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IFIP – The International Federation for Information Processing

IFIP was founded in 1960 under the auspices of UNESCO, following the First World Computer Congress held in Paris the previous year. An umbrella organization for societies working in information processing, IFIP's aim is two-fold: to support information processing within its member countries and to encourage technology transfer to developing nations. As its mission statement clearly states,

IFIP's mission is to be the leading, truly international, apolitical organization which encourages and assists in the development, exploitation and application of information technology for the benefit of all people.

IFIP is a non-profitmaking organization, run almost solely by 2500 volunteers. It operates through a number of technical committees, which organize events and publications. IFIP's events range from an international congress to local seminars, but the most important are:

- The IFIP World Computer Congress, held every second year;
- Open conferences;
- Working conferences.

The flagship event is the IFIP World Computer Congress, at which both invited and contributed papers are presented. Contributed papers are rigorously refereed and the rejection rate is high.

As with the Congress, participation in the open conferences is open to all and papers may be invited or submitted. Again, submitted papers are stringently refereed.

The working conferences are structured differently. They are usually run by a working group and attendance is small and by invitation only. Their purpose is to create an atmosphere conducive to innovation and development. Refereeing is less rigorous and papers are subjected to extensive group discussion.

Publications arising from IFIP events vary. The papers presented at the IFIP World Computer Congress and at open conferences are published as conference proceedings, while the results of the working conferences are often published as collections of selected and edited papers.

Any national society whose primary activity is in information may apply to become a full member of IFIP, although full membership is restricted to one society per country. Full members are entitled to vote at the annual General Assembly. National societies preferring a less committed involvement may apply for associate or corresponding membership. Associate members enjoy the same benefits as full members, but without voting rights. Corresponding members are not represented in IFIP bodies. Affiliated membership is open to non-national societies, and individual and honorary membership schemes are also offered.

Mike Chiasson Ola Henfridsson
Helena Karsten Janice I. DeGross (Eds.)

Researching the Future in Information Systems

IFIP WG 8.2 Working Conference
Turku, Finland, June 6-8, 2011
Proceedings

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Preface

This book contains the collection of papers, panels and a workshop presented at the IFIP WG8.2 Working Conference “Researching the Future.” The conference took place during June 6–8, 2011 at the Åbo Akademi University in Turku, Finland.

We thank the authors and the Program Committee for their efforts in ensuring, again, an excellent WG8.2 conference. The impeccable book you have now in your hands is due to the skillful editing by Jan DeGross and the very experienced Springer team, with Erika Siebert-Cole.

We had the honor of hosting three experienced creators of the future, our keynote speakers, Yrjö Neuvo, Judith Gregory and Youngjin Yoo. The Cultural Capital of Europe 2011, Turku, provided a colorful setting for them and for all the conference participants.

The following organizations supported the conference through financial or other contributions and we would like to thank them for their engagement:

International Federation for Information Processing
Åbo Akademi University
Copenhagen Business School
Turku Centre for Computer Science
Turku Science Park
Turku 2011 Cultural Capital of Europe
Stiftelsen för Åbo Akademi (Foundation for Åbo Akademi University)
Tieteellisten Seurain valtuuskunta (Federation of Finnish Learned Societies)

Many individuals contributed to the successful conference. Our General Chairs Michael Myers and Jacob Nørbjerg worked behind the scenes, using their influence and contacts. The WG8.2 Chair Nancy Russo and secretary Kevin Crowston kept us on the narrow path. Our liaison to TC8, Juhani Iivari, brought the TC8 business meeting participants to Nauvo for the weekend before the conference, and then navigated them to the conference get-together. The annual ECIS conference was held in Helsinki, right after ours. Matti Rossi and Virpi Tuunainen at the Aalto University Business School were vital in coordinating our actions.

Barbro Back offered her experience and contacts for getting financial support for the conference, in her role as the head and deputy head of the department of Information Technologies at Åbo Akademi University. The conference could not have had a better hosting organization.

Tiina Haanila and Anna von Haartman took care of the income and expenditure. Andrea Hynynen coordinated our actions before and during the conference. Magnus Dahlvik provided the Web pages and computer support. Attia Zainab designed the look of the conference. Their skilful, quick and accurate work is much appreciated.

Mike Chiasson
Ola Henfridsson
Helena Karsten

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