Message from the SWARCH-DL 2010 Chairs

Welcome to the proceedings of the 2010 International Workshop on Semantic Web and Reasoning for Cultural Heritage and Digital Libraries (SWARCH-DL 2010). The workshop was held in conjunction with the Fourth IEEE International Conference on Semantic Computing (ICSC 2010), 22-24 September 2010 at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, USA.

For years, heritage institutions are striving to find ways to improve access, management and dissemination of their content. Metadata and the Semantic Web offer novel and effective aspects towards this perspective and their use and adoption appear to be continually increasing. This also stems from the fact that semantic technologies not only allow knowledge-based management of information, but also enable supporting systems to exhibit "intelligent" behavior and deduce knowledge through automated reasoning, this time over the World Wide Web. Starting from the early days of the Semantic Web, its effectiveness in heritage collections and digital libraries has initiated a highly intensive research interest, culminating in major research and development projects in Europe and abroad that have already begun to pay off.

With this strong research and applied focus in mind, SWARCH-DL 2010 main goal has been to bring together a valuable think tank that would discuss and propose experiences, practices and state-of-the-art solutions to current issues involving semantics of web knowledge-intensive systems and cultural applications. These concerns appear to be shared by scientists worldwide and we had a number of interesting contributions for the workshop out of which we had to select only a few. We have tried to maintain a diverse, but also coherent program and this has been no easy task, since the main workshop field may spread a number of branches, each of which deserving a dedicated session on its own. However, the submissions included in these proceedings can be roughly divided in two main categories, namely *cultural heritage ontologies and applications* and *web-based collections and digital libraries*.

Indicative topics covered include the design of and reasoning with cultural heritage ontologies, semantic metadata manipulation of bibliographical sources, semantic collection management on the Web, intelligent mash-ups and more.

At this point, we would like to express our gratitude to the number of people that formed the SWARCH-DL 2010 program committee. Their eager participation to the arduous task of program selection as well as their thoughtful remarks have been invaluable. We would also like to thank the ICSC 2010 Conference Co-chairs Prof. Mei-Ling Shyu and Prof. Florian Metze; their coordination and support have greatly helped in making SWARCH-DL 2010 a success.

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