Welcome

Sophia Poulos

This issue marks the third year of production of the ASMA Metrics Matters e-Journal. I will be handing over the journal to organise the Australian Conference on Software Metrics (ACOSM 2005) which is being held at the Sheraton Noosa in November this year.

Mark Exall

Mark Exall will be taking over the task of reporting up to date topics on software measurement. Mark has been the proof editor for the e-Journal so I leave the task in very competent hands.

In this issue we look at the topic of Benchmarking. Nita Sarang from CSC India has kindly allowed us to reproduce her presentation of the topic.

Is software measurement generally accepted? Are the knowledge and practices applicable to most projects most of the time? Is there widespread consensus about their value and usefulness? Not according to the Software Engineering Body of Knowledge (SWEBOK) Guide. SWEBOK proposes three common themes (Quality, Tools and Measurement) which run through the 10 software engineering Knowledge Areas (KAs).

Two of these themes (Quality and Tools) made the cut as distinct KAs, but Measurement missed out. See **Last Words** by Ted Smilie for research findings supporting the argument that Software Measurement is a KA.

Feedback on either the contents or the format of the Metrics Matters e-Journal is always welcome. Please email comments to metricsmatters@asma.org.au.

Best Regards,

Sophia Poulos

Editor/Publisher

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