Track: Software Technology

Minitrack: Open Movements: FLOSS, Open Contents, Open Access and Open Communities (cross-listed in the Internet Track)

This minitrack will provide a place for research and conceptual work to address a variety of questions, such as examining the implications of open content from technical, economic and policy perspectives. As well, we welcome studies of the deployment of FLOSS and OC studies, exploring the motivations of individuals to contribute to projects. Studies of the structure and function of open teams and communities are also in the scope of this minitrack, including analysis of the social networks created by those communities and their evolution over time. In addition to studies of specific communities, we seek papers that draw connections across different settings, to pose more general questions and explanations or to explore the design and analysis of novel systems.

A more comprehensive and detailed Call for Papers is available at http://www2.cs.uidaho.edu/~jeffery/openmovements/.

The minitrack covers all aspects of the Open Movement phenomena, such as:

- Free, Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS)
- Open Contents (OC)
- Open Access Publishing (OA)
- Open Communities (OComm)

Possible topics for this minitrack include:

- Ideologies behind and motivations for participation in open projects
- Member satisfaction and effectiveness in open projects
- Creators’ roles in open projects and their evolution over time
- Leadership, management and policies in open projects
- Distributed project, team, and group development and management for open projects
- Distributed collaboration in and coordination of open projects
- User involvement and user support in open projects
- Knowledge management and learning in open projects
- Issues in distributed software development for FLOSS
- Issues in content development in open content and open communities
- Open projects as Communities of Practice and problems implementing open practices
• Social networks of open projects
• Economics of open projects
• Community development and its evolution in Open Communities
• Information quality and credibility of open content
• Applications and adoption of open project products
• Implementation of FLOSS systems
• FLOSS systems supporting open projects
• Forecasting the evolution of open movements
• New application areas in FLOSS
• Evaluation, comparison, unification, and differentiation of technical aspects of open projects
• Methods for simplifying development, maintenance, and multi-platform portability in FLOSS
• Applications of open source software in education, government and other domains

Minitrack co-chairs

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Wolfgang Bein is associate professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he is the Director of the Center for the Advanced Study of Algorithms. He holds a Ph.D. (Dr. rer. nat.) from the University of Osnabrueck, Germany (1987). His research interests include online algorithms, combinatorial optimization, adaptive algorithms and heuristics, scheduling, networks, parallel architectures and open-source projects.

Kevin Crowston joined the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University in 1996. He received his A.B. (1984) in Applied Mathematics (Computer Science) from Harvard University and a PhD (1991) in Information Technologies from the Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). His current research interests focus on new ways of organizing made possible by the use of information and communications technology. He approaches this issue in several ways: empirical studies of coordination-intensive processes in human organizations; theoretical characterizations of coordination problems and alternative methods for managing them; and design and empirical evaluation of new kinds of computer systems to support people working together.

Clinton Jeffery is associate professor at the University of Idaho. He received his PhD (1993) in Computer Science from the University of Arizona. He is the director of two open-source software projects hosted on SourceForge.net, a programming language (Unicon) and a collaborative virtual environment (CVE).

Felipe Ortega is Post-doc researcher at GsyC/Libresoft, in University Rey Juan Carlos (Madrid, Spain). He received his Master on Telecommunication Engineering (2003) from Alfonso X El Sabio University, and his PhD in Computer Science (2009) from University Rey Juan Carlos. His research is focused on the study of open on-line communities in the Internet, like Wikipedia and FLOSS development projects. He applies an empirical methodology to model their evolution and dynamics, combining the analysis of massive data collections and visualization techniques. His dissertation has been the first work to present a side-by-side comparison of the top-ten language editions of Wikipedia, examining many different aspects related to its community, content and evolution.