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Proceedings

Volume Editors

James D. Carswell
Digital Media Centre
Dublin Institute of Technology
Dublin 2, Ireland
E-mail: jcarswell@dit.ie

Taro Tezuka
Graduate School of Informatics
Kyoto University
Yoshida-Honmachi, Sakyo
Kyoto, 606-8501, Japan
E-mail: tezuka@dl.kuis.kyoyo-u.ac.jp

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Preface

These proceedings contain the papers selected for presentation at the sixth edition of the International Symposium on Web & Wireless Geographical Information Systems held in Hong Kong during December 2006. This symposium was intended to provide an up-to-date review of advances in both theoretical and technical development of Web and Wireless Geographical Information Systems (W²GIS). It was the sixth in a series of successful events beginning with Kyoto 2001, and alternating locations annually between East Asia and Europe. It now represents an ever-increasing spatially aware geotechnology research community.

Now in its sixth year, W²GIS has matured in name from a “workshop” to a full 2-day “symposium” – recognition by the field as a forum for quality dissemination and discussion on the latest research and development achievements in the domain. The number of papers received for this symposium demonstrates not only the growing importance of this field for researchers but also the growing impact these developments have in the daily lives of all citizens.

From well over 130 submissions, 72 papers were initially selected as being directly in scope with the symposium, and from these, 24 papers (33%) were selected for final presentation and inclusion in the proceedings. Each paper received three reviews and was ranked accordingly. The accepted papers cover a wide range of topics from the Semantic Web, Web personalization, contextual representation and mapping to querying in mobile environments, mobile networks and recent developments in location-based services and applications.

We had the privilege of having a distinguished invited talk by Yufei Tao, Department of Computer Science of the City University of Hong Kong. The best paper from the symposium was selected by the Steering Committee and invited for an extended journal publication by *Transactions in GIS*.

We wish to thank the authors that contributed to this workshop for the high quality of their papers and presentations and the support of Springer LNCS. We would also like to thank the Program Committee for the quality and timeliness of their evaluations. Finally, many thanks to the Steering Committee for providing continuous advice.

October 2006

James D. Carswell
Taro Tezuka

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