The 6th edition of the International Conference on Web Based Communities (part of the IADIS Multi Conference on Computer Science and Information Systems 2009) was held in Algarve, Portugal, 21-23 June, 2009.

This conference was organized by the International Association for Development of the Information Society (IADIS).

The goal of this Conference was to publish and join together scientific results and act catalytically to the fast developing culture of web communities. It is increasingly important for our culture to bring people together and to promote dynamics in professional organizations, mutual understanding, learning and harmony. Creating "virtual communities" is one major way to do this. 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 2009, the conference received 53 submissions from more than 22 countries. Each submission had been anonymously reviewed by an average of four independent reviewers, to ensure the final high standard of the accepted submissions. The final result was the approval of 10 full papers, which meant that the acceptance rate was below 19 %. A few more papers had been accepted as short papers, reflection papers and posters.

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)

The conference program was organized into 5 parallel sessions included the presentation of full, short and reflection papers and posters. In addition, the conference offered two keynote presentations from internationally distinguished research (Laurel Papworth, Social Network Strategist, Australia and Dr. Bob Appelman, Indiana University, USA) and a special talk by Nian-Shing Chen, National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan.
Keynote Presentation:

THE KEY FEATURES OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES THAT BUILDS ONLINE COMMUNITY

by Laurel Papworth, Social Network Strategist, Australia

Keynote Presentation:

COMMUNITIES IN THE LABYRINTH

by Dr. Bob Appelman, Indiana University, USA

Special Talk:

A CYBER REAL CYBER MODEL FOR RUNNING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

by Nian-Shing Chen, National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan


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