



Upcoming events

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES E-SOCIETY, ICEDUTECH, MOBILE LEARNING AND IADIS IS 2021 ONLINE IN MARCH

This year's editions of e-Society, Mobile Learning and IADIS Information Systems international conferences will be joined by the 8th edition of the International Conference on Educational Technologies (IcEduTech). These conferences will be held exclusively online, on Zoom, on 3-5 March 2021.

The e-Society 2021 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.

IcEduTech is the scientific conference addressing the real topics as seen by teachers, students, parents and school leaders. Both scientists, professionals and institutional leaders are invited to be informed by experts, sharpen the understanding of what education needs and how to achieve it. This 2021 edition will be focusing on the Special Theme "COVID-19 Opportunities and Challenges for Teaching and Learning Innovation in a Global Pandemic".

The Mobile Learning 2021 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 2021) 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.

Paper submissions are now closed for these conferences, but you can still register to attend:

<http://mlearning-conf.org//registrationrates/>

<http://esociety-conf.org/registrationrates/>

<http://is-conf.org/registrationrates/>

<https://icedutech-conf.org/registrationrates/>



Open calls for papers

MCCSIS 2021 EDITION HELD ONLINE

The 15th Multi Conference on Computer Science and Information Systems (MCCSIS), 20 – 23 July 2021, aims to address two main subjects, Computer Science and Information Systems, and it has different conferences according to several themes. This year, it comprises 10 different conferences:

[e-Learning 2021](#) – EL2021

[Theory and Practice in Modern Computing 2021 – TPMC2021](#)
[Game and Entertainment Technologies 2021 – GET2021](#)
[ICT, Society, and Human Beings 2021 – ICT2021](#)
[Web Based Communities and Social Media 2021 – WBC2021](#)
[Interfaces and Human Computer Interaction 2021 – IHCI2021](#)
[Computer Graphics, Visualization, Computer Vision and Image Processing 2021 – CGVCVIP2021](#)
[e-Health 2021 – EH2021](#)
[Connected Smart Cities 2021 – CSC2021](#)
[Big Data Analytics, Data Mining and Computational Intelligence 2021 – BigDaCI2021](#)

The papers will be published in book and electronic format with ISBN, and they will be made available through the Digital Library <http://www.iadisportal.org/digital-library/showsearch>.

The conference proceedings will be submitted for indexation by IET's INSPEC, Elsevier, EI Compendex, Scopus, Thomson Reuters Web of Science, ERIC, EBSCO and other important indexing services. Selected authors of best papers will be invited to submit extended versions of their papers to selected journals (i.e. IADIS International Journal on Computer Science and Information Systems - ISSN: 1646-3692). Best papers will also be invited to submit for review extended versions for potential publication in journals from INDERSCIENCE Publishers. For more information visit <https://mccsis.org/>.

In view of the current and serious health concerns deriving from COVID-19 coronavirus and in an effort to preserve the safety of both our participants and team, MCCSIS 2021 will be held exclusively in a virtual format. During this period of apprehension and insecurity we remain committed to our mission and invite you to join us from the safety of your homes.

*** Important Dates:**

- Submission Deadline (1st CFP - new date): 1 March 2021
- Notification to Authors (1st CFP - new date): 2 April 2021
- Final Camera-Ready Submission and Early Registration (1st CFP - new date): Until 30 April 2021
- Late Registration (1st CFP - new date): After 30 April 2021



Talking With

Professor Emerita Gunilla Bradley, Informatics at Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) – School of ICT in Stockholm, Sweden

1. You had a priceless contribution as Program Chair of the IADIS International Conference ICT, Society and Human Beings (part of the MCCSIS) from 2008 until 2012. And before as a keynote speaker to the e-Society conference series. What were the key aspects you wish to highlight about all these years of being involved in these conferences?

