

Information Systems Development

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Towards a Service Provision Society

Edited by

GEORGE A. PAPADOPOULOS

*University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus*

GREGORY WOJTKOWSKI

*Boise State University
Boise, ID, USA*

WITA WOJTKOWSKI

*Boise State University
Boise, ID, USA*

STANISLAW WRYCZA

*University of Gdansk
Sopot, Poland*

JOZE ZUPANCIC

*University of Maribor
Kranj, Slovenia*

Editors

George A. Papadopoulos
Department of Computer Science
University of Cyprus
Nicosia 1678, Cyprus
george@cs.ucy.ac.cy

Gregory Wojtkowski
Department of Information Technology
College of Business and Economics
Boise State University
Boise, ID 83725-1615, USA
gwojtkow@boisestate.edu

Wita Wojtkowski
Department of Information Technology
College of Business and Economics
Boise State University
Boise, ID 83725-1615, USA
riswojt2@cobfac.boise.state.edu
riswojt2@cobfac.idbsu.edu

Stanislaw Wrycza
Department of Information
Systems
University of Gdansk
Krajowej 119121, Poland
swrycza@univ.gda.pl

Joze Zupancic
University of Maribor
Kranj SI-4000, Slovenia
joze.zupancic@fov.uni-mb.si

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Preface

This two-volume book is the published proceedings of the 17th International Conference on Information Systems Development (ISD2008) that was hosted by the Department of Computer Science of the University of Cyprus at the Annabelle Hotel, Paphos, Cyprus, from 25–27 August 2008. The theme of the conference was “Towards a Service Provision Society”.

In total, 131 delegates from 34 different countries registered for the conference, making it a truly international event. Papers presented at the conference strongly reflected the conference theme. Of 165 papers submitted, 99 were presented at the conference, representing an acceptance rate of approximately 60%. All papers were peer reviewed by 3 or 4 referees (a total of 543 review reports were submitted, corresponding to an average of 3.29 reviews per paper).

Over the course of 3 days, 28 paper sessions were held, covering a range of areas such as “Information Systems Engineering & Management”, “Business Systems Analysis & Design”, “Intelligent Information Systems”, “Agile and High-Speed Systems Development Methods”, “Enterprise Systems Development & Adoption”, “Public Information Systems Development”, “Information Systems Development Education”, “Information Systems Development in Developing Nations”, “Legal and Administrative Aspects of Information Systems Development”, “Information Systems Research Methodologies”, “Service-Oriented Analysis and Design of Information Systems”, “IT Service Management”, “Philosophical and Theoretical Issues in Information Systems Development”, “Model-driven Engineering in ISD”, “Human Computer Interaction (HCI) in Information Systems Development”. The book is organised by order of the conference sessions.

While all the presented papers were of high quality, we have selected two of them to share the *Best Paper Award*. The first one is “Modeling the contribution of enterprise architecture practice to the achievement of business goals” by Marlies van Steenbergen and Sjaak Brinkkemper. The second one is “Why can’t we bet on ISD Outcomes?: ISD ‘Form’ as a Predictor of Success” by Mike Newman, Shan L Pan and Gary Pan. Furthermore, to acknowledge the quality of the reviews he completed, the quality of the paper he submitted, his role as a track and session chair, and his general participation in the conference, we have awarded an *Overall Contribution Award* to Michael Lang of the National University of Ireland, Galway. Details of these awards can be found on the conference Web site at <http://isd2008.cs.ucy.ac.cy>.

Our gratitude is extended first to all those who attended and authored work for the conference. The contribution of the International Program Committee was invaluable in identifying track chairs and reviewers to commit to doing vital work. While volunteering to host a conference is a highly personal undertaking, without support it would be impossible. Thus, we wish to thank our sponsors for their financial support and other aid.

The ISD conference community has developed over the years a real sense of collegiality and friendliness, perhaps unusually so for a conference. At the same time it has been a stimulating forum where a free exchange of views and perspectives is encouraged. Perhaps what brings the community together is a belief that the process of systems development is important; whether it is systematic or structured or improvised or spontaneous, there is something about the process and the outcomes that excites us. We form a spectrum of thought from those who see the activity as somewhat scientific to others that see it as wholly sociological; we span a divide between abstract and conceptual, to hard code and

artefacts – somewhere in-between lies the truth. If our work is to make a meaningful contribution to both practice (by teaching students) and research (by sharing our experiences and studies with others), then hopefully this conference will have done a little of the former and much for the latter.

