This month's events

VIRTUAL CELDA 2021, ICWI 2021 AND AC 2021

Zoom will be the host platform for the 2021 editions of the International Conference on Cognition and Exploratory Learning in Digital Age (CELDA - https://www.celda-conf.org/), the International Conference WWW/Internet (ICWI - https://www.internet-conf.org/) and the International Conference on Applied Computing (AC - https://www.computing-conf.org/). The conferences will take place from 13 – 15 October 2021.

The CELDA 2021 conference aims to address the main issues concerned with evolving learning processes and supporting pedagogies and applications in the digital age. There have been advances in both cognitive psychology and computing that have affected the educational arena. The convergence of these two disciplines is increasing at a fast pace and affecting academia and professional practice in many ways.

The WWW/Internet 2021 Conference aims to address the main issues of concern within WWW/Internet. WWW and Internet had a huge development in recent years. Aspects of concern are no longer just technical but other aspects have arisen. This conference aims to cover both technological as well as non-technological issues related to these developments.

The Applied Computing 2021 conference aims to address the main issues of concern within the applied computing area and related fields. This conference covers essentially technical aspects. The applied computing field is divided into more detailed areas.
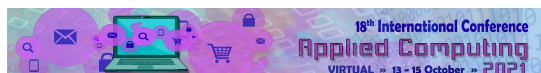
The official language of these conferences is English. For more information, please contact each conference´s secretariat: secretariat@celda-conf.org, secretariat@internet-conf.org, secretariat@computing-conf.org

Paper submissions are now closed, but you can still attend by registering online in any of the conferences' websites:
https://www.computing-conf.org/registrationrates/
https://www.celda-conf.org/registrationrates/
https://www.internet-conf.org/registrationrates/

Upcoming Events

ONLINE IBERO-AMERICAN CONFERENCES 2021

This year's editions of the IADIS Ibero-American conference WWW/Internet (https://ciaca-conf.org/) and Applied Computing (https://ciawi-conf.org/) will be held online, via zoom, 18-19 November 2021.

IADIS Ibero-American conference WWW/Internet addresses the main aspects of the WWW/Internet, approaching both technological and non-technological features.

The IADIS Ibero-American conference Applied Computing aims to present significant research within the applied computing context, addressing topics that are essentially technical.

Every year these conferences join together Portuguese and Spanish speaking researchers and practitioners. Contributions to these conferences must be either in Portuguese or in Spanish, the official languages of the conferences.

Paper submissions are now closed for these conferences, but you can still register to attend:
https://ciawi-conf.org/pt/registrationrates/
https://ciaca-conf.org/pt/registrationrates/

JOIN US ONLINE THIS DECEMBER FOR THE ITS AND STE CONFERENCES

From 15 to 17 December 2021 the 11th International Conference on Internet Technologies & Society (ITS2021) and the 9th International Conference on Sustainability, Technology and Education (STE2021) will be held online on Zoom.

The ITS 2021 approaches the main challenges within WWW/Internet. It aims to explore the influence of the Internet in the Information Society, in light of its constant mutability.

The STE 2021 aims to address the main issues which occur by assessing the relationship between Sustainability, Education and Technology.

These are blind peer-reviewed conferences. Authors are invited to submit their papers in English through each conference's submission page. Further information can be found on each conference website or if your prefer you can contact the conferences' secretariat at:
secretariat@its-conf.org
secretariat@sustainability-conf.org

*Important Dates
– Submission Deadline: 29 October 2021
– Notification to Authors: 19 November 2021
– Final Camera-Ready Submission and Early Registration (Last call): until 29 November 2021
– Late Registration (Last call): after 29 November 2021
– Conference: 15- 17 December 2021

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON APPLIED MANAGEMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The 2021 edition of the International Conference on Applied Management Advances in the 21st Century (AMA21) will be held online, via zoom. AMA21 seeks to provide a unique forum for presentation and discussion of the last research developments and solutions for the current issues of the world economy. A global invitation is made to scholars, students, practitioners, organizations, government departments, policymakers and everyone interested in these subjects, to give their contribution.

