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Preface

Education is the cornerstone of any society, and it serves as one of the foundations for many of its social values and characteristics. Knowledge societies offer significant opportunities for novel ICT tools and applications, especially in the fields of education and learning. In such a context, the role of intelligent systems, rooted in artificial intelligence, has become increasingly relevant to the field of technology-enhanced learning (TEL). New intelligent solutions can be stand-alone or interconnected to others. They can target not only cognitive processes but they can also take care of motivational factors. Furthermore, more recently, makerspaces have emerged as environments for learning, increasing the offer of formal and informal learning opportunities, also for "fragile users," as, for example, children, elderly people, people with special needs.

The 7th edition of this conference expands the topics of the previous editions in order to provide its participants with an open forum for discussing intelligent systems for TEL, their roots in novel learning theories, empirical methodologies for their design or evaluation, stand-alone solutions or Web-based ones, and makerspace opportunities, also fostering entrepreneurship and increasing business start-up ideas. The conference intends to bring together researchers, educators, and developers from industry to discuss the latest scientific research, technical advances, and methodologies.

This volume presents all papers that were accepted at MIS4TEL 2017. All underwent a peer-review selection: Each paper was assessed by three different reviewers, from an international panel composed of about 50 members of 11 countries. The program of MIS4TEL counted 15 contributions from diverse countries, such as Brazil, Colombia, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, Romania, and Spain. The quality of papers was on average good, with an acceptance rate of approximately 70%.

This conference has grown across years in quality and visibility at the international level. As we like writing every year, that would not have been possible without the interest of MIS4TEL authors in the conference as well as the help of the Program Committee who assisted the editors in the review process for giving constructive feedback to all authors. Therefore, we would like to thank, once more, all the contributing authors, reviewers, and sponsors (IBM, Indra and IEEE SMC

Spain), as well as the Organizing Committee for their hard and highly valuable work. The work of all such people crucially contributed to the success of MIS4TEL'17 and to shape the future and practice of TEL research.

Pierpaolo Vittorini
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