George A. Papadopoulos
Gregory Wojtkowski
Wita Wojtkowski
Stanislaw Wrycza
Joze Zupancic

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Conference Organisation

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Programme Chair

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George A. Papadopoulos, University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus

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-----------------	----------------------	--------

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Information Systems Development Education

Aimilia Tzanavari University of Cyprus Cyprus

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William Song	University of Durham	UK
Stefanos Mavromoustakos	European University	Cyprus

IT Service Management

Vjeran Strahonja	University of Zagreb	Croatia
------------------	----------------------	---------

Philosophical and Theoretical Issues in Information Systems Development

Björn Niehaves	University of Münster	Germany
Karlheinz Kautz	Copenhagen Business School	Denmark

Model-driven Engineering in ISD

Maria Jose Escalona	University of Sevilla	Spain
---------------------	-----------------------	-------

Human Computer Interaction (HCI) in Information Systems Development

Andrina Granic	University of Split	Croatia
----------------	---------------------	---------

International Programme Committee

Witold Abramowicz	Economic University	USA
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Xiaofeng Du	Durham University	UK
Jim Duggan	University of Alabama	USA
Sean Duignan	Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology	Ireland
Dale Dzemydiene	Law University	Lithuania
Erki Eessaar	Tallinn University of Technology	Estonia
Owen Eriksson	Dalarna University College	Sweden
Chris Exton	University of Limerick	Ireland
George Feuerlicht	University of Technology	Australia
Gavin Finnie	Bond University	Australia
Marko Forsell	SESCA Technologies	Finland
Odd Fredriksson	Karlstad University	Sweden
Andreas Gadatsch	FH Bonn-Rhein-Sieg	Germany
Prima Gustiene	Karlstad University	Sweden
Javier Jesús Gutiérrez Rodríguez	University of Sevilla	Spain
Samer Hanna	Durham University	UK
G Harindranath	University of London	UK
Igor Hawryszkiewicz	University of Technology Sydney	Australia
Jonas Hedman	Copenhagen Business School	Sweden
Kevin Heffernan	Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology	Ireland
Markus Helfert	Dublin City University	Ireland
Ola Henfriddson	Viktoria Institute	Sweden
Alan Hevner	University of South Florida	USA
Val Hobbs	Murdoch University	Australia
Mairéad Hogan	National University of Ireland	Galway
Jesper Holck	Copenhagen Business School	Denmark
Helena Holmstrom	University of Limerick	Ireland

Magda Huisman	North-West University	South Africa
Sergey Ivanov	George Washington University	USA
Mirjana Ivanovic	University of Novi Sad	Serbia
Letizia Jaccheri	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
Christian Janiesch	SAP Australia Pty Ltd	Australia
Arek Januszewski	University of Technology and Agriculture	Poland
Björn Johansson	Copenhagen Business School	Danmark
Pasi Juvonen	South Carelia Polytechnic	Finland
Roland Kaschek	Massey University	New Zealand
Marite Kirikova	Riga Technical University	Latvia
Gabor Knapp	Budapest Univ of Technology & Economics	Hungary
Christian Kop	Alpen-Adria Universitaet Klagenfurt	Austria
John Krogstie	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
Gert Kruithof	TNO Information and Communication Techno	Netherlands
Marian Kuras	Cracow Academy of Economics	Poland
Rein Kuusik	Economic University	Estonia
Sergei Kuznetsov	Institute for System Programming of Russia	Russia
Vitus Lam	The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong
John Lannon	University of Limerick	Ireland
Przemyslaw Lech	University of Gdansk	Poland
Mauri Leppänen	University of Jyväskylä	Finland
Mikael Lind	University of Borås	Sweden
Henry Linger	Monash University	Australia
Graham Low	University of New South Wales	Australia
Audrone Lupeikiene	Institute of Mathematics and Informatics	Lithuania
Kalle Lyytinen	Case Western Reserve University	USA
Dear Leszek A. Maciaszek	Macquarie University	Australia
Brenda Mallinson	Rhodes University	South Africa
Yannis Manolopoulos	Aristotle University Greece	Greece
Dorina Marghescu	Turku Centre for Computer Science/ Åbo A	Finland
Lars Mathiassen	Georgia State University	USA
John McAvoy	University College Cork	Ireland
Orla McHugh	National University of Ireland	Galway
Anna Medve	University of Pannonia Veszprem	Hungary
Regis Meissonier	Management School Montpellier	France
Ulf Melin	Linköping University	Sweden
Elisabeth Metais	CNAM University	France
Peter Middleton	Queen's University of Belfast	UK
Owen Molloy	National University of Ireland	Galway
Robert Moreton	University of Wolverhampton	UK
Haris Mouratidis	University of East London	UK
Malcolm Munro	Durham University	UK
Anatoli Nachev	National University of Ireland	Galway
Pavol Navrat	Slovak University of Technology	Slovakia
Géza Németh	Budapest University of Technology and Economics	Hungary

