

Preface

The annual Ambient Intelligence conference is the prime venue for research on ambient intelligence, with an international and interdisciplinary character. It brings together researchers from the fields of science, engineering, and design working toward the vision of ambient intelligence. Over the past 20 years, the vision of Ambient Intelligence has gradually materialized into a plethora of technologies and devices, which are being introduced into almost every aspect of everyday life, thus affecting our abilities, activities, behavior, and, in the end, are shaping a new way of thinking.

Volume 9425 of Springer's LNCS series is the formal proceedings of the 12th event in the Ambient Intelligence series. The AmI 2015 conference was organized along a set of themes including among others:

- Ambient Intelligence and Health Care
- Ambient Intelligence and Well-Being
- Ambient Intelligence and Social Robots
- Ambient Intelligence and Evaluation
- Ambient Intelligence and City

AmI 2015 continued the tradition of AmI conferences in providing a venue for high-quality papers in a wide range of research areas in ambient intelligence. This year's edition of the AmI conference received 48 submissions for the full and short paper track. Each paper was carefully reviewed by at least three experts of the Technical Program Committee, which included external reviewers from a wide variety of academic, industrial, and research organizations around the world. With an acceptance rate of 54 %, a total of 21 full and five short papers were accepted for presentation at the conference and are included in this volume.

In addition to an exciting technical program, AmI 2015 included four very interesting and visionary keynote talks by the following distinguished speakers:

- James L. Crowley (Grenoble Institut Polytechnique, Inria Grenoble Rhône-Alpes Research Center, France): "An Ecological View of Smart Home Technologies"
- Panos Markopoulos (Department of Industrial Design, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands): "Ambient Intelligence: Visions Past and Future"
- Michail Bletsas (Research Scientist and Director of Computing, MIT Media Lab, USA): "Ubiquitous Connectivity for Ambient Intelligence"
- Jan van Zoest (CTO HealthSuite DigitalPlatform, Philips HealthTech, The Netherlands): "Philips HealthSuite Digital Platform"

Despite a general trend of declining conference attendance, we observed a strong interest in the ambient intelligence research and application field. Based on statistics provided by Springer, it is noted that (on average and based on statistics available since 2009) each annual edition of the conferences proceedings in the LNCS series results in

nearly 20,000 chapter downloads. Clearly the community for ambient intelligence is very active and up to date!

We would like to express our gratitude to the authors who submitted their latest research results to AmI 2015. The realization of the technical program of AmI 2015 would not have been possible without the dedicated voluntary effort of the members of the Technical Program Committee and the Organizing Committee. The Technical Program Committee members offered their time and expertise in order to provide high-quality reviews, within a tight schedule, while thanks to the support by the Organizing Committee, we are able to offer you an interesting and varied program.

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Achilles Kameas
Irene Mavrommati
Boris De Ruyter
Periklis Chatzimisios

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de Ruyter, B.; Kameas, A.; Chatzimisios, P.; Mavrommati,
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