REFSQ2017 (www.refsq.org) will host a **Doctoral Symposium** for PhD students whose research area includes elements of Requirements Engineering. The goals of the REFSQ2017 Doctoral Symposium are:

• to provide PhD students in early stages of their research with an opportunity to survey the field and get a feeling for what their colleagues are working on;
• to provide PhD students in advanced stages with an opportunity to present their plans and early results;
• to provide all participant students with advice and suggestions from a panel of senior researchers;
• to facilitate interaction among all the participants.

Following the time-honoured tradition of REFSQ, the Symposium will revolve around structured presentations and matching discussions, with ample time devoted to comments from the floor. A number of senior researchers will attend the event.

The Doctoral Symposium will host keynote speaker(s) to be announced.

Submission Instructions

Presenters should have set on a dissertation topic in the general area of RE, or in a related field (in which case your topic should have a significant component of RE). Typically, you have progressed beyond your first year in the program, or are close to doing so, but have not submitted your thesis yet. To apply to the Doctoral Symposium, you will need to submit an application consisting of:

• A **Research Abstract** (max 6 pages + 1 for references, LNCS style) describing the **problem** you are addressing (what is unsatisfactory in the current state of the world?), its **relevance** (why would anyone care if the problem was solved?), your proposed **solution** (how do you plan to attack the problem?), the **novelty** of the problem, of the solution, or both (nobody identified the problem or provided the solution before you – i.e., what is your original contribution), the **research method** you are applying (which method are you following to get to the solution, and how do you prove it solves the problem?), and the **progress** in your research (where are you, how long to the final destination?). The Research Abstract should contain a short survey and pointers to relevant literature.
• A **Letter of Recommendation** from your primary supervisor or advisor. The letter need not discuss the research (which is already covered in your abstract) but should include a short statement about your position as a PhD student, the starting and expected completion date of your PhD, and an assessment of the current state of your research (including expectations about the final delivery).

Submissions will be evaluated based on the quality of the Research Abstract, and of the interest of the research described therein. Accepted papers will be published in CEUR proceedings. Submission link https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=refsq2017 Doctoral Symposium Track.

Important Dates

Submission deadline (Research abstract + Letter of recommendation)	January 9th, 2017
Notification of acceptance	January 27th, 2017
Camera-ready copy deadline	February 10th, 2017
REFSQ2016 Doctoral Symposium	February 27th, 2017

Symposium Chairs

Jennifer Horkoff, Chalmers and the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, **jenho@chalmers.se**
Jolita Ralyté – University of Geneva, Switzerland, **jolita.ralyte@unige.ch**

Panel of Experts

Daniel M. Berry, University of Waterloo, Canada
Sjaak Brinkkemper, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
Maya Daneva, University of Twente, The Netherlands
Erik Kamsties, Dortmund University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Germany
Oscar Pastor, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Spain