Lina Nemuraite	Kaunas Technical University	Lithuania
Edephone Nfuka	Stockholm University	Sweden
Peter Axel Nielsen	Aalborg University	Denmark
Anders G. Nilsson	Karlstads University	Sweden
Ovidiu Noran	Griffith University	Australia
Jacob Norbjerg	Copenhagen Business School	Denmark
Gerard o'Donovan	Cork Institute of Technology	Ireland
Päivi Ovaska	South Carelia Polytechnic	Finland
Jill Owen	University College Canberra	Australia
Caroline Pade	Rhodes University	South Africa
Oscar Pastor	University of Valencia	Spain
Natalja Pavlova	Riga Technical University	Latvia
Anne Persson	University of Skövde	Sweden
John Soren Pettersson	Karlstad University	Sweden
George Philip	The Queen's University of Belfast	UK
Maritta Pirhonen	University of Jyväskylä	Finland
Alain Pirotte	University of Louvain	Belgium
Dijana Plantak Vukovac	University of Zagreb	Croatia
Tomasz Plata-Przechlewski	Gdansk University	Poland
Jaroslav Pokorny	Charles University	Czech Rep.
Norah Power	University of Limerick	Ireland
Adam Przybylek	Gdansk University	Poland
Boris Rachev	Technical University of Varna	Bulgaria
Isidro Ramos Salavert	Universitat Politècnica de Valencia	Spain
Birger Rapp	Linköping University	Sweden
Vaclav Repa	Prague University of Economics	Czech Rep
Karel Richta	Czech Technical University	Czech Rep
Peter Rittgen	University College of Borås	Sweden
Tarmo Robal	Tallinn University of Technology	Estonia
Kamel Rouibah	Kuwait University	Kuwait
Alice Rupe	AR IT Solutions	USA
Adriana Schiopiu Burlea	University of Craiova	Romania
Dirk Schreiber	FH Bonn-Rhein-Sieg	Germany
Maha Shaikh	London School of Economics	UK
Peretz Shoval	Ben-Gurion University	Israel
Keng Siau	University of Nebraska – Lincoln	USA
Klaas Sikkels	University of Twente	Netherlands
Rok Skrinjar	University of Ljubljana	Slovenia
Piotr Soja	Cracow University of Economics	Poland
Tor Stalhane	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
Ioannis Stamelos	Aristotle University	Greece
Larry Stapleton	Waterford Institute of Technology	Ireland
Odd Steen	Lund University	Sweden
Dariusz Strasunskas	NTNU	Norway
Uldis Sukovskis	Riga Technical University	Latvia

Bo Sundgren	Mid Sweden University	Sweden
Janis Tenteris	Riga Technical University	Latvia
Domonkos Tikk	Budapest University of Technology and Economics	Hungary
Anna Trifonova	Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
Tuure Tuunanen	The University of Auckland	New Zealand
Tero Vartiainen	Turku School of Economics	Finland
Olegas Vasilecas	Vilnius Gediminas Technical University	Lithuania
Damjan Vavpotic	University of Ljubljana	Slovenia
Anna Vindere	Latvia University of Agriculture	Latvia
Jiri Vorisek	Prague University of Economics	Czech Rep
Gottfried Vossen	University of Munster	Germany
Taujanskas Vytautas	Kaunas University of Technology	Lithuania
Hongbing Wang	Southeast University	China
Leoni Warne	Defence Science and Technology Organisation	Australia
Dave Wastell	University of Salford	UK
Christine Welch	University of Portsmouth	UK
Wita Wojtkowski	Boise State University	USA
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Stanislaw Wrycza	University of Gdansk	Poland
Heitor Augustus Xavier Costa	Universidade Federal de Lavras	Brazil
Chia-Hui Yen	Wu-Feng Institute of Technology	Taiwan
Gian Piero Zarri	Universite Paris 4/Sorbonne	France
Jozef Zurada	University of Louisville	USA

