

## SIGIR 2010 Workshop Program Overview

**Omar Alonso**, Microsoft,  
omar.alonso@microsoft.com  
**Giambattista Amati**, Fondazione Ugo Bordoni,  
gba@fub.it

### 1 Overview

The annual SIGIR Workshop Program is an important venue for discussion on hot topics and novel trends in Information Retrieval. This year the Program Committee encouraged particularly proposals showing substantial innovative research directions. On the other hand, Program Committee was highly aware and concerned of the fact that many research areas were well represented in past SIGIR editions or hosted by other Conferences affine to IR.

SIGIR 2010 Workshops thus covered both brand new topics, such as Crowd-sourcing for search evaluation, Simulation of user interaction, Accessibility in Search Engines and N-gram models for Web search, as well as consolidated areas, such as Large-scale distributed IR and Query representation and understanding.

We asked the reviewers to bid for the proposals. Each proposal was reviewed by 3 persons. In those cases where no consensus was reached, we discussed separately with the reviewers advantages and disadvantages before reaching a decision. We then sent the Workshop Evaluation Report to the Program Chairs and discussed and shared with them the final decisions taking into account also available resources and locations.

Reviewers assessed the proposals by standard evaluation features like relevance, novelty, impact and importance, but also by audience and format assessments, that is the capacity of the workshop to attract a large and motivated audience, interested more to discuss on the research topics rather than to present papers as in the main conference. Indeed, the most successful workshop in terms of attendance adopted a mixed solution of a balanced number of invited and refereed posters.

We received many excellent submissions and had a difficult decision of selecting a smaller set for the program. Researchers from related scientific areas also submitted a few proposals, witnessing thus that IR and its applications attracts a large scientific interest and audience. 18 workshops proposals were submitted, 9 were selected for inclusion in the program and one was cancelled. (For comparison, 14 were submitted last year and 8 were held). Table 1 displays the titles and organizers of the workshops. Workshops are described in more detail by the organizers in the pages that follow this overview. In total, 242 people registered for workshops. Individual workshop sizes ranged from 13 to 58, with an average size of 30.

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<b>Title</b>	<b>Organizers</b>
Crowdsourcing for Search Evaluation	Vitor Carvalho, Matthew Lease, Emine Yilmaz
Accessible Search Systems	Pavel Serdyukov, Djoerd Hiemstra, Ian Ruthven
Desktop Search: Understanding, Supporting, and Evaluating Personal Data Search	David Elsweiler, Gareth J. F. Jones, Liadh Kelly, Jaime Teevan
Simulation of Interaction: Automated Evaluation of Interactive IR	Leif Azzopardi, Kalervo Jarvelin, Jaap Kamps, Mark D Smucker
Query Representation and Understanding	Bruce Croft, Michael Bendersky, Hang Li, Gu Xu
Large-Scale Distributed Information Retrieval	Roi Blanco, B. Barla Cambazoglu, Claudio Lucchese, Flavio Junqueira, Fabrizio Silvestri
Web N-gram	Chengxiang Zhai, David Yarowsky, Evelyne Viegas, Kuansan Wang, Stephan Vogel
Feature Generation and Selection for Information Retrieval	Evgeniy Gabrilovich, Alex Smola, Naftali Tishby

Table 1. Workshop titles and organizers.

## 2 Program Committee

The workshop Program Committee (PC) is listed below. The goal in assembling the PC was to include a mix of expertise in both academia and industry.

Roi Blanco, Yahoo! Research Barcelona  
Wray Buntine, NICTA, Australia  
Gene Golovchinsky, FX PAL, USA  
Panos Ipeirotis, NYU, USA  
Diane Kelly, Univ of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA (Last Year's SIGIR Workshop Chair)  
Yoelle Maarek, Yahoo! Research, Israel  
Jian-Yun Nie, University of Montreal, Canada  
Iadh Ounis, University of Glasgow, UK  
Igor Perisic, LinkedIn, USA  
Jeremy Pickens, FX Palo Alto Lab, Inc., USA  
Maria Stone, Microsoft/Bing, USA  
Martin Theobald, Max-Planck institute Informatics, Germany  
Daniel Tunkelang, Google, USA  
Hugo Zaragoza, Yahoo! Research Barcelona

## 3 Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the conference and workshops program committee, to all those who submitted proposals and organized workshops, to those who participated in the workshops, and to the student volunteers of SIGIR 2010.

