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Digital Documents: Systems and Principles

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Series Editors

Gerhard Goos, Karlsruhe University, Germany
Juris Hartmanis, Cornell University, NY, USA
Jan van Leeuwen, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Volume Editors

Peter King
University of Manitoba, Department of Computer Science
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2, Canada
E-mail: prking@cs.umanitoba.ca

Ethan V. Munson
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Department of EECS
Milwaukee, WI 53201, USA
E-mail: munson@cs.uwm.edu

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Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of two recent conferences in the field of electronic publishing and digital documents:

- DDEP 2000, the 8th International Conference on Digital Documents and Electronic Publishing, the successor conference to the EP conference series; and
- PODDP 2000, the 5th International Workshop on the Principles of Digital Document Processing.

Both conferences were held at the Technische Universität München, Munich, Germany in September 2000.

DDEP 2000 was the eighth in a biennial series of international conferences organized to promote the exchange of novel ideas concerning the computer production, manipulation and dissemination of documents. This conference series has attempted to reflect the evolving nature and usage of documents by treating digital documents and electronic publishing as a broad topic covering many aspects. These aspects have included document models, document representation and document dissemination, dynamic and hyper-documents, document analysis and management, and wide-ranging applications. The papers presented at DDEP 2000 and in this volume reflect this broad view, and cover such diverse topics as hypermedia structure and design, multimedia authoring techniques and systems, document structure inference, typography, document management and adaptation, document collections and Petri nets. All papers were refereed by an international program committee.

PODDP 2000 was designed to provide a forum for the discussion of the modeling of systems that process digital documents using theories and techniques from such fields as computer science, mathematics and psychology. The papers presented at PODDP 2000 appearing in this volume report on such diverse topics as abstract document structures and document data structures, techniques for document transformation, the applicability of UML (Unified Modeling Language) diagrams to document specifications, and automatic link generation. Again, all papers were refereed by an international program committee.

This volume also includes two papers that were previously accepted for the journal EPODD, Electronic Publishing, Origin Dissemination and Design. One of these papers contains a comparative evaluation of two common approaches to the electronic presentation of news, while the other paper describes an agent-based toolkit for finding and remembering information in a distributed environment of rapidly changing information sources. These two papers were reviewed by the editorial board of the journal.

The editors would like to thank the members of the PODDP and DDEP program committees for their considerable assistance in providing very thorough reviews of the submissions. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the conference sponsors: Software-Offensive Bayern, Comet Computer GmbH, the Institut

für Informatik Technische Universität München, and Springer-Verlag. Prof. Dr. Anne Brüggemann-Klein worked tirelessly as the chair of DDEP 2000 and also managed local arrangements for both meetings. We also express our sincere gratitude to Frau Evelyn Gemkow of the Technische Universität München, whose service as the conference secretary was much appreciated, and to Frau Diana Gross, Dr. Stefan Hermann and other members of the Rechnerbetriebsgruppe at TUM for the design of the Web pages and other on-site technical assistance, including Internet access.

December 2000

Peter King,
Ethan V. Munson

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