

Proceedings

FIRST LATIN AMERICAN WEB CONGRESS

LA-WEB 2003

SANTIAGO 2003

EMPOWERING OUR WEB, NOVEMBER 10-12

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FOREWORD

The Center for Web Research of the Computer Science Department of the University of Chile, under the sponsorship of the International World Wide Web Conference Committee (IW3C2), the Brazilian Computer Society (SBC), the Chilean Computer Science Society (SCCC) and the Latin American Center for Informatics Studies (CLEI) was proud to organize the First Latin American World Wide Web Conference held on November 10-12, 2003, in Santiago, Chile.

International researchers, technologists, and leaders from academia, industry, and government gathered at LA-WEB to present, demonstrate, and discuss the latest developments of the Web and how they can be used to empower the Latin American Web.

All this was possible thanks to the support of the Department of Computer Science of the University of Chile, the Millennium Scientific Initiative of the Chilean Ministry of Planning (MIDEPLAN), the Chilean Fulbright Commission, and Sun Microsystems.

We would like to acknowledge the work of the different chairs: Daniel Schwabe, Jose Miguel Piquer, Nivio Ziviani, Luis Olsina, and Alfredo Sanchez. We also thank all the organizing committee, in particular the help of Cuauhtemoc Rivera-Loaiza.

Ricardo Baeza-Yates
Conference Chair
CWR/DCC/Universidad de Chile

PREFACE

On behalf of the Program Committee, we welcome you to the first Latin American Web Congress - LA Web 2003. Consistently with worldwide tendencies, the growth of the WWW in Latin America has been tremendous, with an estimated online population of roughly 50 million people in 2003. Research has also picked up significantly.

This conference is the first in a series aimed at divulging research results and experiences related to the WWW, within Latin America. We received a total of 62 submissions, of which 18 were accepted for the main tracks, 6 for alternate tracks, (three of them are not included here, because they were not in English) and 10 as posters. Of the main track submissions, 9 (50%) were from Latin America. The Program Committee itself is truly international, including recognized researchers and experts from 16 countries. The diversity of topics is also reflected in the accepted papers, ranging from search and data mining, web application engineering, e-commerce to mobility.

The invited speakers include Stefan Decker (Information Sciences Institute, University of Southern California, USA), Ramez Elmasri (The University of Texas at Arlington, USA), and Knut Magne Risvik (Fast Search and Transfer, Norway). In addition we received ten tutorial proposals, from where five were selected on the following topics: web usability (Henning Breuer, DCC/Universidad de Chile), web accessibility and mobility (Bebo White, Stanford Univ., USA), network and web services security (Raghavan Srinivas, Sun Microsystems, USA), metadata (Eva Mendez, Carlos III Univ., Spain), and XML retrieval (Ricardo Baeza-Yates, Univ. de Chile). We hope that you will find this a stimulating program, bringing awareness to research opportunities being pursued within Latin America, and worldwide.

Ricardo Baeza-Yates
Daniel Schwabe

Main Tracks Program Co-chairs
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