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Preface

We cordially welcome you to the proceedings of the 2007 International Symposium on Ubiquitous Computing Systems (UCS) held at Akihabara, Tokyo, Japan. UCS has become a symposium for the dissemination of state-of-the-art research and engineering practices in ubiquitous computing with particular emphasis on systems and software. UCS 2007 was the fourth of this series of international symposia. This was the year for the Next Generation Network (NGN) to be commercially launched so that the Internet could become the infrastructure for communications and computing substituting the NGN in telephone networks. The maturity of the Internet encourages the research and development of the next computing systems, where ubiquitous computing is recognized as one of the most promising computing paradigms.

This symposium was organized by IPSJ SIGUBI, IEICE USN and UCN, Korea, in cooperation with the IEEE Tokyo Section, IPSJ SIGEMB, IEICE Smart Info-media Systems Technical Group, and Human Interface Society. It was also sponsored by Ubiquitous Networking Forum, Nokia, NTT, SCAT, IISF and TAF.

This year, we had 96 submissions from 18 countries. The Program Committee reviewed all the papers carefully and then selected 16 full papers and 8 short papers. The very low acceptance rate of about 22.6% clearly demonstrates the high quality of the conference, and this tradition will continue in the upcoming conferences. Two distinguished speakers were also invited for keynote speeches, who enlightened the audience on ubiquitous computing and applications.

The high-quality technical program of UCS 2007 depends very much on the precise and stringent review process. The Technical Program Committee consisted of 62 excellent members. Most reviews ware almost of journal paper review quality, and the paper selection was very serious and strict.

Along with the symposium, we also offered a workshop and a poster session. This was for providing the researchers and engineers with opportunities to share their ideas and solutions for a broad range of challenging problems in this area.

As General Co-chairs and Program Co-chairs, we would like to express our appreciation to all the volunteers working hard for the symposium: members of the Steering Committee, the Organizing Committee, the Program Committee, the authors and the reviewers. Special thanks go to Yoshito Tobe and Jin Nakazawa.

November 2007
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