

Preface

This book includes extended and revised versions of a set of selected papers from WEBIST 2013 (the 9th International Conference on Web Information Systems and Technologies), held in Aachen, Germany, in 2013, which was sponsored by the Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC) and the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology by the grant “econnect Germany – *Stadtwerke machen Deutschland elektromobil*” (econnect Germany – public utility as electric mobility providers in Germany). This conference was also co-organized by RWTH Aachen University. The conference was held in cooperation with Association for Computing Machinery/Special Interest Group on Management Information Systems (ACM SIGMIS) and technically sponsored by the European Research Center for Information System (ERCIS).

The purpose of the WEBIST series of conferences is to bring together researchers, engineers, and practitioners interested in technological advances and business applications of Web-based information systems. The conference has five main tracks, covering different aspects of Web Information Systems, including Internet Technology, Web Interfaces and Applications, Society, e-Business and e-Government, Web Intelligence and Mobile Information Systems.

The conference program included two specialized tutorials. The first tutorial titled “Cross-Platform App Development: Options and Strategies” was provided by Tim Majchrzak and Hennig Heitkötter, University of Münster, Germany. The second tutorial titled “Usability 101: What Makes Interactive Products Easy to Use – And How to Design Them” focused on human–computer interaction and was provided by Gero Herkenrath, RWTH Aachen University, Germany. Furthermore, the three keynotes provided by Emer Coleman, Harald Schöning, and Brian Donnellan addressed cutting-edge questions in open discussion with the conference members. Emer Coleman, Government Digital Services, UK, addressed “Open Data and Reflections from the London Datastore” in her keynote. Harald Schöning, Software AG, Germany, focused on the big data problem in his keynote titled “See the Wood for the Trees.” Last but not least, Brian Donnellan, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Ireland, discussed “IT and Sustainability” in his keynote.

WEBIST 2013 received 143 paper submissions from 43 countries in all continents. A double-blind review process was enforced, with the help of 190 experts from the international Program Committee, all of them with a PhD in one of the main conference topic areas. From these paper submissions only 27 papers were selected to be published and presented as full papers, i.e., completed work (10 pages in proceedings / 30-min oral presentations) and 30 additional papers, describing work-in-progress as short papers for 20-min oral presentation. Furthermore 29 additional papers were also presented as posters. The full-paper acceptance ratio was 19 %, and the total oral paper acceptance ratio was 39.9 %. The papers included in this book were selected from those with the best reviews also taking into account the quality of their presentation at the

conference, assessed by session chairs. Therefore, we hope that you find these papers interesting, and we trust they may represent a helpful reference for all those who need to address any of the research areas mentioned.

We wish to thank all those who supported and helped to organize the conference. On behalf of the conference Organizing Committee, we would like to thank the authors, whose work mostly contributed to a very successful conference, and the members of the Program Committee, whose expertise and diligence were instrumental in ensuring the quality of the final contributions. We also wish to thank all the members of the Organizing Committee, whose work and commitment was invaluable. Last but not least, we would like to thank Springer for their collaboration in getting this book to print.

December 2013

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Web Information Systems and Technologies

9th International Conference, WEBIST 2013, Aachen,

Germany, May 8-10, 2013, Revised Selected Papers

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2014, XII, 263 p. 88 illus., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-662-44299-9