Message from the IWSAWC Chairs

Through the latest technological developments, researchers have the possibility to deploy applications on a larger scale beyond scenarios within the lab environment. For the exploration of such scenarios, enabling hardware and software technologies are required, including new kinds of embedded and smart devices, personal and wearable computers, infrastructure components, software architectures and collaboration models. The International Workshop on Smart Appliances and Wearable Computing (IWSAWC) has now been held for the 5th time in conjunction with the ICDCS. It provides a forum for researchers from academia and industry to exchange new findings in collaborative technologies and smart appliances deployed in real world environments. This year, 12 high-quality peer-reviewed papers, out of 29 submissions, have been selected for presentation.

Wearable computing is one of the main topics in the selected papers, representing that it provides a base technology for research into real world smart appliances. In addition, wearable computing may be further enhanced by collecting inputs from sensors, enabling the retrieval and usage of contextual information. In this domain communication networks, software architectures and appliances incorporate this information to foster their functionality and broaden the appliance design option. Other focal points of this year’s workshop are enabling technologies, such as location systems, visual identification technologies and self-organizing networks. These approaches present the closest interfaces to the real world and empower appliances to work collaboratively. In such environments full of computer functionality, appropriate abstractions for the user’s interaction with the system are required. As a consequence, user interfaces for controlling complex home networks or other possibilities, utilizing handheld or mobile phone devices, take on an important role in the workshop.

The workshop provides a poster and demonstration session, as an occasion for researchers, both academic and industrial, to immediately coalesce and discuss their work with other workshop participants. This is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate latest results and get involved in highly active discussion in this rapidly evolving research field.

The quality of the workshop would not have been possible without the commitment, help and expertise of the members of the program committee. We would like to express our thanks to the members of the program and organizing committee for the time and effort spent in reviewing and discussing the papers, and in the overall organization of this workshop. We would also like to thank all authors for their submissions.

IWSAWC 2005 Program Chairs

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