

Report of PGM 2014

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The seventh edition of *The European Workshop on Probabilistic Graphical Models* (PGM) was held in Utrecht from the 17th until the 19th of September 2014. Since the first edition in 2002, PGM has been organised every two years and has now become *the* meeting for researchers working on probabilistic graphical models, such as Bayesian networks, and their applications. For the first time, the conference proceedings were officially published in Springer's **Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence** series. This edition, we received contributions from authors working in 22 countries, spread over 5 continents; the number of participants exceeded more than 150% of the number of presented papers.

The scientific program was well-structured and of high quality. Despite the long hours, the attendance at all sessions was high and the extended breaks allowed ample time for discussions. The second day commenced with an interesting presentation by invited speaker Robert Cowell, currently working on the application of Bayesian networks to genetic/forensic problems. The remainder of the conference consisted of 11 sessions, covering varying topics such as learning, classification, inference and analysis (see the conference website <http://www.projects.science.uu.nl/PGM/> for further details).

In addition to the scientific program, there was a social program that gave the participants room to further interact. Besides long breaks, there was a daily lunch in a restaurant nearby the conference venue. On the first day, the participants followed a guided tour to the Dom square and the Dom Church Pandhof garden. In the garden, they were offered a welcoming reception by the City of Utrecht. The conference dinner was held on the second day, in Paushuize.

Thanks to our sponsors, we were able to organise an attractive conference at relatively low cost. We could offer PhD students a discount of 70% on the registration fee. Moreover, we were able to attract an interesting and renowned guest speaker by covering his travel and subsistence expenses. Our sponsors are acknowledged by placing their logos on the conference website and in the program booklet; sponsors are also explicitly mentioned in the conference proceedings published by Springer-Verlag (see <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-3-319-11433-0/>)

PGM 2014 has been a great success. The weather and the venue — Utrecht University's 'Raadzaal' — have certainly contributed to that.