

Preface

Since 2005, the International Metadata and Semantics Research Conference (MTSR) has served as a significant venue for the dissemination and sharing of metadata and semantic-driven research and practices. This year, 2017, marked the 11th MTSR, drawing scholars, researchers and practitioners who are investigating and advancing our knowledge on a wide range of metadata and semantic-driven topics. The 11th International Conference on Metadata and Semantics Research (MTSR 2017) was held at Tallinn University (Estonia) from November 28 to December 1, 2017.

Metadata and semantics are integral to any information system and important to the sphere of Web data. Research and development addressing metadata and semantics is crucial to advancing how we effectively discover, use, archive, and repurpose information. In response to this need, researchers are actively examining methods for generating, reusing, and interchanging metadata. Integrated with these developments is research on the application of computational methods, linked data, and data analytics. A growing body of literature also targets conceptual and theoretical designs providing foundational frameworks for metadata and semantic applications. There is no doubt that metadata weaves its way through nearly every aspect of our information ecosystem, and there is great motivation for advancing the current state of understanding in the fields of metadata and semantics. To this end, it is vital that scholars and practitioners convene and share their work.

MTSR 2017 focused on an emerging theme of “Internet of Things (IoT) in Library and Information Science Research” and the practical implementation of ontologies and linked data in various applications. The conference focuses on: theoretical and foundational principles of metadata, ontologies and information organization; the emergence and application of the Internet of Things (IoT) in libraries and cultural heritage institutions (such as RFID technologies, smart libraries, and virtual museums); the applications of linked data, open data, big data and user-generated metadata; digital interconnectedness – the what, why, and how of linked open data and the Semantic Web; metadata standardization, authority control, and interoperability in digital libraries and research data repositories; emerging issues in RDF, OWL, SKOS, schema.org, BIBFRAME, metadata and ontology design; linked data applications for e-books, digital publishing, and content management systems (CMSs); content discovery services, search, information retrieval, and data visualization applications.

MTSR conferences have grown in number of participants and paper submission rates over the last decade, marking it as a leading, international research conference. Continuing in the successful legacy of previous MTSR conferences (MTSR 2005, MTSR 2007, MTSR 2009, MTSR 2010, MTSR 2011, MTSR 2012, MTSR 2013, MTSR 2014, MTSR 2015, and MTSR 2016), MTSR 2017 brought together scholars and practitioners who share a common interest in the interdisciplinary field of metadata, linked data, and ontologies.

The MTSR 2017 program and the following proceedings show the rich diversity of research and practices from metadata and semantically focused tools and technologies, linked data, cross language semantics, ontologies, metadata models, semantic systems, and metadata standards. The general session of the conference included nine papers covering a broad spectrum of topics, proving the interdisciplinary view of metadata. Metadata as a research topic is maturing, and the conference supported the following seven tracks: Digital Libraries, Information Retrieval, Big, Linked, Social, and Open Data; Metadata and Semantics for Cultural Collections and Applications; Track on European and National Projects; Metadata and Semantics for Open Repositories, Research Information Systems and Data Infrastructures; Track on Digital Humanities and Digital Curation; Metadata and Semantics for Agriculture, Food, and Environment; Track on Knowledge IT Artifacts in Professional Communities and Aggregations. Each of these tracks had a rich selection of short and full research papers, in total 22, giving broader diversity to MTSR, and enabling deeper exploration of significant topics.

All the papers underwent a thorough and rigorous peer-review process. The review and selection for this year were highly competitive and only papers containing significant research results, innovative methods, or novel and best practices were accepted for publication. From the general session, only five submissions were accepted as full research papers, representing 33.3% of the total number of submissions, and four as short papers. An additional 13 contributions from tracks covering noteworthy and important results were accepted as full research papers representing 30.2% of the total number of submissions, and nine as short papers, making up 31 contributions for this year's MTSR conference. The acceptance rate of full research papers for both the general session and tracks was 31% of the total number of submissions.

Tallinn University is the third largest public university in Estonia, focusing primarily on the fields of humanities and the social and natural sciences. In its activities, the university adheres to the following basic values: openness, quality, professionalism, and unity. The study area of information sciences of the School of Digital Technologies is the co-organizer of the MTSR 2017. The School of Digital Technologies aims to integrate the study areas of digital learning ecosystems, information sciences, human-computer interaction, mathematics and didactics of mathematics, and applied informatics in order to develop interdisciplinary competencies related to the digital information and learning environment and information and digital competencies.

This year the MTSR conference was pleased to host one remarkable keynote presentation by Dr. Trond Aalberg, Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science, Data and Artificial Intelligence Group at NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology). In his presentation "The Path Toward Bibliographic Ontologies and Linked Data," Professor Aalberg shared his extensive experience and insights about the various models of bibliographic data, transformation of existing data, quality issues, reuse, and use of such data in search systems.

We conclude this preface by thanking the many people who contributed their time and efforts to MTSR 2017 and made this year's conference possible. We also thank all the organizations that supported this conference. We extend a sincere gratitude to members of the Program Committees of both main and special tracks, the Steering Committee, and the Organizing Committees (both general and local), and the conference reviewers who invested their time generously to ensure the timely review of the

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