

ISWC 2018 Posters & Demonstrations, Industry, and Blue Sky Ideas Tracks

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Preface

The International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC) is the premier forum for Semantic Web researchers and practitioners from around the world to gather and share ideas and discoveries. The conference continues to bring together a diverse set of individuals with skills and interests ranging from artificial intelligence to information systems and Web systems. We continue to see steadily increasing adoption of semantic technologies, although more often than not, their use is invisible to consumers.

Posters and Demonstrations Track

The ISWC 2018 Posters and Demonstrations Track complements other tracks of the conference and offers an opportunity for presenting late-breaking research results, on-going research projects, and speculative or innovative work in progress. The informal setting of the Posters and Demonstrations encourages presenters and participants to engage in discussions about the work. Such discussions can be invaluable inputs for the future work of the presenters, while offering participants an effective way to broaden their knowledge of the emerging research trends and to network with other researchers.

In 2018, we received a total of 97 submissions to this track. Each of the submissions went through a thorough peer review process, aiming at providing the authors with constructive feedback for their submission. In the end, 38 posters and 39 demonstrations were selected for the presentation at the ISWC posters and demonstrations session and were included in these proceedings.

Industry Track

The industry track provides an opportunity for industry adopters to highlight and share the key learnings and new research challenges posed by real world im-

plementations. This year we had many exciting submissions, from small to large companies that are making revealing leaps forward in science and engineering by using and adopting semantic technologies, web of data sources and knowledge graphs. Each short submission was reviewed by at least three PC members. We accepted 14 out of 27 abstracts that showcased a wide range of real-world industrial strength applications. The submissions were assessed in terms of impact of semantics as a competitive differentiator in industry and discussions on the business value, experiences, insights, as well as obstacles that stand in the way of large-scale adoption of semantic technologies.

Blue Sky Ideas Track

The Blue Sky Ideas track is sponsored by the CCC Blue Sky ideas and is different than other ISWC tracks. Same as several other established conferences such as AAAI, VLDB and SIGSPATIAL, ISWC challenges the community to look at research from different angles and far beyond the current mainstream. It solicits visionary ideas, long term challenges, and opportunities in the semantic web research that are outside of the current topics in the field and are not mature or specific enough to be accepted in the regular research tracks. The contributions should find the right arguments to convince that the proposed topic is promising and should relate the talk as much as possible to the existing literature from relevant fields, possibly also fields outside the Semantic Web Community.

In 2018, we received a total of 20 submissions to this track. Each of the submissions went through a peer review process and a consensus debate to establish the final list of papers. The aim was at finding the ideas that are as close as possible to a Blue Sky Idea. In the end, 8 papers were selected to be presented as ISWC Blue Sky Ideas session and were included in these proceedings. Three of these papers will receive the CCC Blue Sky Ideas prizes.

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Vanessa Lopez and Kavitha Srinivas
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