

Advances in Web-Based Learning ICWL 2012

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Preface

ICWL is an annual international conference on Web-based learning, which started in Hong Kong in 2002. Since then, it has been held in Australia (2003), China (2004), Hong Kong (2005), Malaysia (2006), UK (2007), China (2008), Germany (2009), China (2010), and Hong Kong (2011). ICWL 2012, the 11th conference in the series, was organized by the University of Craiova, Romania, and was held in the Sinaia mountain resort.

The location chosen for this year was at high altitude, true to the spirit of a high-level conference. Sinaia, also known as the “Carpathian Pearl”, is situated in breathtaking mountain scenery, on the Prahova Valley. Blending astonishing natural beauty with picturesque architecture, Sinaia is a formal royal residence, home of the Peles Castle; this is one of the most well-preserved royal palaces in Europe, which served as the summer residence of the first king of Romania, Carol I.

In this rich cultural atmosphere, the conference provided a discussion forum and social networking opportunity for academic researchers, developers, educationalists, and practitioners alike. Latest findings were presented in the areas of: computer-supported collaborative learning; personal learning environments; Web 2.0 and social learning environments; personalized and adaptive learning; game-based learning; deployment, organization, and management of learning objects; semantic Web and ontologies for e-learning; intelligent learner modeling and learning analytics; design, modeling, and implementation of e-learning platforms and tools.

This year we received 105 submissions from 33 countries; while the majority of authors came from Europe, all other continents were represented, resulting in a remarkable international diversity. After a rigorous double-blind review process (in which each paper was reviewed by at least three members of the Program Committee), 28 papers were selected as full papers, yielding an acceptance rate of 26.6%. In addition, 10 more papers were selected as short papers. Moreover, three workshops were held in conjunction with ICWL 2012. The conference also featured two distinguished keynote presentations as well as a panel.

We would like to thank the entire Organizing Committee for their efforts and time spent to ensure the success of the conference. Last but not least, we would like to thank all the authors of the submitted papers, whether accepted or not,

for their contribution to maintaining a high-quality conference. We count on your continual support for playing a significant role in the Web-based learning community in the future.

September 2012

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