

Preface

Predicting the future is a risky game, and can often leave egg on one's face. However when the organizers of the Intelligent Virtual Environments workshop at the European Conference on AI predicted that the field of Intelligent Virtual Agents would grow and mature rapidly, they were not wrong. From this small workshop spawned the successful one on Intelligent Virtual Agents, held in Manchester in 1999.

This volume comprises the proceedings of the much larger third workshop held in Madrid, September 10-11, 2001, which successfully achieved the aim of taking a more international focus, bringing together researchers from all over the world. We received 35 submissions from 18 different countries in America, Asia, and Africa.

The 16 papers presented at the conference and published here show the high quality of the work that is currently being done in this field. In addition, five contributions were selected as short papers, which were presented as posters at the workshop.

This proceedings volume also includes the two prestigious papers presented at the workshop by our keynote speakers:

- Daniel Thalmann, Professor at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL) in Lausanne and Director of the Computer Graphics Lab., who talked about *The Foundations to Build a Virtual Human Society*.
- Jeff Rickel, Project Leader at the Information Sciences Institute and a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Southern California, who debated about *Intelligent Virtual Agents for Education and Training: Opportunities and Challenges*.

Many people and groups contributed to the success of this workshop. Our sincere thanks goes out to all of them. We would like to thank all the authors who contributed to this volume for their willingness to share their knowledge on this exciting new field. Significant thanks goes out to the local program committee in Madrid, for the efficient handling of all the tasks thrown at them:

Julia Clemente, *Universidad de Alcalá*

Pilar Herrero *Universidad Politécnica de Madrid*

Ricardo Imbert *Universidad Politécnica de Madrid*

Gonzalo Méndez *Universidad Politécnica de Madrid*

Jaime Ramírez *Universidad Politécnica de Madrid*

María Isabel Sánchez *Universidad Carlos III*

We would also like to acknowledge the hard work of the members of the Program Committee, who thoughtfully reviewed the submissions. The Program Committee consisted of the editors along with 22 distinguished researchers coming both from academia and business.

We invite readers to enjoy the papers in this book, and look forward to the next Intelligent Virtual Agents conference.

July 2001

Daniel Ballin
Ruth Aylett
Angélica de Antonio

Committee Listings

Conference Chair

Ruth Aylett - Centre for Virtual Environments, University of Salford

Daniel Ballin - Radical Multimedia Laboratory, BT exaCT

Local Conference Chair

Angélica de Antonio - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Local Organizing Committee

Julia Clemente - Universidad de Alcalá

Pilar Herrero - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Ricardo Imbert - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Gonzalo Méndez - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Jaime Ramírez - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

María Isabel Sánchez - Universidad Carlos III

Panels Co-ordinator

Marc Cavazza - University of Teeside

Program Committee

Elisabeth André - DFKI - German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence

Riccardo Antonini - Consorzio Roma Ricerche

Angélica de Antonio - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Ruth Aylett - Centre for Virtual Environments, University of Salford

Norman I. Badler - University of Pennsylvania

Daniel Ballin - Radical Multimedia Laboratory, BT exaCT

Bruce Blumberg - MIT Media Lab

Joanna Bryson - MIT AI Lab

Justine Cassell - MIT Media Lab

Marc Cavazza - University of Teeside

Elisabeth Churchill - FX-PAL

Dave Cliff - Hewlett-Packard Labs Bristol

Kerstin Dautenhahn - University of Hertfordshire

Steve Grand - Cyberlife Research

Ricardo Imbert - Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Brian Logan - University of Nottingham

Mike Luck - University of Southampton

Jan-Torsten Milde - University of Bielefeld

Ana Paiva - IST-Technical University of Lisbon

Todd Papaioannou - DALi Inc

Catherine Pelechoud - Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza"

Paolo Petta - Austrian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence

Dave Roberts - University of Reading

Ryohei Nakatsu - ATR Media Integration & Communications Research Laboratories

Phoebe Sengers - GMD - Institute for Media Communication

Demetri Terzopoulos - New York University

Intelligent Virtual Agents

Third International Workshop, IVA 2001, Madrid, Spain,

September 10-11, 2001. Proceedings

Antonio, A. de; Aylett, R.; Ballin, D. (Eds.)

2001, VIII, 252 p., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-540-42570-0