The main topics can be found here. However, innovative contributions beyond these areas will also be considered. Acceptance will be based primarily on originality, significance and quality of contribution. This is a blind peer-reviewed conference and the official language is English. For more information, please contact the conference secretariat: secretariat@ama21-conf.org

*Important Dates
– Submission Deadline: 29 October 2021
– Notification to Authors: 19 November 2021
– Final Camera-Ready Submission and Early Registration (last call): until 29 November 2021

PORTO WILL HOST THE E-SOCIETY, MOBILE LEARNING AND IADIS IS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES IN MARCH 2022

We are very happy to announce that this year's editions of e-Society, Mobile Learning and IADIS Information Systems international conferences will be hosted in Porto, Portugal on 12-14 March 2022.

The e-Society 2022 conference aims to address the main issues of concern within the Information Society. This conference covers both the technical as well as the non-technical aspects of the Information Society. Broad areas of interest are e-Government / e-Governance, e-Business / e-Commerce, Technology and Society, eLearning, New Media and E-Society, e-Health, Information Systems, and Information Management. These broad areas are divided into more detailed areas.

The Mobile Learning 2022 International Conference seeks to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of mobile learning research which illustrates developments in the field. Mobile learning is concerned with a society on the move. In particular, with the study of "…how the mobility of learners augmented by personal and public technology can contribute to the process of gaining new knowledge, skills and experience" (Sharples et al. 2007).

The IADIS Information Systems Conference (IS 2022) aims to provide a forum for the discussion of IS taking a socio-technological perspective. It aims to address the issues related to design, development and use of IS in organisations from a socio-technological perspective, as well as to discuss IS professional practice, research and teaching.

*Important Dates
– Submission Deadline: 25 October 2021
– Notification to Authors: 22 November 2021
– Final Camera-Ready Submission and Early Registration (First call): until 20 December 2021
– Late Registration (First call): after 20 December 2021
– Conference: 12-14 March 2022

Talking With

Dr Paul Clough, Professor of Search & Analytics, Information School, University of Sheffield, UK
Head of Data Science, Peak Indicators, UK

You were the keynote speaker for Connected Smart Cities 2021 conference that was just held in July 2021. What main topics did you cover in your talk and the potential of these topics?
Yes, thank you for inviting me to speak at the Connected Smart Cities 2021 conference. The focus of my talk was smart manufacturing or Industry 4.0 – the new era of manufacturing driven by the ability to connect a growing range of technologies, such as IoT devices and sensors, cloud computing, mobile devices, AI, advanced robotics, Big Data Analytics and AR/VR. Such technologies are able to transform and take manufacturing to new levels of smartness. In my talk, I tried to provide an overview of smart manufacturing from the perspective of what we might consider the main building blocks: data generation and capture (e.g., Industrial IoT, sensors, networking and gateways, edge computing), going from sensors to business value (e.g., Big Data Analytics, cloud computing, robotics, AI and machine learning) and taking things beyond the physical world (e.g., digital twins, augmented and virtual reality, simulations).

All of these are driving new opportunities for manufacturing and enabling fresh insights within industry to make processes and operations more efficient, automated and optimised. Of course, like any digital transformation the benefits are also accompanied by challenges. For example, adoption of new technologies and supporting cultural change within manufacturing businesses, integrating smart manufacturing with legacy equipment and production processes, ensuring security can be maintained on the production line, developing the data infrastructure alongside existing manufacturing systems, and re-skilling the workforce to enable engagement with new technologies.

Within my talk I also referenced example work being undertaken at The University of Sheffield's Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC). I have been fortunate enough to work with some of the staff at the AMRC, who are engaging with manufacturers in many ways to help showcase new and emerging technologies and support them in their journey to Industry 4.0. My talk was based on a book chapter I co-wrote with Jon Stammers from the AMRC for the forthcoming Springer book "Smart Connected World: Technologies and Applications Shaping the Future" (https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030763862).

What do you think of this year the event being an on-line event (due to COVID-19), as opposed to traditionally being a face-to-face one and face-to-face events?
Since the start of the pandemic everything has been different and we have had to adapt to new ways of working. Of course, there is nothing like being able to interact in person, but the organisers did a good job of using the technology in ways that enabled conference activities to continue. If it was between no conference and being online then I would prefer to carry on with events as best as possible.

What is the importance of attending international conferences like this?
Attending international conferences is highly beneficial in many ways. For example, having the opportunity to interact with researchers from around the world helps in learning new topics and methods, providing opportunities to share ideas and foster new collaborations, provide insights into state-of-the-art technologies and the latest developments, as well as opportunities to meet new people and network.

