

Preface

Smart learning environments are emerging as an offshoot of various technology-enhanced learning initiatives that have aimed over the years at improving learning experiences by enabling learners to access digital resources and interact with learning systems at the place and time of their choice, while still ensuring that appropriate learning guidance is available to them there and then.

The concept of what constitutes smart learning is still in its infancy, and the International Conference on Smart Learning Environments (ICSLE) has emerged as the platform to discuss those issues comprehensively. It is organized by the International Association on Smart Learning Environments and aims to provide an archival forum for researchers, academics, practitioners, and industry professionals interested and/or engaged in the reform of the ways of teaching and learning through advancing current learning environments towards smart learning environments. It will facilitate opportunities for discussions and constructive dialogue among various stakeholders on the limitations of existing learning environments, need for reform, innovative uses of emerging pedagogical approaches and technologies, and sharing and promotion of best practices, leading to the evolution, design and implementation of smart learning environments.

The focus of the contributions in this book is on the interplay of pedagogy, technology and their fusion towards the advancement of smart learning environments. Various components of this interplay include but are not limited to:

- Pedagogy: learning paradigms, assessment paradigms, social factors, policy
- Technology: emerging technologies, innovative uses of mature technologies, adoption, usability, standards, and emerging/new technological paradigms (open educational resources, cloud computing, etc.)
- Fusion of pedagogy and technology: transformation of curriculum, transformation of teaching behavior, transformation of administration, best practices of infusion, piloting of new ideas.

ICSLE 2016 received 52 papers, with authors from 18 countries. All submissions were peer-reviewed in a double-blind review process by at least 3 Program Committee members. We are pleased to note that the quality of the submissions this

year turned out to be very high. A total of 13 papers were accepted as full papers (yielding a 25 % acceptance rate). In addition, 8 papers were selected for presentation as short papers and another 7 as posters.

Furthermore, ICSLE 2016 features 2 distinguished keynote presentations. One workshop is also organized in conjunction with the main conference, with a total of 4 accepted papers (included at the end of this volume).

We acknowledge the invaluable assistance of the Program Committee members, who provided timely and helpful reviews. We would also like to thank the entire Organizing Committee for their efforts and time spent to ensure the success of the conference. And last but not least, we would like to thank all the authors for their contribution in maintaining a high quality conference.

With all the effort that has gone into the process, by authors and reviewers, we are confident that this year's ICSLE proceedings will immediately earn a place as an indispensable overview of the state of the art and will have significant archival value in the longer term.

Craiova, Romania
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