
Foreword

Welcome to ESAS 2008, the 3rd IEEE International Workshop on Engineering Semantic Agent Systems. This time around, this very successful ESAS Workshops Series of the IEEE COMPSAC conferences convenes in the oldest provincial capital city of Finland.

ESAS Workshops Series aims at garnering the synergy of semantic web technologies and agent systems by taking up development of semantic-based multi-agent information systems. Topics of interest span a wide spectrum of both theory and practice of agent architectures, software agents, mobile agents, autonomous semantic agents, context-aware intelligent agents, agents as semantic web services, multi-agent systems, agent communities, cooperation and goal seeking through shared policy and ontology, safety & security in semantic multi-agent information systems, other QoS issues, and so on.

This year ESAS main theme is Applying Semantic Web Technologies in Research and Development of Software Agents, Mobile Agents and Multi-Agent Systems towards Integrating the Distributed Worlds. In addition to the usual semantic Web, semantic agents, and MAS coverage, there are now papers taking on mobility, distributed systems, dynamic environments, enterprise architecture, swarm intelligence, etc. This time the keynote paper takes ontology aspects of evolving agent communities into consideration. The workshop is surely destined to be very attractive.

This proceedings and the workshop itself are the culmination of efforts expanded by numerous fine people. We thank the authors who offered their papers for consideration. And, we are grateful to the members of our extensive International Program Committee for the expert opinion they provided so willingly. Last but not least, we are truly indebted to the 32nd COMPSAC Management for their support in maintaining ESAS’s association with COMPSAC this year again.

All accepted papers are included in the proceedings for ESAS 2008. The ESAS 2008 Proceedings is part of the proceedings for the 32nd IEEE Annual International Computer Software and Applications Conference (COMPSAC 2008) which is published by the IEEE Computer Society, indexed through INSPEC and EI Index (Elsevier's Engineering Information Index), and automatically included in the IEEE Digital Library. ESAS 2007 held in conjunction with the 31st COMPSAC was a great success. Selected papers from ESAS 2006 have been prepared for a special issue scheduled for publication as the first issue in 2009 of the Multiagent and Grid Systems - An International Journal, IOS Press, ISSN 1574-1702. The authors of ESAS 2008 and 2007 are being invited to submit extended version of their work for consideration towards publication in the Special Issue on Engineering Semantic Agent Systems of the Expert Systems: The Journal of Knowledge Engineering by Blackwell Publishing [http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=0266-4720&site=1]. CFP for the special issue is available at the Journal site and from the ESAS 2008 chairmen. With your valuable contribution to the continuous success of the ESAS Workshops Series, we are confident that its future is bright indeed.

Please come share your knowledge and joy with all participants at the ESAS 2008 workshop.

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