The International Conference on Web Based Communities and Social Media 2011 was the 8th edition of this conference’s series (part of the IADIS Multi Conference on Computer Science and Information Systems) was hosted in Rome, Italy, 20-23 July, 2011.

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

The Web Based Communities and Social Media 2011 sought to cover in detail two main themes: Web Based Communities and Social Media. Social Media are growing rapidly and play an increasingly important role in the development of Online Communities. Web based communities announce themselves both in your professional and private life through several new media such as LinkedIn, Twitter, Plaxo, etc. Social media allow dynamic roles in participation, virtual presence and online communities. These new ways to communicate via online social media are having great societal effects and are motivating the creation of best practices to help individuals, corporations and authorities to make the best of it.

The 2011 edition was published jointly with the conferences: Collaborative Technologies 2011 and Internet Applications and Research 2011. These events received 134 submissions from more than 24 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 23 full papers were approved which means an acceptance rate of about 17 %. A few more papers were accepted as short papers, reflection papers and posters.

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

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

The conference, besides the presentation of full papers, short papers, reflection papers and posters, also offered one keynote presentation from an internationally distinguished researcher (Professor Gráinne Conole, The Institute of Educational Technology, The Open University, UK).

**Keynote Presentation:**

RETHINKING LEARNING AND TEACHING IN A DIGITAL AGE

by Professor Gráinne Conole, The Institute of Educational Technology, The Open University, UK

Program Committee Members:

- Adolfo Estalella, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain
- Adriana Berlanga, Open University of the Netherlands, The Netherlands
- Agisilaos Konidaris, Technological Educational Institute of Ionian Isla, Greece
- Alberto Cattaneo, Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education A, Switzerland
- Allan Yuen, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- Anna Hannemann, Rwth Aachen University, Germany
- Annabell Preussler, FernUniversität in Hagen, Germany
- Antonio Fini, University of Florence, Italy
- Apostolos Gkamas, University of Patras, Greece
- Carlo Tornia, Oregon Health&Science University, United States
- Chien-sing Lee, Multimedia University, Malaysia
- Christin Seifert, Graz University of Technology, Austria
- Christos Bouras, University of Patras, Greece
- Christos Georgiadis, University of Macedonia, Greece
- Claudia Thurner-Scheuerer, Know-center, Austria
- Deniz Deryakulu, Ankara University, Turkey
- Elias Pimenidis, University of East London, United Kingdom
- Eliza Stefanova, St. Kl. Ohridski University of Sofia, Bulgaria
- Enyedi Szilard, Technical University of Cluj-napoca, Romania
- Eshaa Alkhalfa, Royal University for Women, Bahrain
- Fabio Nascimbeni, Menon Network, Belgium
- Flavio Correa Da Silva, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Francis Brouns, Open University, Netherlands
- Frederico Figueiredo, Mobbit Systems, Portugal
- Gayle Davidson Shivers, University of South Alabama, USA
- George Dafoulas, Middlesex University, United Kingdom
- Gisela de Clunie, Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá, Panamá
- Giuliana Dettori, Istituto Per Le Tecnologie Didattiche, Italy
- Huang-Yao Hong, National Chengchi University, Taiwan
- Ilias Karasavvidis, University of Thessaly, Greece
- Ismael Peña-López, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain
- Jan Frick, University of Stavanger, Norway
- Jesus Arias Fisteus, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain
- John Murnane, The University of Melbourne, Australia
- Jose Jesus Garcia Rueda, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain
- Jose Luis Sierra Rodriguez, Universidad Complutense De Madrid, Spain
- Kirsti Lindh, University of Tampere, Finland
- Konstantinos Giotopoulos, University of Patras, Greece
- Krassen Stefanov, St. Kl. Ohridski University of Sofia, Bulgaria
- Lawrie Hunter, Kochi University of Technology, Japan
- Ljubomir Gashi, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
- Lorna Uden, Staffordshire University, United Kingdom
- Mandy Schiefner, University Zurich, Switzerland
- Marcello Sarini, University of Milan-bicocca, Italy
- Marco Kalz, Open University of the Netherlands, The Netherlands
- Marcus Specht, Open University the Netherlands, The Netherlands
- Maria Grazia Lerardi, Cnr, Italy
- Marlies Bitter-Rijpkema, Open University of the Netherlands, The Netherlands
- Martin Gonzalez, Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico
- Martin Llamas-Nistal, Etsi Telecomunicación, Spain
- Michael Filsecker, University Duisburg-essen, Germany
- Michael Kerres, University Duisburg-essen, Germany
- Michalis Xenos, Hellenic Open University, Greece
- Nikolina Nikolova, St. Kl. Ohridski University of Sofia, Bulgaria
- Oliver Bohl, Kassel University, Germany
- Panayotis Fouliras, University of Macedonia, Greece