Thank you, for this appreciative question. Participants came from all continents and different cultures, South America, Africa, Asia, Middle East, and Europe. International conferences on topics related to ICT where I had contributed before were dominated by participants from the Western countries and East Asia.

There was a mutual exchange of perspectives as to human aspects of using ICT. In one session room we discussed home of the future, the connected home, smart home, an area so relevant in the current coronavirus time, when workplaces have moved into our homes and distance work seems to become part of the normal in the future, probably. For me, it was like a fairy tale, invited to talk in the little beautiful city of Avila in the Spanish countryside. The great response I got from the audience and the warm feelings I met from the organizing group.



2. What do you think was the highest point of the conferences you have attended?

The conferences were inclusive and based in a broad theoretical perspective, from the global level to the individual. Key areas were illustrated with a graphical model that opened up for quite different research that could interact. Examples of subtopics and key words inspired researchers with quite different focus and various academic disciplines. The basic perspective in the call for papers continued to be the same. Discussions became enriched when covering a global perspective, our life environment, our roles as citizens, professional and private, and psychosocial effects on human beings. The Best paper award and a thorough review process gave quality to the event. Remember when we awarded a researcher from India who had contributed with research that ended up in that poor farmers could sell their products? ICT and Wellbeing and Quality of Life were leading words at these conferences.

3. What is the importance of attending international conferences, particularly this conference series, ICT Society and Human Beings.

International conferences in general are fundamental for building networks for collaboration, giving energy and inspiration for completing or starting up research which often is a long hard process. I think an international conference as ICT and Human Beings should go big. It is comparable to conferences on climate change. Why? Digitalization, ICT, IT, whatever we call it, deals with technologies that are converging towards a very powerful general technology that has not only enormous potential to facilitate the fight towards global warming but at the same time contain a high risk to crash our infrastructure by cyberattacks. The difference is that ICT could immediately destroy our societal infrastructure since most of it is dependent on ICT.

4. What do you think about the locations that have been chosen for those conferences?

The places were chosen with care due to access to good hosts and accommodations. People got a chance to experience wonderful historical cities by adding extra time to the programs. But the world is changing. I think it would be wise to avoid the megacities with dense populations, even if we have conquered coronavirus soon, which I hope will happen this year. When we meet again, the focus must be on maximizing the human-to-human interaction in RL which is easier in a calm environment. Creativity is promoted by meeting in real life. How about checking in on a cruise ship with proper restrictions and its own ecosystem?

5. Which other topics should be covered in future editions of this conference?

I would recommend keeping the main structure and inclusive design for ICT society and human beings. Each conference could have a focus but keep in mind the broader societal picture. A key issue remains how could ICT be used and adapted to deepen and develop human qualities. At the development stage, introduction and use of ICT, we have seen for each historical period that there have become misuse of a per se beautiful technology. ICT has the potential to bring us closer together but also the opposite, to split the world. We need to analyse the change of power –technology and technology platforms, capital, politics and ourselves. The classical issue of democracy in a broad sense should be brought to the fore and focus and reflect on the basic human needs.

6. What do you foresee for the future of ICT and its interaction with Human Beings?

Coronavirus has speeded up digitalization and that is good and bad – acceleration of change in the society is problematic for human beings. We all need time for reflection, adaption and also critical analysis of impact. The process of convergence was valid already when computer technology became smaller, cheaper, more powerful and smarter, and built-in in our bodies (think about heart pacemakers with wireless monitors, for example), which raises questions about what is a human being. Another field is the use of advanced technology within the weapon industry and the risk for cyberattacks.

7. In 2012 you have been awarded the IADIS Lifetime Award for forty years of pioneering research and highly relevant contribution in the ICT, Society and Human Beings field. What did it mean to you to receive this award?

First I feel grateful. I got inspiration to continue and took on some traveling to contribute and speak at various events. But most of all I got energy to finalize my latest book and got courage to formulate a “manifesto”, principles for the good ICT society and how to reach that society.

