SWWS 2009 PC Co-chairs' Message

The Web has now been in existence for quite some time, and it has produced a major shift in our thinking on the nature and scope of information processing. It is rapidly moving toward an application deployment and knowledge deployment that requires complex interactions and properly structured underlying semantics. There has been a sudden upsurge of research activity in the problems associated with adding semantics to the Web. This work on semantics will involve data, knowledge, and process semantics. The international IFIP workshop on Semantic Web and Web Semantics (SWWS 2009), in its fifth year, provided a forum for presenting original, unpublished research results and innovative ideas related to this voluminous quantity of research. This year we decided to organize SWWS into a number of tracks, namely:

- SAWSDL - Semantics Annotations for Web Service Description Language
- SEMELS - Semantic Extensions to Middleware Enabling Large-Scale Knowledge Applications
- COMBEK - Community-Based Evolution of Knowledge-Intensive Systems
- WSA - Web Semantics and Applications

In previous OTMs some of these were organized as separate workshops. However, to provide a unifying forum, we chose to field these into tracks within the broader framework of SWWS.

WSA addresses the broader issues of Web semantics and gives some important examples of applications.

SAWSDL addresses issues related to adding semantics to Web services focused on the W3C-produced SAWSDL, which gives a lightweight bottom–up specification for adding semantics annotations to WSDL.

SEMELS seeks to utilize the widely used non-semantic integration approach based on middleware systems to the case of semantically based systems providing knowledge mediation, co-ordination and functionalities.

COMBEK emphasizes the role of the community for community-driven evolution of shared knowledge structures and repositories such as ontologies, folksonomies and shared conceptual models.

Each of these submissions was rigorously reviewed by at least two experts. The papers were judged according to their originality, significance to theory and practise, and presentation at the workshop. We feel that the SWWS 2009 papers will inspire further research in the areas of the Semantic Web and its applications. We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the authors of the submitted papers and would like to thank all the workshop attendees. We would also like to thank the Program Committee members and external reviewers for their efforts in maintaining the quality of papers and turning the SWWS 2009 workshop into a success.

November 2009
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