Upcoming events

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 (2nd call): 3 May 2021
- Notification to Authors (2nd call): 31 May 2021
- Final Camera-Ready Submission and Early Registration (2nd call): Until 21 June 2021
- Late Registration (2nd call): After 21 June 2021

VIRTUAL CELDA 2021, ICWI 2021 AND AC 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 anymore 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 secretariat: secretariat@celda-conf.org, secretariat@internet-conf.org, secretariat@computing-conf.org

* Important dates:
- Submission Deadline: 3 May 2021
- Notification to Authors: 4 June 2021
- Final Camera-Ready Submission and Early Registration: Until 28 June 2021
- Late Registration: After 28 June 2021

Join us online this October!

Talking With

Professor Philip Powell, Director, Business School for the Creative Industries, University for the Creative Arts, UK

You are the conference chair of the 14th IADIS Information Systems conference held on-line in March 2021 and for many years now. What do you think are the benefits of this conference during all these years?

I’ve been involved with many conferences and with many journals over the years, and it has been interesting to see how they have evolved – or not. Most conferences and journals need to find their niche. While ICIS and MISQ can sail on because of their standing and backing, others need to decide their roles. The IADIS IS conference has always been an interesting, diverse, supportive place where participants can safely test out their ideas and get useful feedback. Conference presentations are a useful stepping-stone to journal publications, and IADIS provides a route for this.

What do you think was the highest point of these conferences that you have chaired during all these years?

It is hard to disentangle the conference and the content, from the location. I particularly enjoyed the conference in Avila as all the elements seemed to come together well. Good weather always helps too. But, for me, seeing the development of networks and seeing people progressing their research careers are always very satisfying. Last year, I found the closing ceremony to be quite moving. We were on-line, most people were in various sorts of lock-down in their home countries, many lives were disrupted yet we came together from all parts of the globe and there was a great feeling of support.

What do you find of this year as well as last year, the event being an on-line event (due to COVID-19), as opposed to traditionally being a face-to-face one?

I think we have all been impressed with how, as educators, we have moved on-line. This is in our teaching, in our research collaborations and in our conferences. Last year, we planned for a face-to-face conference and then had to move it rapidly on-line. It worked surprisingly well. This year, while hopeful that things would be better, we planned an on-line first event. Again, it worked well. We had good interaction, but on-line events suffer from time-zone differences and from the lack of personal engagement. We must not lose the good parts of on-line delivery but need to ensure we recapture the human interaction as we plan for the next events.

What is the importance of attending international conferences?

Networks are vital. They are important as a way of understanding the state of the art in the domain, of situating one’s own work, and on benchmarking what one is doing. Networks allow collaboration – for funding bids, and joint research and publication. Last, as the pandemic has starkly revealed, networks are important for mental health.

What are the hot topics in the IS domain at the moment that could be considered to be covered in a future edition of this conference?
All things ‘e’ will remain important. All things ‘at a distance’ need to be researched. The rise of virtual and augmented reality will continue. Machine learning and AI will alter many industries and activities. We will wallow in vast quantities of data but not know what most of it means. There is no shortage of new and interesting disruptive technologies to investigate.

**What do you foresee for the future of this conference?**
Hopefully, we can get back to face-to-face interaction, but with perhaps a more broader, blended element. The conference content is important, but the opportunities for personal interaction are vital too. Information systems is a rapidly changing domain, so we need to ensure that the conference themes reflect – and lead – these changes.

**What are your current projects?**
My work, in recent years, has moved away from the focus on information systems, strategy and evaluation to more broader work on distance education – I am co-editing a book with the University of London Centre for Distance Education where I am a Fellow – to work on higher education management, to exploring how creativity is developed and supported in organisational change. I continue to explore interesting issues in IS.

**What words of advice would you say to researchers starting to work in the Information Systems area in 2021?**
I have been an academic and a researcher for many years. I remember in my early days being advised by a senior academic that I should find my ‘mine’ and dig and dig and dig – the classic idea of ‘knowing more and more about less and less’. I am glad that this is not advice that I followed, or had to follow. It was probably easier in my early days as there was less pressure to publish. But, my work has always been interest-driven. This has allowed me to range far and wide in terms of research questions and research domains. Since becoming a dean and a PVC, I have much less time, and especially blocks of time, to do research, and no opportunity to embed myself into small firms to investigate their uses of information systems as I used to. I now research what I do – in terms of higher education management and the pedagogies of enterprise, innovation and creativity. But I still work in IS. There is evidence that research is becoming more collaborative. The mean number of authors on IS publications has risen and there are fewer single authored papers. Funding for research tends to go to larger, often multinational, groups. So, a key piece of advice is to get involved in collaborative ventures. This is easier if you are coming from a well-established PhD programme in a research-intensive institution. Conferences etc. are good ways to develop networks. In working with others, always consider what you bring to the table, and be prepared to ‘give’ before you ‘receive’. Collaborators need complementary skills – whether that is in method or context or access to data or writing ability. Many established academics are happy to help develop more junior researchers’ skills, but they are not obliged to do so. There is a lot of goodwill in academic circles.

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**Latest from the media**
- [Awareness of Open Educational Resources Grows, but Adoption Doesn't](https://www.insidehighered.com/2021/03/31/online-learning-open-educational-resources) - Inside Higher Ed
- [10 Breakthrough Technologies 2021](https://technologyreview.mit.edu/2021/04/09/10-breakthrough-technologies-2021/) - MIT Technology Review
- [Top 10 Takeaways From The Transition To Telemedicine](https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2021/04/09/top-10-takeaways-from-the-transition-to-telemedicine) - Forbes
- [How to Design Ethically: Expert Advice from Guthrie Weinschenk](https://www.interactiondesign.org/articles/how-to-design-ethically-expert-advice-from-guthrie-weinschenk) - Interaction Design Foundation
- [New wearable device turns the body into a battery](https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/04/210429142607.htm) - ScienceDaily

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**Recommended Reading**

Balancing the Tension between Digital Technologies and Learning Sciences

Editors: Dirk Ifenthaler, Demetrios Sampson, Pedro Isaías

This publication focuses on the recent developments in the area of learning technologies, providing a encompassing and multi-disciplinary view of relevant and prevailing issues. It includes contributions from leading authors from the area and it emphasises both the pedagogical and the technological perspectives.