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Culture and Computing

Computing and Communication
for Crosscultural Interaction



Springer

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Preface

In the near future, international communities will face tough global issues, such as problems with population, energy, the environment, and food. Though it is necessary to build a consensus to resolve those issues, there are difficulties with communication among cultures. Contributions from information and communication technologies are required to understand and overcome these difficulties.

In this context, the First International Conference on Culture and Computing was held February 22–23, 2010, in Kyoto, the heart of culture in Japan, to provide an opportunity to share research issues and discuss the future of culture and computing. This conference was designed as a collection of symposiums, panels, workshops, exhibitions, and guided tours organized by various parties including universities, institutes, NPO/NGOs, and industries located in the Kyoto area and special interest groups of Japanese academic societies. We decided to make this conference more than just an academic event by basing it on real and vital activities related to culture and computing. The events forming this conference included:

- Symposium: “Culture and Computing” by Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University
- Symposium: “Multilingual Support for Medical Care” by NPO, Center for Multicultural Information and Assistance Kyoto
- Symposium: “Buddhist Culture and Computing” by Kyoto Buddhist Culture Forum
- Panel: “A New Trend in the Humanities Research: Digital Humanities” by Ritsumeikan University
- Panel: “Cultural Computing with Meister, and Shinto Priests in Kyoto” by Academic Center for Computing and Media Studies, Kyoto University
- Workshop: “The Current State and Problems of Cultural Sciences and Computer Study in Japan” by SIG Computers and the Humanities, Information Processing Society of Japan
- Workshop: “Language Grid and Intercultural Collaboration” by SIG-AI and SIG-IC, Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE)
- Workshop: “The Formation of Academic Knowledge Base of Buddhism” by SAT Daizokyo Text Database Committee
- Workshop: “Agents in Cultural Context” by Agents Workshop Committee
- Workshop: “The Scope and Perspectives e-Culture” by APAN e-Culture WG

The first conference featured two prominent keynote speakers, Makoto Nagao, President of the National Diet Library, and Taichi Yuasa, professor of Kyoto University, followed by four joint talks as outlined below.

- “Intercultural Collaboration” by W. Lewis Johnson, Alelo Inc. and Toru Ishida, Kyoto University
- “Digital Humanities and New Trends in the Study of Japanese Culture” by Ellis Tinios, University of Leeds, UK, and Ryo Akama, Ritsumeikan University
- “Web Media and e-Culture” by Julien Masanes, European Archive and Katsumi Tanaka, Kyoto University
- “Cultural Computing” by Ryohei Nakatsu, University of Singapore and Naoko Tosa, Kyoto University

This volume includes 17 invited and selected papers. In parallel with various events, we encouraged academic participants of the conference to submit papers on their presentations at the conference. Those papers were reviewed and selected by program committee members. The accepted papers are categorized into the following areas:

- Culturally Situated Agents
- Intercultural Collaboration and Support Systems
- Culture and Computing for Art and Heritage
- Culture and Computing in Regional Communities

The conference was successfully concluded with 499 attendees. The next conference has not been decided yet, but it will likely be held in Kyoto again in the near future.

May 2010

Toru Ishida

Organization

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