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# Context: Nature, Impact, and Role

5th International Conference on Conceptions  
of Library and Information Sciences, CoLIS 2005  
Glasgow, UK, June 4-8, 2005  
Proceedings



Springer

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# Preface

CoLIS 5 was the fifth in the series of international conferences whose general aim is to provide a broad forum for critically exploring and analyzing research in areas such as computer science, information science and library science. CoLIS examines the historical, theoretical, empirical and technical issues relating to our understanding and use of information, promoting an interdisciplinary approach to research. CoLIS seeks to provide a broad platform for the examination of context as it relates to our theoretical, empirical and technical development of information-centered disciplines.

The theme for CoLIS 5 was the nature, impact and role of context within information-centered research. Context is a complex, dynamic and multi-dimensional concept that influences both humans and machines: how they behave individually and how they interact with each other. In CoLIS 5 we took an interdisciplinary approach to the issue of context to help us understand and the theoretical approaches to modelling and understanding context, incorporate contextual reasoning within technology, and develop a shared framework for promoting the exploration of context.

The Organizing Committee would like to thank all the authors who submitted their work for consideration and the participants of CoLIS 5 for making the event a great success. Special thanks are due to the members of the Program Committee who worked very hard to ensure the timely review of all the submitted manuscripts, and to the invited speakers: Prof. David Blair, University of Michigan, Business School, USA and Prof. Elisabeth Davenport, Napier University, School of Computing, UK. We also thank the sponsoring institutions, EPSRC, the Kelvin Institute, the BCS-IRSG and the University of Strathclyde, for their generous financial support of the conference, and Glasgow City Council for its civic hospitality.

Thanks are also due to the editorial staff at Springer for their agreement to publish the conference proceedings as part of the Lecture Notes in Computer Science series.

Finally thanks are due to the local team of student volunteers (Mark Baillie, Heather Du, David Elswailer, Emma Nicol, Fabio Simeoni, Simon Sweeney and Murat Yakici), secretaries (Linda Hunter and Carol-Ann Seath), and the information officer (Paul Smith) whose efforts ensured the smooth organization and running of the conference.

June 2005

Fabio Crestani  
Ian Ruthven

# Organization

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CoLIS 5 was organized by the Department of Computer and Information Sciences of the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK.

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## **Previous Venues of CoLIS**

CoLIS 1 was held in 1991 at the University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland.

CoLIS 2 was held in 1996 at the Royal School of Librarianship, Copenhagen, Denmark.

CoLIS 3 was held in 1999 at the Inter-university Centre, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

CoLIS 4 was held in 2002 at the University of Washington, Seattle, USA.

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