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Preface

As the variety and complexity of interactive systems increase, understanding how a system can dynamically capture relevant user needs and traits, and automatically adapting its interaction to this information, has become critical for devising effective advanced services and interfaces. The International User Modeling Conference represents the central forum for presenting the advances in the research and development of personalized, user-adaptive systems. Bi-annual scientific meetings of the user modeling community started in 1986 as a small invitational workshop held in Maria Laach, Germany, with 24 participants. The workshops continued with an open format, and grew into an international conference with 74 submissions in 1994. While maintaining its feel as a highly engaged and intimate community, the conference has continued to grow, reaching the record number of 169 submissions (153 full papers and 16 posters) in this current edition, held in Corfu, Greece.

With an acceptance rate of 19.6% for long papers and 38% for posters, selected by a team of reviewers who proved to be exceptionally thorough and thoughtful in their reviews, this year's program followed the high standards set by the previous editions, and presented an exciting range of interdisciplinary work covering topics such as cognitive modeling, modeling of user affect and meta-cognition, empirical evaluations of novel techniques, user modeling for mobile computing and recommender systems, user adaptivity and usability. In addition to 30 long paper presentations and 32 posters, this year's program featured 3 invited lectures, a doctoral consortium session with 5 student presentations, a demo program with 5 demos, 4 tutorials and 8 workshops. We continued the UM tradition of being a truly international event by having the first invited speaker from Asia (Yasuyuki Sumi from Japan), along with an invited speaker from North America (Martha Pollack from the USA) and one from Europe (Norbert Streitz from Germany). The international diversity was also reflected in the conference papers and posters with the geographical distribution of papers (posters) as follows: Europe 15 (14), Asia 3 (2), North America 10 (10), Australia/New Zealand 1 (3), Middle East 1 (2), South America 0 (1).

This volume includes the abstracts of the invited lectures and the texts of the papers, posters and doctoral consortium submissions presented at the conference. Separate notes and proceedings were generated for the four tutorials and eight workshops associated with the main program:

- Affective Natural Language Generation, by Fiorella de Rosis and Chris Mellish
- Modeling, Discovering and Using User Communities, by Myra Spiliopoulou, Dimitrios Pierrakos and Tanja Falkowski
- Evaluation 1: Fundamental Empirical Techniques and Caveats, by David Chin

- Evaluation 2: Formative Evaluation Methods for Adaptive Systems by Stephan Weibelzahl, Alexandros Paramythis, Judith Masthoff
- W1:** A3H: Fifth International Workshop on Authoring of Adaptive and Adaptable Hypermedia, by Alexandra Cristea and Rosa M. Carro
- W2:** Personalization in E-Learning Environments at Individual and Group Level, by Peter Brusilovsky, Maria Grigoriadou and Kyparisia Papanikolaou
- W3:** Personalization-Enhanced Access to Cultural Heritage, by Lora M. Aroyo, Tsvi Kuflik, Oliviero Stock and Massimo Zancanaro
- W4:** Data Mining for User Modeling, by Ryan S.J.D. Baker, Joseph E. Beck, Bettina Berendt, Alexander Kroener, Ernestina Menasalvas and Stephan Weibelzahl
- W5:** Towards User Modeling and Adaptive Systems for All, by Martyn Cooper, Carlos Velasco, Jesus G. Boticario and Olga Santos
- W6:** SociUM: Adaptation and Personalization in Social Systems: Groups, Teams, Communities, by Julita Vassileva, Manolis Tzagarakis and Vania Dimitrova
- W7:** 2nd Workshop on Personalization for E-Health, by Floriana Grasso, Alison Cawsey, Cecile Paris, Silvana Quaglini and Ross Wilkinson
- W8:** UbiDeUM: Ubiquitous and Decentralized User Modeling, by Shlomo Berkovsky, Keith Cheverst, Peter Dolog, Dominik Heckmann, Tsvi Kuflik, Phivos Mylonas, Jerome Picault, Julita Vassileva

UM 2007 was co-organized by the National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos” and the Ionian University, under the auspices of User Modeling, Inc. Many people worked hard to make this event a success, and they deserve our most heartfelt acknowledgments. The UM 2007 Program Committee members gave invaluable contributions at several stages of the conference organization, including the selection of the invited speakers and of additional reviewers, and the nomination of the best papers. But most importantly, together with the additional reviewers they did an outstanding job at providing careful and insightful reviews on all submissions. Susan Bull and Antonio Krüger were the minds behind our excellent tutorial and workshop programs, while Kurt VanLehn and George Magoulas organized the Doctoral Consortium. We would also like to thank Christos Papatheodorou (Organizing Chair), Constantine D. Spyropoulos and Tasos Anastasakos (Sponsorship Co-chairs), Yannis Ioannidis and Alexandros Paramythis (Demos Co-chairs), Nikolaos Avouris and Michalis Vazirgiannis (Publicity Co-chairs). Last but not least, we would like to thank Giannis Tsakonas and Dimitris Gavriliis for the design of our publicity material and the maintenance of the Web site, as well as Spyros Veronikis, Dimitris Pierakos, Hara Zarvala and Pantelis Lilis for helping with the organization of the conference.

June 2007

Cristina Conati
Kathleen F. McCoy
Georgios Paliouras

Organization

The 11th International Conference on User Modeling (UM 2007) was co-organized by the National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos” and the Ionian University, under the auspices of User Modeling, Inc..

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