The 2nd edition of the International Conference on Web Based Communities was held in Algarve, Portugal, 23-25 February, 2005.

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The purpose of The Web Based Communities 2005 Conference was to bring together new vital understanding of WWW communities and what new initiatives mean. Each new perspective was potentially a catalyst for finding new architectures. The targeted audience was scientists and members and moderators of WWW communities who felt responsible for optimizing its quality and effect. The submissions were accepted under the following main areas: The history, architecture and future of virtual communities; Group processes and self-organization; Cyborgs, teleworking, telemedicine, art games and learning communities, Expanding Markets through Virtual Communities and Virtual communities for people with special needs.

In 2005, the Conference received about 87 submissions from more than 20 countries. Each submission was anonymously reviewed by at least two independent reviewers, to guarantee the final high standard of the accepted submissions. The final result was the approval of 26 full papers, which meant that the acceptance rate was below 30 %.

Extended versions of the best papers were selected to be published in:

- the International Journal of “Web Based Communities” (IJWBC); ISSN: 1477 - 8394 (4 issues per year)

Besides the presentation of fulls, short papers and posters that divided the conference program in 12 parallel sessions, the conference also featured two keynote presentations by Dr. Starr Roxanne Hiltz, Distinguished Professor, New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA and Dr. Gunilla Bradley, Professor Informatics, KTH, Royal Institute of Technology IT- University, Department of Microelectronics and Information Technology, Sweden and a Panel Session entitled Web Based Communities Scholarship: Under-Represented Voices in Cybercommunities chaired by Professor Clara M. Chu, UCLA, USA.
Keynote Presentation:

BUILDING LEARNING COMMUNITIES IN ONLINE COURSES

by Dr. Starr Roxanne Hiltz, Distinguished Professor, New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA

Keynote Presentation:

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY INFORMATICS – HUMANS ON THE NET

by Dr. Gunilla Bradley, Professor Informatics, KTH, Royal Institute of Technology IT - University, Department of Microelectronics and Information Technology, Sweden


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