Message from SNAA 2014 Program Chairs

Social networks have been investigated for many years but until recently the scope of the analyses was limited due to the small size of the available data samples, usually collected through questionnaires and interviews. As a consequence there were no or limited efficiency requirements for the analysis methods. Nowadays vast amounts of data about people and their interactions can be gathered using computer systems, coming from technological-based services such as Online Social Networking Sites, telecommunication services and emails. As a consequence, we are able to extract and analyse social networks consisting of millions of nodes and connections. Due to scale, complexity and dynamicity, these networks are extremely difficult to study using traditional social network analysis methods not optimised in terms of performance. At the same time, data about human communication, common activities and collaboration provide new opportunities for innovative applications.

The 4th Workshop on Social Network Analysis in Applications (SNAA 2014) is devoted to the analysis of social structures and what is more important to identify the areas where social network analysis can be applied and provide the knowledge that is not accessible for other types of analysis. Additionally, applications of social network analysis can be investigated either from static or dynamic perspective.

We seek for business and industrial applications of social network analysis that help to solve real-world problems. The area of social network analysis and its applications bring together researchers and practitioners from different fields and the main goal of this workshop is to provide them the opportunity to share their visions, research achievements and solutions as well as to establish worldwide cooperative research and development. At the same time, we want to provide a platform for discussing research topics underlying the concepts of social network analysis and its applications by inviting members of different communities that share this common interest of investigating social networks. As the area of social networks is a highly cross-disciplinary one, we aim to foster and develop sustainable collaborations between Computer Science and Informatics, Sociology, Cognitive Science and Psychology, Geographic and Environmental Science, Biology, and Health and Social Sciences. This will give the opportunity to push further the discussion upon the potential of social networks and their applications across these communities.

This year we have received 13 submissions. After review process we have invited 7 papers to be presented during the workshop. Moreover, out of several submissions redirected to SNAA 2014 from the main conference we have selected 4 additional papers, for a total number of 11 papers.

The continuous success of SNAA lies both in the people who help to organize it (Program Committee and Organising Committee) and people who submit their latest discoveries to SNAA 2014. Thus we would like to thank all the people making the SNAA workshop series so good.

Piotr Bródka, Matteo Magnani, Katarzyna Musial
SNAA 2014 Program Chair