IADIS International Conference Collaborative Technologies 2012 (part of the MCCSIS 2012)

The IADIS International Conference Collaborative Technologies 2012 was held in Lisbon, Portugal, 19-21 July, 2012.

The IADIS Collaborative Technologies 2012 was focused on issues related to the concepts, theory, modelling, specification, implementation and evaluation of collaborative systems, technologies and their ‘wider’ applications in the information society. It gave particular attention to the ‘wider’ dimension as a mean to diversify it and broaden the applicability and scope of the current body of knowledge in the area of applied collaborative domain including emerging and next generation methods and technologies. The purpose was to cover both technical and non-technical aspects of the collaborative nature of today’s information society, as well as, prompt future direction for the advancement of the community.

This year Conference received 39 submissions from more than 14 countries. Each submission had been anonymously reviewed by an average of four independent reviewers, to ensure that accepted submissions were of a high standard. Consequently only 7 full papers were approved which meant an acceptance rate of 18 %. A few more papers were accepted as short papers, reflection papers and poster demonstration. An extended version of the best papers was published in the International Journal of Distributed Systems and Technologies (IJDST) ISSN: 1947-3532 and/or in the IADIS International Journal on Computer Science and Information Systems (ISSN: 1646-3692), including journals from Inderscience.

Submissions were accepted under the following 5 main topics:
- Theory Foundations
- Technical Infrastructures
- Environments, Tools and Applications
- Benefits realization and Social Implications
- Future Concepts

The Conference included the presentation of full papers, short papers reflection papers and posters/demonstrations and also one keynote presentation by Dr. Irma Borst, Principal Consultant atLogica Consulting and Associate Researcher at RSM Erasmus University, The Netherlands.

Keynote Presentation:

The Case for and Against Crowdsourcing by
Dr. Irma Borst, Principal Consultant at Logica Consulting and Associate Researcher at RSM Erasmus University, The Netherlands

Abstract:

Articles on crowdsourcing seem to spread one message: every firm should use the ‘power of the mass’ by tapping into a global pool of online voluntary resources. I do not deny that crowdsourcing is a beneficial concept to a number of firms, but there is also a different story to tell. I have observed that little or no attention has been paid to the drawbacks of crowdsourcing. These disadvantages result in unexpected costs that have the potential to wipe out some or all of the benefits of crowdsourcing.

In the first part of my presentation I will describe which types of crowdsourcing currently exist and the benefits of crowdsourcing. In the second part, I explore the main drawbacks of crowdsourcing which stem from the fact that in crowdsourcing initiatives, online volunteers instead of companies own staff members are executing the work. Finally I will present how one problematic aspect of crowdsourcing – effectiveness and efficiency of mass contributions – can be addressed. Presented guidelines will enable an optimal use of ‘the power of the mass’.

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