What are the hot topics, at the moment, related to Connected Smart Cities, that could be considered to be covered in a future edition of this conference?
There are likely many areas that could be of interest to Connected Smart Cities, if not already covered. For example, there are many topics within AI and machine learning that are driving new areas of research and applications within industry and society. However, it is more than just the technology that needs to be researched and discussed within international communities. It is those human ad societal aspects that are just as important, such as adoption of new technology, managing change, ensuring security and privacy, and dealing with ethical issues and making processes and methods transparent.

What are your current projects?
At the moment I work part-time in academia and industry, thereby reducing the amount of time I am able to spend on research. Within the University of Sheffield my main activities are helping with the development of a new undergraduate degree in Data Science, mentoring colleagues as well as supervising MSc and PhD students. My research areas include Information Access and Retrieval; reuse, fabrication and falsification; and Data Science. The last research project I was involved with was CyCAT – the Cyprus Centre for Algorithmic Transparency (http://www.cycat.io/) – a H2020 Twinning grant funded by the EU. I am also supervising a new PhD student on the topic of detecting hate speech in social media in collaboration with Rotherham United Football Club. Given the recent racial abuse of England players at the 2021 European championship, this is an important social issue to be working on. Within industry, I work for Peak Indicators who provide data and analytics solutions and guidance across multiple sectors. Within Peak I am Head of Data Science and helping them to develop their Data Science capabilities to support our clients with implementing advanced analytics solutions.

If you were asked to name a key resource in the Connected Smart Cities area, what would that be?
That's a tough question as I think there are many great resources. However, one of the books I have personally found very insightful that frames the data-informed world in which we now live is "The Data Revolution" by Rob Kitchin (https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/the-data-revolution/book242780). You can access the first chapter for free. The book provides a social sciences perspective on the data revolution that for me, as a Computer Scientist, provides new ways of thinking about Data Science and its uses and consequences within our world. Also, more recently I am using Microsoft Azure as a platform for development and implementation of data and analytics solutions (https://azure.microsoft.com/en-gb/). The resources provided by Microsoft have also been very useful and informative.

What words of advice would you say to researchers starting to work in these areas right now?
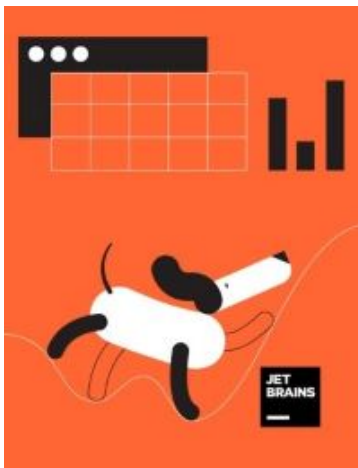One of the things we tell our Data Science students is "just because you can, doesn't mean you should." For those starting out I would advise thinking more deeply about the societal implications of what you are doing. Considering areas such as ethics, transparency, accountability and fairness within AI - what we might call Responsible AI - will only become increasingly important in our world. Perhaps another word of advice would be to engage with researchers across domains and outside your discipline. For example, I have learned a great deal from the social scientists at The University of Sheffield, that has helped broaden my perspective beyond purely computational issues aspects of my research.

Latest from the media

- [Can Virtual Reality Teach Empathy?](#) - Discover magazine
- [What is an "algorithm"? It depends whom you ask](#) - MIT Technology Review
- [Benefits of Using Online Teaching Apps](#) - The European Business Review

- What are blockchains? - The Economist
- Is it still too soon for wearable cameras? - Financial Times
- Bridging the digital divide to create the jobs of the future - World Economic Forum
- New imaging technique may boost biology and neuroscience research - The Harvard Gazette
- Microlearning Is How Work Places Will Succeed Moving Forward - Entrepreneur
- These Bendy Plastic Chips Fit in Unusual Places - Wired
- Researchers Enable AI To Use Its "Imagination" – Closer to Humans' Understanding of the World -SciTechDaily

Recommended Reading

The State of Developer Ecosystem 2021

Available at: https://www.jetbrains.com/lp/devecosystem-2021/

A report presenting the combined results of the 5th annual Developer Ecosystem Survey, by JetBrains, with 31,743 developers from 183 countries or regions, depicting the landscape of the developer community.

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