Contributors

Linās Ablonskis

Department of Information Systems
Kaunas University of Technology
Kaunas, Lithuania

P. Acampa

Istituto di Cibernetica “E. Caianiello”
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy

Adam V. Adamopoulos

Pattern Recognition Laboratory
Department of Computer Engineering and Informatics
and
University of Patras Artificial Intelligence Research Center
(U.P.A.I.R.C.)
University of Patras
Patras, Greece
and
Medical Physics Laboratory
Department of Medicine
Democritus University of Thrace
Alexandroupolis, Greece

Pär J. Ågerfalk

Department of Information Science,
Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden
and
Lero – The Irish Software Engineering Research Centre
Limerick, Ireland

Pierre Akiki

Department of Computer Science
Notre Dame University
Zouk Mosbeh, Lebanon

Sabah Al-Fedaghi

Computer Engineering Department
Kuwait University
Kuwait

Christos Nikolaos Anagnostopoulos

Cultural Technology and Communication Department
University of the Aegean
Aegean, Greece

Ilze Andersone

Department of Systems Theory and Design
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Alla Anohina

Department of Systems Theory and Design
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Giannakis Antoniou

The University of Melbourne
Victoria, Australia

Nicolas Arni-Bloch

University of Geneva
Geneva, Switzerland

Aybüke Aurum

School of Information Systems, Technology and Management
The Australian School of Business
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

Jan Helge Austbø

Department of Information Systems
University of Agder
Kristiansand, Norway

Marios N. Avraamides

Department of Psychology
University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus

Amelia Badica

Department of Business Information Systems
University of Craiova
Craiova, Romania

Costin Badica

Department of Software Engineering
University of Craiova
Craiova, Romania

Lina Bagusyte

Software Engineering Department
Institute of Mathematics and Informatics
Vilnius, Lithuania

Balbir S. Barn

Middlesex University
London, UK

Hamish T. Barney

School of Information Systems Technology and Management
The University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

R. Bashroush

ECIT
Queen's University of Belfast
Belfast, UK

Lynn Batten

Deakin University
Victoria, Australia

Jörg Becker

European Research Center for Information Systems
University of Münster
Münster, Germany

Peter M. Bednar

School of Computing
University of Portsmouth
Portsmouth, UK
and
Department of Informatics
Lund University
Lund, Sweden

Peter Bellström

Department of Information Systems
Karlstad University
Karlstad, Sweden

Yolande Berbers

University of Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

Solvita Bērziša

Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Kamaljit Kaur Bimrah

Innovative Informatics, School of Computing and Technology
University of East London
London, UK

Pyrros Bratskas

Department of Computer Science
University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus

Maricela Bravo

Informatique Department
Morelos State Polytechnic University
México

Ramunas Brazinskas

Department of Informatics
Klaipeda University
Klaipeda, Lithuania

Sjaak Brinkkemper

Institute of Information and Computer Sciences
University of Utrecht
Utrecht, The Netherlands

Dumitru Dan Burdescu

Department of Software Engineering
University of Craiova
Craiova, Romania

María Eugenia Cabello

Polytechnic University of Valencia
Valencia, Spain

Albertas Caplinskas

Software Engineering Department
Institute of Mathematics and Informatics
Vilnius, Lithuania

Jose Cardenas

Department of Informatics
DIRESA Junin
Peru

Yannis Charalabidis

Decision Support Systems Laboratory
National Technical University of Athens
Athens, Greece

Karel Charvat

Czech Centre for Science and Society
Praha, Czech Republic

Deren Chen

College of Computer Science
Zhejiang University
Zhejiang, China

Fang Chen

National Information and Communication Technology
Australia (NICTA) Australian
Technology Park
Sydney, Australia

Rares M. Chiriacescu

SIVECO Romania
Bucharest, Romania

Eric Choi

National Information and Communication Technology
Australia (NICTA) Australian
Technology Park
Sydney, Australia

Emma Chávez

School of Information Technology
Bond University
Australia
and
Departamento de Ing. Informática
Universidad Católica de la Sma Concepción
Chile

Jenny Coady

Department of Computer Science
Heriot Watt University
Edinburgh, Scotland

Martha Coronel

Informatique Department
Morelos State Polytechnic University
México

Gabriel J. Costello

Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
Galway, Ireland
and
Centre for Innovation and Structural Change
National University of Ireland
Galway, Ireland

Fanny Coudert

Interdisciplinary Centre for Law and ICT
K.U. Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

Chris Coughlan

Hewlett-Packard Galway Limited
Ireland

Stefan Cronholm

Department of Management and Engineering
Linköping University
Linköping, Sweden

Stephen Cummins

Department of Computer Science
Durham University
Durham, UK

Salem Ben Dhaou Dakhli

CERIA Laboratory
Paris-Dauphine University
France

Robertas Damaševičius

Software Engineering Department
Kaunas University of Technology
Kaunas, Lithuania

Aniruddha Dasgupta

Decision System Laboratory
School of Computer Science and Software Engineering
University of Wollongong
Wollongong, NSW, Australia

E. de-Miguel

Lingüística General
Facultad de Filología
Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Madrid, Spain

Michel Deriaz

Advanced Systems Group
Centre Universitaire d'Informatique
University of Geneva
Geneva, Switzerland

Yun Ding

European Media Laboratory GmbH
Heidelberg, Germany

Brian Donnellan

National University of Ireland
Galway, Ireland

Xiaofeng Du

Computer Science Department
University of Durham
Durham, North Carolina
USA

M.J. Escalona

University of Seville
Seville, Spain

A. Fernández-Pamplón

Lingüística General
Facultad de Filología
Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Madrid, Spain

George Feuerlicht

University of Technology
Sydney
Australia
and
University of Economics
Prague, Czech Republic

Gavin Finnie

School of Information Technology
Bond University
Australia

Monica Florea

SIVECO Romania
Bucharest, Romania

Andreas Gadatsch

Bonn-Rhein Sieg University of Applied Science
Sankt Augustin, Germany

Joe Geldart

Department of Computer Science
Durham University
Durham, UK

Efstratios F. Georgopoulos

Pattern Recognition Laboratory
Department of Computer Engineering and Informatics
and
University of Patras Artificial Intelligence
Research Center (U.P.A.I.R.C.),
University of Patras
Patras, Greece
and
Technological Educational Institute of Kalamata
Kalamata, Greece

Aditya K. Ghose

Decision System Laboratory
School of Computer Science and
Software Engineering
University of Wollongong
Wollongong, NSW
Australia

Jānis Grabis

Faculty of Computer Science and
Information Technology
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Andrina Granić

Faculty of Science
University of Split
Split, Croatia

Janis Grundspenkis

Department of Systems Theory and Design
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Endre Grøtnes

Department of Informatics
University of Oslo
Oslo, Norway

Remigijus Gustas

Department of Information Systems
Karlstad University
Karlstad, Sweden

Prima Gustiene

Department of Information Systems
Karlstad University
Karlstad, Sweden

J.J. Gutiérrez

University of Seville
Seville, Spain

Regina Gyampoh-Vidogah

Care Services Improvement Partnership
Department of Health
London, UK

Doris Gälle

Institute of Applied Informatics
Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt
Austria

Karen Hamber

School of Information Systems, Technology and Management
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

Matthias Hansen

Department of Informatics
Technische Universität München
München, Germany

Karin Hedström

MELAB
Swedish Business School
Örebro University
Örebro, Sweden

Petr Horak

Wirelessinfo
Litovel, Czech Republic

Xiaoming Hu

European Media Laboratory GmbH
Heidelberg, Germany

Mats-Åke Hugoson

Department of Informatics
Jönköping International Business School
Jönköping, Sweden

G.B. Huitema

TNO Information and Communication Technology
Groningen, The Netherlands

Andreas A. Ioannides

Laboratory for Human Brain Dynamics
Brain Science Institute
Saitama, Japan

V. Iordan

Computer Science Department
West University of Timisoara
Timisoara, Romania

Björn Johansson

Copenhagen Business School
Center for Applied Information and Communication
Technology
Frederiksberg, Denmark

Bojan Jovičić

Delta Sport
Belgrade, Serbia

Darius Jurkevicius

Department of Information Systems
Faculty of Fundamental Sciences
Vilnius Gediminas Technical University
Vilnius, Lithuania

