Advances in Information Systems Development

New Methods and Practice for the Networked Society

Volume 2
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New Methods and Practice for the Networked Society

Volume 2

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2007929540

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Printed on acid-free paper.

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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Preface

This book is the outcome of the Fifteenth International Conference on Information Systems Development, ISD’2006, held in Budapest, Hungary between 31st August – 2nd September 2006. The theme of the 2006 conference was “New Methods and Practice for the Networked Society”.

This theme expresses that we are living in a new era when practically all of our information resources are organized and managed in a networked environment. Information technology has reformed and restructured the workflows of companies and other organizations over the past several decades, and will continue to do so well into the future. This is particularly important now, as we see the emergence of complex networked information systems. “Being digital” by Nicholas Negroponte was the watchword at the dawn of the information society. “Being online” is now at the very heart of our everyday life. New postulates and requirements are stemming from this nature of society of today and tomorrow. The convergence of IT and infocommunication technologies has presented a challenge for the ISD profession in terms of accommodating mobility, interoperability, the “always connected” state of information systems, the evolving distributed nature of information resources and the growing volume and diversity of information. IS development, both as a professional and academic discipline, has responded to this challenge through methodologies, tools and theory development. Progress in ISD comes from research as well as from practice. The aim of the Conference was to provide an international forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences between academia and industry, and to stimulate exploration of new solutions.

The ISD Conference evolved from the first Polish-Scandinavian Seminar on Current Trends in Information Systems Development Methodologies, held in Poland in 1988. It was a great honour and responsibility for us to organize the fifteenth event within this fine series of conferences.

Putting together a book of this magnitude requires the cooperation and assistance of many professionals with expertise. We would like to express our
gratitude to all the authors and participants for contributing to the conference that we believe to have been successful and memorable. The conference call for papers attracted a great number of very high quality papers. All papers were double-blind refereed by at least two independent reviewers and an Associate Editor. They provided detailed reviews on all papers submitted. We would like to thank the IPC members for their essential work.

Many thanks are due also to the assistance in organization of ISD 2006, especially to the Scientific Association for Infocommunications (HTE) and to the Conference Secretary, Mr. Sándor Szaszkó. We are also grateful to the National Office for Research and Technology (NKTH) for financial support of the Conference.

Gabor Magyar, Gabor Knapp
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