Introduction to special issue on concurrency and coordination: Selected work from the International Workshop ConCoord

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This Special Issue of Mathematical Structures in Computer Science contains selected papers from ConCoord, the International Workshop on Concurrency and Coordination held in Lipari, Italy, on July 6–8, 2001 and associated to the 13th Lipari School for Computer Science Researchers on the Foundations of Wide Area Network Programming.

Concoord focused on the concurrency and coordination aspects of global computing, which has recently become prominent in Computer Science due to the increasing use and need for web applications and migratory computing. An emerging programming paradigm such as this requires formal models, programming primitives and effective infrastructures in order to handle the mobility of code and computations, to control dynamically loaded software modules and, more generally, to coordination and orchestrate distributed applications. Similar aims have been pursued by two ESPRIT working groups, which have recently completed their activities: CONFER-2 (CONcurrency and Functions: Evaluation and Reduction) and COORDINA (from COORDINAtion models to applications). These themes have since evolved into a wide-spectrum of research projects integrated under the EU-FET Proactive Initiative on 'Global Computing'.

The Program Committee of Concoord consisted of Farhad Arbab (CWI, Amsterdam), Jean-Jacques Levy (Inria Roquencourt), Ugo Montanari (University of Pisa), Antonio Porto (Universidade Nova De Lisboa), Vladimiro Sassone (University of Sussex) and Bjôrn Victor (Uppsala University). The proceedings of the meeting have appeared as volume **54** of *Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science* (ENTCS), which is published electronically through the facilities of Elsevier Science and is accessible at `http://www.elsevier.nl/locate/entcs`.

The papers in this volume were invited on the recommendation of the Programme Committee and reviewed according to the highest standards by Nicole Bidoit, Mary Fernandez, Gianluigi Ferrari, Chris Hankin, Dan Hirsch, Madhavan Mukund, Antonio Porto, Jean-Bernard Stefani, Michel Wermelinger, Pawel Wojciechowski, Nobuko Yoshida and Gianluigi Zavattaro. I hereby acknowledge warmly their valuable help, as well as the support of Professor Giuseppe Longo, the Editor-in-Chief of Mathematical Structures in Computer Science.