Pasi Juvonen

South Karealia University of Applied Sciences
Imatra, Finland

Judith Kabeli-Shani

Department of Industrial and Management Engineering
Shenkar College of Engineering and Design
Ramat-Gan, Israel

Konstantinos Kakousis

Department of Computer Science
University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus

Ahto Kalja

Department of Computer Engineering
Tallinn University of Technology
Estonia

Fredrik Karlsson

MELAB
Swedish Business School
Örebro University
Örebro, Sweden

Nina Kilbrink

Department of Information Systems
Karlstad University
Karlstad, Sweden

Peter Killisperger

Competence Center Information Systems
University of Applied Sciences – München
Germany
and
Advanced Computing Research Centre
University of South Australia
Adelaide, Australia

Marite Kirikova

Department of Systems Theory and Design
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Christian Kop

Research Group Application Engineering
Institute for Applied Informatics
Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt
Austria

V. Koufi

Department of Digital Systems
University of Piraeus
Piraeus, Greece

Helmut Krcmar

Department of Informatics
Technische Universität München
München, Germany

Aneesh Krishna

Decision System Laboratory
School of Computer Science and Software Engineering
University of Wollongong
Wollongong, NSW, Australia

Padmanabhan Krishnan

School of Information Technology
Bond University
Australia

Steinar Kristoffersen

Faculty of Computer Science
Østfold University College
Halden, Norway

G.H. Kruithof

TNO Information and Communication Technology
Groningen, The Netherlands

Fenareti Lampathaki

Decision Support Systems Laboratory
National Technical University of Athens
Athens, Greece

Michael Lang

Business Information Systems Group
Cairnes School of Business and Economics
National University of Ireland
Galway, Ireland

Mauri Leppänen

University of Jyväskylä
Computer Science and Information Systems
Jyväskylä, Finland

Spiridon D. Likothanassis

Pattern Recognition Laboratory
Department of Computer
Engineering and Informatics
and
University of Patras Artificial Intelligence Research Center
(U.P.A.I.R.C.)
University of Patras
Patras, Greece

Henry Linger

Faculty of Information Technology
Monash University
Melbourne, Australia

A. Llargo

Servicio Andaluz de Salud
Seville, Spain

Bogdan Logofatu

CREDIS Department
University of Bucharest
Bucharest, Romania

Graham C. Low

Information Systems, Technology and Management
The Australian School of Business
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

Shumin Lu

The Key Lab of Electronic-Commerce
Xi'an Jiaotong University
China

Audrone Lupeikiene

Software Engineering Department
Institute of Mathematics and Informatics
Vilnius, Lithuania

H. Luthria

Information Systems, Technology and Management
The Australian School of Business
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

C. López-Alonso

Lingüística General
Facultad de Filología
Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Madrid, Spain

Hoda Maalouf

Department of Computer Science
Notre Dame University
Zouk Mosbeh
Lebanon

F. Malamateniou

Department of Digital Systems
University of Piraeus
Piraeus, Greece

M. Mango Furnari

Istituto di Cibernetica "E. Caianiello"
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche
Italy

F. Martín

Servicio Andaluz de Salud
Seville, Spain

Nikola Marangunić

Faculty of Science
University of Split
Split, Croatia

Martin Matzner

European Research Center
for Information Systems
University of Muenster
Münster, Germany

Heinrich C. Mayr

Institute of Applied Informatics
Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Austria

Wayne Menary

GeoPac
Coventry, UK

Marian Cristian Mihaescu

Department of Software Engineering
University of Craiova
Craiova, Romania

Ivica Mitrović

Arts Academy
University of Split
Split, Croatia

Irena Mlynkova

Department of Software Engineering
Charles University
Prague, Czech Republic

F. Morero

Sun Microsystems
Madrid, Spain

Robert Moreton

School of Computing and IT
University of Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton, UK

Haralambos Mouratidis

Innovative Informatics, School
of Computing and Technology
University of East London
London, UK

Malcolm Munro

Computer Science Department
University of Durham
Durham, North Carolina
USA

Oliver Müller

European Research Center for Information Systems
University of Münster
Münster, Germany

Costas K. Neocleous

Department of Mechanical Engineering
Cyprus University of Technology
Lemesos, Cyprus

Kleanthis C. Neokleous

Department of Computer Science
University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus

Mike Newman

Manchester Business School
The University of Manchester
Manchester, UK
and
Copenhagen Business School
Copenhagen, Denmark

