Welcome Message
2nd International Workshop on Adaptive Systems for Collaborative Learning (IWASCL-2010)

Welcome to the IWASCL-2010 workshop!
This workshop is the second in a series that began on 2009 with the successful organization of the 1st IWASCL in the context of INCoS-2009 conference in Barcelona, Spain. This year the 2nd edition of the workshop is organized again in conjunction with the INCoS conference in Thessaloniki, Greece.

The focus of the workshop is on adaptive systems for collaborative learning. Lately, a significant research interest has emerged on how to integrate adaptive and intelligent methods in computer-supported collaborative learning (CSCL) systems to successfully support groups of learners. Adaptive and intelligent support emerges as an important aspect in CSCL since research has consistently emphasized that free collaboration conditions fail to engage all team members in productive learning interactions and, conversely, excessively imposed non-adaptive (“fixed”) guidance may constrain and harm natural collaboration. Reviewing the current literature one sees that CSCL systems increasingly introduce Artificial Intelligence (AI), Semantics and Web 2.0 techniques in an attempt to support pre-task interventions (such as group formation), in-task peer interactions and learning domain specific activities. Results from available studies are encouraging indicating that adaptive collaborative support can result in better learning outcomes compared to non-adaptive collaborative support or individual support. However, several research issues are still to be answered and significant research opportunities exist in the field.

The scope of the IWASCL-2010 workshop is to provide the opportunity for an informal meeting, facilitating the dissemination of knowledge in the field and providing useful insights on existing state-of-the-art research. The issue of adaptively managing the collaborative learning activity can be approached from different but complementary perspectives and may be of interest for researchers of various backgrounds (learning scientists, educators, engineers/computer scientists, instructional designers, LD community). Consequently, the focus of the workshop is broad and includes methods, tools, formalization approaches, early prototype design and evaluation, pedagogical issues, etc.

The first workshop in the series resulted in a set of seven (7) contributions (included in the Proceedings of INCoS-2009), that highlighted diverse aspects of adaptive group-supportive mechanisms. The IWASCL-2010 workshop aimed to further continue this tradition and offer to the participants an interactive experience exploring the multifaceted state-of-the-art research conducted in the field. This year we received 7 contributions out of which 6 were selected for oral presentation and one for poster demonstration.

We would like to thank all the authors for their valuable contributions to the workshop. Special thanks go to INCoS-2010 Programme Committee and Workshop Committee members for their valuable support in organizing the workshop and especially to Fatos Xhafa, Ajith Abraham and Santi Caballe for their continuous supporting efforts and helpful suggestions. Also, we would like to kindly thank all the members of the Workshop Programme Committee for their constructive support during the review process.

We wish all participants an interesting and productive event and we look forward to seeing you also in future IWASCL editions!

IWASCL-2010 Chairs
Stavros Demetriadiis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
Thanasis Daradoumis, Open University of Catalonia, Spain
Alexandros Paramythis, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria
Thrasyvoulos Tsiatsos, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece