

Preface

The 8th Scandinavian Conference on Information Systems, SCIS 2017, was hosted by Østfold University College in Halden, Norway, during August 6–9, 2017.

Last year's theme for the conference was "Living in the Cloud," inviting papers that describe various aspects of the increased use of cloud-based systems, how this affects our lives, and how we as information systems scholars can design for this new paradigm. This year, we took this further by focusing on the so-called smart systems that prevail in many areas, from health systems to industry and education. As information systems scholars, we have a responsibility in the continued digitalization of our society. New technological innovations influence work processes, communication, leisure activities, and lifelong learning. To provide an arena for discussing larger questions in this context, we selected "Challenging Smart" for this year's conference. Not because we think "smart" systems are inherently problematic, but because the term "smart technology" is often used uncritically. Our community has a responsibility to ask these questions, in the design, implementation, and adaptation in organizations.

What does "smart technologies" mean in different contexts? For whom is the technology smart? In what way is it smart? What should we expect from the organizations and businesses involved in this development, and what does it mean to be a resident in a smart society?

We received 32 submissions and accepted 11 of these, leading to a final acceptance rate of 35%. Each submission was assigned a minimum of two external reviewers and a primary reviewer, who provided a meta-review; final decisions were taken using a combination of all of these reviews.

The keynote speakers at the conference were Hanne Cecilie Geirbo from the University of Oslo and Per-Anders Hillgren from Malmö University.

SCIS 2017 was held in conjunction with the 40th annual Information Systems Research Seminar in Scandinavia, IRIS 40.

We would like to thank all supporters and sponsors of this conference, the reviewers, organizers, Program Committee members, authors, and others who have helped make this possible.

June 2017

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Nordic Contributions in IS Research
8th Scandinavian Conference on Information Systems,
SCIS 2017, Halden, Norway, August 6-8, 2017,
Proceedings
Stigberg, S.K.; Karlsen, J.; Holone, H.; Linnes, C. (Eds.)
2017, XII, 155 p. 24 illus., Softcover
ISBN: 978-3-319-64694-7