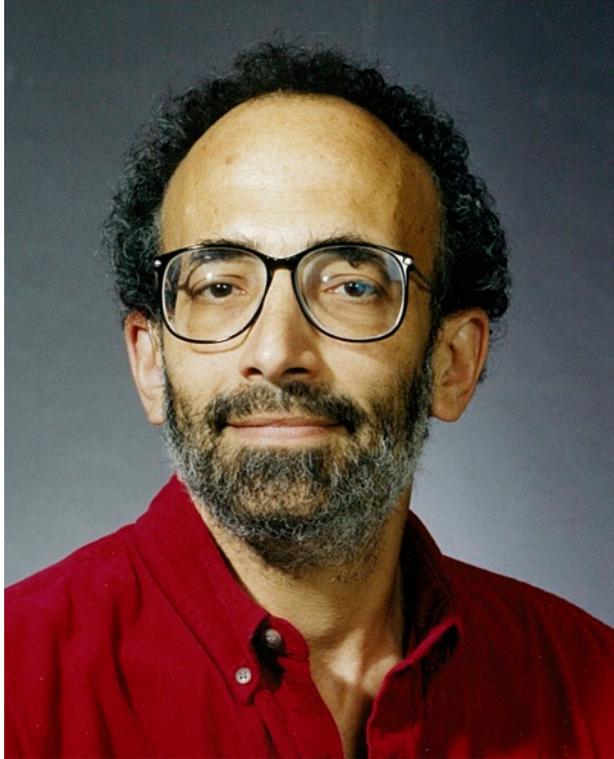
| Members   | Term Expires |
|---|--------------|
| Nancy Mead (1998 GC [General Chair] Current SC Chair) | 2003         |
| Dan Berry (1998 PC)                                   | 2003         |
| Kevin Ryan (1999 GC)                                  | 2004         |
| Bill Robinson (1999 PC)                               | 2004         |
| Betty Cheng (2000 PC)                                 | 2005         |
| Steve Easterbrook (2001 GC)                           | 2006         |
| Bashar Nuseibeh (2001 PC)                             | 2006         |
| Jawed Siddiqi (2002 GC)                               | 2007         |
| Klaus Pohl (2002 PC)                                  | 2007         |
| Sol Greenspan (2002 GC)                               | 2007         |
| Eric Dubois (2002 PC)                                 | 2007         |
| Roel Wieringa (2003 PC)                               | 2007         |
| Carl Chang (Additional Founding Member)               | 2004         |
| Anthony Finkelstein (Additional Founding Member)      | 2004         |
| Steve Fickas (Additional Founding Member)             | 2004         |

# Carl Chang, Nancy Mead, Carl's daughter, 2012 in Izmir, Turkey



# Dan Berry Mid-1990s and Recently

---



Keeping the RE History up to date is a tough job!

# Klaus Pohl and Bashar Nuseibeh

---





# Conference Innovations

# Best Paper and Most Influential Paper Awards

| Year | Category of Paper        | Authors  | Title of Paper   |
|------|--------------------------|--|--|
| 2003 | Research<br>(Best Paper) | Renaud De Landtsheer,<br>Emmanuel Letier, and Axel van<br>Lamsweerde   | Deriving Tabular Event-Based Specifications from Goal-<br>Oriented Requirements Models |
|      | Experience               | Robyn Lutz   | Analyzing Software Requirements Errors in Safety-<br>Critical, Embedded Systems        |
| 2004 |                          | Orlena C.Z. Gotel and Anthony<br>C.W. Finkelstein                      | An Analysis of the Requirements Traceability Problem                                   |
| 2005 |                          | Steve Fickas and Martin Feather  | Requirements Monitoring in Dynamic Environments  |
| 2006 | Research                 | Annie Antón  | Goal-Based Requirements Analysis   |
|      | Experience               | Barry Boehm and Hoh In   | Identifying Quality-Requirement Conflicts  |
| 2007 |                          | Eric Yu  | Towards Modelling and Reasoning Support for Early-<br>Phase Requirements Engineering   |
| 2008 |                          | Colin Potts  | ScenIC: A Strategy for Inquiry-Driven Requirements<br>Determination                    |
| 2009 |                          | Neil A.M. Maiden and Cornelius<br>Ncube                                | Acquiring COTS Software Selection Requirements   |
| 2010 |                          | Carl A. Gunter, Elsa L. Gunter,<br>Michael Jackson, and Pamela<br>Zave | A Reference Model for Requirements and Specifications                                  |
| 2011 |                          | Axel van Lamsweerde  | Goal-Oriented Requirements Engineering: A Guided Tour<br>(Mini-Tutorial)               |
| 2012 |                          | Matthias Weber and Joachim<br>Weisbrod                                 | Requirements Engineering in Automotive Development --<br>Experience and Challenges     |

# Best and Most Influential Papers

---

- No specific pattern is observed when we look at the mix of papers.
- Both research and practice papers are among the selected papers.

# Martin Glinz in a Serious Moment

---



# Background for RE Program Board

---

Martin's observations:

- *40-50 people flying in from all over the globe for a two-day meeting.*
- *Many PC members actually spoke only two to three times during the whole meeting (when papers they had reviewed were discussed).*
- *Some PC members could not attend the conference because the PC meeting had used up their RE-related travel budget.*

# Martin Needs Fortification as Program Chair, not to Mention SC Chair





# RE Roadmaps and Conference Challenges

# RE Roadmap Papers

---

- Roadmap paper published in 2000: Nuseibeh and Easterbrook identify the core requirements engineering activities as eliciting requirements, modeling and analyzing requirements, communicating requirements, agreeing [on] requirements, and evolving requirements.
- Cheng and Atlee's paper published in 2007 is a follow-on to the roadmap paper. They identify the primary requirements engineering tasks as elicitation, modeling, requirements analysis, validation and verification, and requirements management.

# Ongoing Challenges

---

- Bridging the gap between research and practice.
- Getting experience/practice papers and reports.
- Getting industry attendance at the conference.



# Questions?