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Preface

The 9th Symposium on Trends in Functional Programming (TFP 2008) is being held in Center Parcs “Het Heijderbos,” The Netherlands near the city of Nijmegen on May 26-28, 2008. It is co-located with the 6th International Summer School on Advanced Functional Programming (AFP 2008). The co-location of these two events is intended to attract new researchers to the exciting area of functional programming. TFP 2008 is organized by the Computer Science Department of the Radboud University Nijmegen. The growing success and internationalization of TFP represents the continuing importance of functional programming and of the TFP policy to encourage new and veteran speakers to present their research work at a friendly forum without first having to go through a strenuous review process. TFP’s post-symposium review policy has lead to a series of symposia with a rich diversity of talks from which a selection of publication-ripe articles are chosen for inclusion in a peer-reviewed volume published by Intellect in its Trends in Functional Programming series. In addition, TFP acknowledges the important role students play in new trends, and every year an article that has a student as the primary author is chosen as the recipient of TFP’s Best Student Paper Award.

This volume represents the articles associated with the work presented at TFP 2008. As in previous versions of TFP it is called the draft proceedings to distinguish it from the formal peer-reviewed post-symposium proceedings. The work presented at TFP 2008 was selected by its international program committee through the screening of extended abstracts and full papers. Allowing authors to submit a full article to the screening process was a minor shift made from previous versions of TFP in order to reduce the number of versions of their articles authors must create. The program committee of TFP 2008 received 33 submissions, divided as follows: 28 research papers (18 full papers, and 10 extended abstracts), 2 position papers (all extended abstracts), and 3 project papers (2 full papers, and 1 extended abstract). Of these submissions, 29 were accepted for presentation.

At the time of printing, approximately 50 researchers, students, and industry professionals have registered to participate in TFP 2008. A quarter of these participants also registered for AFP 2008. TFP 2008 brings together a truly international milieu representing a variety of countries that include Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Russia, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, and the USA. In order to foster friendship and collaborations between participants, TFP 2008 follows the TFP tradition of including social events that enable participants to interact in an informal setting. The social events include a visit to the city of Nijmegen, the oldest city of the Netherlands, and the symposium’s dinner at the Waal Riverside in Nijmegen. In addition, we are honored to have two invited speakers (one from academia and one from industry): Henk Barendregt from the Radboud University Nijmegen and Gert Veldhuijzen van Zanten from Getronics Pink Roccade. The venue Center Parcs “Het Heijderbos” is a holiday resort in the woodlands near Nijmegen. Participants share cottages and can use its facilities. We hope that this slightly out-of-the-way location and this arrangement will provide for a stimulating event and environment for all participants.

TFP 2008 gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following institutions: Getronics Pink Roccade, The Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO), and the Netherlands Defence Academy. We also thank the members of the program and organizing committees for their hard work to make TFP 2008 a success.

Peter Achten, Pieter Koopman, and Marco T. Morazán
Nijmegen, The Netherlands
May 2008
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Program chair:  Peter Achten, Pieter Koopman  (Radboud University Nijmegen, NL)
Treasurer:  Greg Michaelson  (Heriot-Watt University, UK)
Local arrangements:  Simone Meeuwsen  (Radboud University Nijmegen, NL)

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