8. What are your current projects? And what is your more recent book publication that you would like to highlight?

As an emerita I try to balance writing, reflecting/reading, painting, and enjoying meeting friends and grandchildren, hopefully soon in RL. The title of the book is “The good ICT society - from Theory to Actions” – only 140 pages and 28 colored photos in the e-book version. It's available as paperback and hardcover, but also as an e-book. Details see my homepage www.gunillabradley.se

9. What words of advice would you say to researchers starting to work in the ICT and Human Beings area in 2021?

Take a look at my manifesto and ask yourself: “How can I contribute in my research to some of the goals in the top 10 principles?” Make sure that you learn basic traditional scientific methods, both qualitative and quantitative, so you are able to evaluate research – both your own and others’. Then “follow your heart” as to the content and the purpose of your research. Research is not value-free. Mainstream research areas bring you faster to promotion. Creative, unique frontline research with a humane perspective provides you with a happier life.

Enclosed is my manifest for the Good ICT society. How these principles were born and how they developed over the years you can read in chapter 7 in my little book. And also how the top 10 actions are based.

Manifest: The 10 top Principles for the Good ICT society

1. Democracy: ICT should contribute to deepening and broadening of democracy. Participation needs awareness and capacity building.
2. Human wellbeing and life quality for all are the crucial societal goals, where both psychosocial and structural processes are needed.
3. Basic Human Needs – shelter, food, safety.
4. Humanization: ICT should contribute to the deepening and development of true human qualities and be used to provide time for people to develop themselves as human beings.
5. Integration: ICT should contribute to enrichment in the social contact between people and should be used to prevent social isolation and facilitate integration. Integration and respect for diversity.
6. Autonomy: ICT should contribute to greater autonomy for the individual. Control or freedom is a classic issue often described in terms of ‘privacy–integrity’. ICT should ensure the freedom of expression.
7. Balance/harmony: ICT should facilitate information access for all and support individual learning, but at the same time prohibit various kinds of stress, e.g. information overload, contact overload.

8. Sustainability: ICT should contribute to sustainability in a broad sense, including the environment, economy, and human side. Our responsibility for the next generations and the planet
9. Peace: e-conflicts must be avoided. E-cooperation and peace are major concerns
10. Preparing for the Unforeseen – for natural and human made catastrophes. Vulnerability – insecurity should be replaced by Trust and Transparency

Source: Bradley, G. (2017). *The Good ICT Society – From Theory to Actions*. Routledge.

Latest from the media Special edition: Trends and predictions for 2021

- [The EDUCAUSE 2021 Top IT Issues](#) - Educause
- [Five Emerging Internet Of Things Trends For 2021](#) - Forbes
- [Top 3 Amazing Trends in the Gaming Industry for 2021](#) - The European Business Review
- [11 experts predict what will shape smart cities in 2021](#) - Smart Cities Dive
- [Gartner Top Strategic Technology Trends for 2021](#) - Gartner
- [3 Key Social Media Marketing Predictions for 2021](#) - Socialbakers
- [5 innovations to help students \(re\)connect in 2021](#) - Clayton Christensen Institute
- [Data and analytics trends in 2021: How will strategy evolve in the wake of Covid-19?](#) - Econsultancy
- [7 digital health trends that will dominate the globe in 2021](#) - TheNextWeb
- [Five ways to make AI a greater force for good in 2021](#) - MIT Technology Review

Recommended Reading



Innovating Pedagogy 2021

Exploring new forms of teaching, learning and assessment,
to guide educators and policy makers

Agnes Kukulska-Hulme, Carina Bossu,
Tim Coughlan, Rebecca Ferguson,
Elizabeth FitzGerald, Mark Gaved,
Christothea Herodotou, Bart Rienties,
Julia Sargent, Eileen Scanlon, Jinlan Tang,
Qi Wang, Denise Whitelock, Shuai Zhang

Open University Innovation Report 9

<https://www.open.ac.uk/blogs/innovating/>

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