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Preface

Welcome to the proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Pervasive Computing. We are honored to serve as chairs in this conference series, founded in 2002, which has emerged as one of the most respected venues for publication of research in pervasive and ubiquitous computing.

This year's conference demonstrated the increasing breadth and depth of worldwide research on pervasive and ubiquitous computing, with a record number of submissions (178) from a record number of countries (26). From among these high quality submissions, the Technical Program Committee accepted 24 papers. These papers were chosen solely on quality, using a double-blind review process.

There was also a striking breadth of submissions. The submissions covered 29 topics, ranging from health care applications to embedded systems programming, from sensor networking to ethnography, from novel user interface techniques to power harvesting hardware. This year the most popular topics were programming environments, location-aware computing, and cell-phone interaction techniques.

Our first thanks goes to all the 541 authors who submitted full papers to this conference. Presenting research work in a paper requires a great deal of effort. We hope that these authors were rewarded with insightful reviews and an enjoyable conference program.

Any conference is only as strong as its reviewers and Program Committee. This is particularly true for this conference, which placed a very heavy load on its Program Committee. We were fortunate to have an outstanding and hard-working Program Committee: each Program Committee member was responsible for personally reading and reviewing at least 15 papers, and each paper discussed at the Program Committee meeting had been read by at least 3 Program Committee members.

To handle this breadth and depth, we were fortunate to have a talented reviewer pool with the multi-disciplinary expertise required. The 148 reviewers, from 57 different institutions, wrote over 1.5 million words of reviews – we thank them again for their selfless constructive criticisms.

In addition to the technical sessions, we were delighted to have two keynote speakers. David Tenenhouse, CEO of A9.com, discussed “Proactive Computing” and Joe Marks, Research Director, MERL, presented “Pervasive Computing: Off the Beaten Path”. Following the tradition of earlier Pervasive conferences, Pervasive 2006 also provided a number of other participation categories, including a doctoral colloquium, workshops on topics of special interest, a poster session for presentation of late-breaking results, and videos and demonstrations as interactive contributions.

Several organizations provided financial and logistical assistance, and we are grateful for their support. Special thanks go to the local organizers from

several institutions in Ireland. We also thank Karen Dickey and Boston MERL for graciously hosting our Program Committee meeting.

Final thanks goes to all the authors who entrusted their work to Pervasive 2006 and everyone who attended the conference. None of this would have been possible, or worthwhile, if it were not for your research in pervasive computing. Your continued contribution and support of this conference is most gratifying.

March 2006

Ken Fishkin, Bernt Schiele
Paddy Nixon, Aaron Quigley

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