J. Nieto

Servicio Andaluz de Salud
Seville, Spain

Oksana Nikiforova

Department of Applied Computer Science
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Evita Nikitenko

Department of Systems Theory and Design
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Anders G. Nilsson

Department of Information Systems
Karlstad University
Karlstad, Sweden

Ovidiu Noran

School of ICT
Griffith University Australia
Australia

Md Noor Nor Laila

Department of System Science
Universiti Teknologi MARA
Malaysia

C. Noviello

Istituto di Cibernetica "E. Caianiello"
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche
Italy

Samia Oussena

Thames Valley University
London, UK

Päivi Ovaska

South Karealia University of Applied Sciences
Imatra, Finland

Jill Owen

School of Business, Australian
Defence Force Academy
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

Tero Päivärinta

Department of Information Systems
University of Agder
Kristiansand, Norway

Gary Pan

Singapore Management University
Singapore

Shan L. Pan

Department of Information Systems
National University of Singapore
Singapore

Malgorzata Pankowska

University of Economics
Katowice, Poland

Dimitrios Panopoulos

Decision Support Systems Laboratory
National Technical University of Athens
Athens, Greece

George A. Papadopoulos

Department of Computer Science
University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus

D. Papakonstantinou

Department of Digital Systems
University of Piraeus
Piraeus, Greece

Udaya Parampalli

The University of Melbourne
Victoria, Australia

C.L. Parra

Servicio Andaluz de Salud
Seville, Spain

Lina Paškevičiūtė

Software Engineering Department
Institute of Mathematics and Informatics
Vilnius, Lithuania

Nearchos Paspallis

Department of Computer Science
University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus

Natalya Pavlova

Department of Applied Computer Science
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

F. Pérez

Servicio Andaluz de Salud
Seville, Spain

D. Petcu

Institute e-Austria Timisoara
Timisoara, Romania
and
Computer Science Department
West University of Timisoara
Timisoara, Romania

Georg Peters

Department of Computer
Science and Mathematics
University of Applied Sciences – München
München, Germany

Manuele Kirsch Pinheiro

University of Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

G. Pita

Lingüística General
Facultad de Filología
Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Madrid, Spain

Dijana Plantak Vukovac

Department of Information Systems Development
Faculty of Organization and Informatics
University of Zagreb
Varazdin, Croatia

Jaroslav Pokorný

Charles University of Prague
Prague, Czech Republic

Rob Pooley

Department of Computer Science
Heriot Watt University
Edinburgh, Scotland

Sorin Portase

SIVECO Romania
Bucharest, Romania

David Preston

Innovative Informatics, School
of Computing and Technology
University of East London
London, UK

Tomasz Przechlewski

Katedra Informatyki Ekonomicznej
Uniwersytet Gdański
Piaskowa, Poland

John Psarras

Decision Support Systems Laboratory
National Technical University of Athens
Athens, Greece

F.A. Rabhi

Information Systems,
Technology and Management
The Australian School of Business
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

Lemonia Ragia

Advanced Systems Group
Centre Universitaire d'Informatique
University of Geneva
Geneva, Switzerland

Jolita Ralyté

University of Geneva
Geneva, Switzerland

Isidro Ramos

Polytechnic University of Valencia
Valencia, Spain

Yuan Rao

College of Software Engineer
Xi'an Jiaotong University
China

Karel Richta

Charles University of Prague
Prague, Czech Republic

Despoina Rizou

Department Cognitive Computing
and Medical Imaging
Fraunhofer IGD
Darmstadt, Germany

Tarmo Robal

Department of Computer Engineering
Tallinn University of Technology
Estonia

Sérgio A. Rodrigues

COPPE/UFRJ – Computer Science Department
Graduate School of Engineering
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Brazil

Picek Ruben

Department of Information System Development
Faculty of Organization and Informatics
University of Zagreb
Varaždin, Croatia

F.J. Rumph

TNO Information and Communication Technology
Groningen, The Netherlands

Narongdech Ruttananontsatean

Kanchanaburi Rajabhat University
Thailand

Øystein Sæbo

Department of Information Systems
University of Agder
Kristiansand, Norway

Ilias Sachpazidis

Department Cognitive Computing
and Medical Imaging
Fraunhofer IGD
Darmstadt, Germany

Tomas Salamon

Department of Information Technologies
University of Economics
Prague, Czech Republic

