Engaging Practitioners in Software Engineering Research

Software Engineering researchers are expected to produce knowledge that Software Engineering practitioners use. It seems that the gap between the knowledge researchers produce and the knowledge practitioners need is growing – outcomes of SE research seems to have little impact on practice. This talk will argue that we need to engage with practitioners in a more meaningful manner and making them partners in research. If we can get the practitioners to participate in research while continuing their practice, we have “crowd researching” which can potentially provide benefits similar to crowd sourcing for information. The talk will discuss a few frameworks for this engagement and give examples of their successful use.