CALL FOR PAPERS

2nd Workshop on
Uncertainty Reasoning for the Semantic Web
http://www.iet.com/iswc/2006/ursw

In conjunction with the
5th International Semantic Web Conference

Athens, GA - USA
November 5/6, 2006

You are invited to participate in the upcoming workshop on Uncertainty Reasoning for the Semantic Web (URSW), to be held as part of the 5th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC).

ISWC is a major international forum for presenting visionary research on all aspects of the Semantic Web. The Uncertainty Reasoning Workshop is an exciting opportunity for collaboration and cross-fertilization between the uncertainty reasoning community and the Semantic Web community.

Practical methods for reasoning under uncertainty are vital for realizing many aspects of the Semantic Web vision, but the ability of current-generation web technology to handle uncertainty is extremely limited. Recently, there has been a groundswell of demand for uncertainty reasoning technology among Semantic Web researchers and developers, as evidenced by the remarkable level of interest and participation the first URSW (http://www.iet.com/iswc/2005/ursw) received during last year’s ISWC. There is also increasing awareness in areas such as search and service oriented architectures where uncertainty and semantics are growing concerns.

This surge of interest creates a unique opening to bring together communities with a clear commonality of interest but little history of interaction. By capitalizing on this opportunity, URSW could spark dramatic progress toward realizing the Semantic Web vision

Audience

The intended audience for this workshop includes the following

• Researchers in uncertainty reasoning technologies with interest in Semantic Web and Web-related technologies
• Semantic web developers and researchers
• People in the knowledge representation community with interest in the Semantic Web
• Ontology researchers and ontological engineers
• Web services researchers and developers with interest in the Semantic Web
• Developers of tools designed to support semantic web implementation, e.g., Jena developers, