

Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at ALIA2014: The First Artificial Life and Intelligent Agents symposium, held during November 5–6, 2014, at Bangor University, Wales.

ALIA was a two-day event, which invited specialists from academia and industry to discuss the latest research and challenges in this sub-field of artificial intelligence. Day 1 was opened by Prof. David Shepherd, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Research and Enterprise at Bangor University. This first day was research focused, with a series of chaired presentations, some of which were accepted for publication in this volume. The first day also included a keynote talk from Prof. Karl Tuyls on bio-inspired autonomous systems and robotics.

Day 2 involved various invited talks from the commercial sector, discussing current industry challenges in this field. This was chaired by HPC Wales in the morning, and New Computing Technologies (NCT) Wales in the afternoon. Both sessions involved workshops, allowing academia and industry to engage and interact.

The review process was undertaken in two stages. The first round of submissions was for presentation at the main conference. There were 20 submissions, 12 of which were accepted for presentation. The second round of submissions gave the authors of accepted papers time to respond to the reviewers' comments, and address any concerns raised during the presentation. From this round, the committee decided to accept ten papers for the proceedings.

The Organizing Committee would like to extend their thanks to Prof. Peter McBurney, of Kings College London, whose advice and recommendations during the planning of the event helped make the ALIA symposium a reality.

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