



## Fifth Workshop on User-Centred Design and Evaluation of Adaptive Systems

Held in conjunction with the 4th International Conference on Adaptive Hypermedia & Adaptive Web-based Systems (AH2006)

Dublin, Ireland, June 20-23 2006

<http://www.easy-hub.org/hub/workshops/ah2006/index.html>

### First Call for Papers

You are kindly invited to contribute to the Fifth Workshop on User-Centred Design and Evaluation of Adaptive Systems (UDEAS), which follows in the tracks of four very successful workshops held in conjunction with UM2001, UM2003, AH2004 and UM2005.

The workshop's guiding perspective is that novel design approaches, adequate evaluation methods, and reliable assessment criteria and metrics are prerequisites for improving the quality and usability of the next generations of adaptive systems. This workshop expands upon the scope of its predecessors to explicitly focus on issues related to the user-centred design of adaptive systems in general, and the identification of usability engineering methods that can be reused / modified to support design activities, and evaluate concepts and prototypes in early phases of adaptation design. This shift of focus is reflected both in the new title and in a new paper submission category as outlined below.

Workshop web site:

<http://www.easy-hub.org/hub/workshops/ah2006/index.html>

Web sites and proceedings of the four previous workshops:

<http://www.easy-hub.org/hub/workshops.jsp>

### Thematic Areas

The workshop, continuing in the steps of its predecessors, will focus on the following general themes:

- How can the development of adaptive systems be facilitated through user involvement?
  - Which usability engineering methods can be reused or need to be adapted to inform different development stages of adaptive systems?
  - How can we ensure early user involvement in requirements gathering and design activities?
  - How can early prototypes of adaptive systems be user tested?
  - How can potential trade-offs of adaptivity and usability be resolved (e.g., consistency vs. context-sensitivity)?
- Which criteria and methods can be used to evaluate adaptivity?
  - Which of the existing criteria and methods are appropriate for the evaluation of user models and adaptive systems?

- What new criteria need to be introduced to specifically cater for the presence of user modelling and adaptation in the evaluated systems?
- What empirical methods are appropriate (or, how do existing methods need to be modified, so as to be suitable) for assessment against the new sets of criteria?
- How can user-centred design practices and evaluation studies be encouraged?
  - How can we encourage exploratory work in user involvement in adaptation design?
  - How can we foster an increase in the volume and quality of empirical evaluations of adaptive systems?
  - What are the most common pitfalls that can be identified in previous studies?

## **Workshop Format and Solicited Contributions**

We plan to apply a format that facilitates goal-oriented group discussions (among the workshop participants) in addition to the standard paper presentations. The workshop will have two general sessions (to be held in succession), as outlined below.

The first session will be organized around the general research themes discussed earlier, i.e., submissions are to be evaluated in regard to their relevance to / contribution towards the themes, and the discussion during the workshop will be structured around the themes. Participants of the workshop are expected to share their experiences and discuss the issue of what constitutes good and bad practice in studies targeting adaptive systems. Two types of submissions will be solicited to achieve this goal: studies and position-papers. Each study will be discussed in terms of experience gathered. The submission of "unsuccessful studies" is explicitly encouraged, as these can be very informative for other participants. Position-papers will be solicited on all three of the workshop research themes. Authors of such papers are expected to build upon related experience to discuss and propose either new (or, reworked existing) metrics / approaches for user-centred design or evaluation of adaptation, or, address the issue of why related studies in the literature are so few and mostly uninformative. The topics to be raised by the authors will be integrated in (and, hopefully, enrich) the aforementioned study-based workshop discussions.

The second session will be devoted to the "planned work" category of papers. The format envisaged for this session involves rather short presentations of plans (or problems encountered in devising adequate plans) for user involvement in the design activities of, or for the evaluation of, adaptive systems. The presentations will serve as a starting point for discussions among the workshop's participants. Depending on the number of submissions in this category, we will consider: (a) the assembly of a panel of experts to facilitate and guide the discussions, and (b) the division of workshop participants into groups, each of which addresses a smaller number of plans in detail, and reports results (e.g., identified issues, suggestions / solutions for overcoming those, etc.) back to the workshop's closing plenary session.

The workshop will also include an invited talk on the topic of using "traditional" approaches to design and evaluate adaptive systems. This talk is intended as a condensed overview of existing knowledge in the field, as well as a basis for further discussion among participants, and a stepping stone for the definition of future work in the field.

## Submission Format

Submissions should not exceed 10 pages for studies / position papers and 4 pages for “planned work” papers, and should be formatted according to the Springer LNCS guidelines. Please refer to the submission section of the workshop’s web site for more information on the submission format.

Workshop papers will be published in full length in the workshop proceedings and presented in talks at the workshop.

Please, submit your paper on-line at the workshop’s conference management site (refer to the “Submission” section of the workshop’s site for details). If you encounter problems in using the site’s tools, you can also submit the paper by e-mail to [ah2006-workshop@easy-hub.org](mailto:ah2006-workshop@easy-hub.org) until Monday, March 31st, 2006.

Portable Document Format (\*.pdf) and Postscript (\*.ps) files are preferred.

## Important Dates

March 31st, 2006: Submission of papers (studies, position papers and “planned work”)

April 28th, 2006: Notification of authors

May 26th, 2006: Delivery of camera-ready copy

June 20th, 2006: Workshop day; the conference lasts from the June 20th to the 23rd 2006.

## Programme Committee

1. David Chin, University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA
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3. Christina Gena, University of Turin, Italy
4. Anthony Jameson, DFKI, Germany
5. Judith Masthoff, University of Aberdeen, UK
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