David Sallah

University of Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton, UK

Demetrios Sarantis

Decision Support Systems Laboratory
National Technical University of Athens
Athens, Greece

Svein Sundfør Scheie

The Norwegian Post and Telecommunications
Authority
Norway

Christos N. Schizas

Department of Computer Science
University of Cyprus
Nicosia, Cyprus

Ulf Seigerroth

Department of Informatics
Jönköping International Business School
Jönköping, Sweden

Jean-Marc Seigneur

Advanced Systems Group
Centre Universitaire d'Informatique
University of Geneva
Geneva, Switzerland

Mehad Shafie

Department of System Science
Universiti Teknologi MARA
Malaysia

Yu Shi

National Information and Communication Technology Australia
(NICTA) Australian
Technology Park
Sydney, Australia

Peretz Shoval

Department of Information Systems Engineering
Ben-Gurion University
Beer-Sheva, Israel

Aidas Smaizys

Department of Informatics
Klaipeda University
Klaipeda, Lithuania

Darja Solodovnikova

University of Latvia
Riga, Latvia

William Song

Computer Science Department
University of Durham
Durham, North Carolina
USA

Jano M. Souza

COPPE/UFRJ – Computer Science Department
Graduate School of Engineering
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Brazil
and
DCC-IM/UFRJ – Computer Science Department
Mathematics Institute
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Brazil

I. Spence

ECIT
Queen's University of Belfast
Belfast, UK

Julija Stecjuka

Department of Systems Theory and Design
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Greg Stephens

School of Information Systems, Technology and Management
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia

Renate Strazdina

Department of Systems Theory and Design
Riga Technical University
Riga, Latvia

Krystyna Strzała

Katedra Ekonometrii
Uniwersytet Gdański
Poland

Markus Stumptner

Advanced Computing Research Centre, University of South
Australia
Adelaide, Australia

Thomas Stückl

Siemens Corporate Technology, Software and System Processes
Munich, Germany

Ali Sunyaev

Department of Informatics
Technische Universität München
München, Germany

Alexandru Szőke

SIVECO Romania
Bucharest, Romania

Ronnie Taib

National Information and Communication Technology
Australia (NICTA) Australian
Technology Park
Sydney, Australia

Christos Tsiakaliaris

Planet
Athens, Greece

Katariina Valtonen

University of Jyväskylä
Computer Science and Information Systems
Jyväskylä, Finland

Yves Vanrompay

University of Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

Marlies van Steenberghe

Architecture and Business Solutions
Sogeti Netherlands B.V.
The Netherlands

Tero Vartiainen

Pori Unit
Turku School of Economics
Turku, Finland

Olegas Vasilecas

Department of Informatics
Klaipeda University
Klaipeda, Lithuania
and
Department of Information Systems
Faculty of Fundamental Sciences
Vilnius Gediminas Technical University
Vilnius, Lithuania

G. Vassilacopoulos

Department of Digital Systems
University of Piraeus
Piraeus, Greece

Marco A. Vaz

COPPE/UFRJ – Computer Science Department
Graduate School of Engineering
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Brazil

Strahonja Vjeran

Department of Information System Development
Faculty of Organization and Informatics
University of Zagreb
Varaždin, Croatia

Siniša Vlajić

Faculty of Organizational Sciences
University of Belgrade
Belgrade, Serbia

Martin Vlk

Help Forest
Sumperk, Czech Republic

Barbara Vogrinec

CPZ-International
Centre for Knowledge Promotion
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Eftichia Vovoli

Cultural Technology and Communication Department
University of the Aegean
Aegean, Greece

Jürgen Vöhringer

Research Group Application Engineering
Institute for Applied Informatics
University of Klagenfurt
Austria

Wan Mohd Isa Wan Abdul Rahim

Department of System Science
Universiti Teknologi MARA
Malaysia

Christine Welch

Department of Strategy and Business Systems
University of Portsmouth Business School
Portsmouth, UK

Evi Werkers

Interdisciplinary Centre for Law and ICT
K.U. Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

Axel Winkelmann

European Research Center for Information Systems
University of Muenster
Münster, Germany

Kai Wistrand

MELAB
Swedish Business School
Örebro University
Örebro, Sweden

ZhiXiong Yang

Zhongguancun Haidian High-Technique Park Postdoc
Workstation-UFIDA Substation
Beijing, China

Gian Piero Zarri

Virtualis
Politecnico di Milano
Milano, Italia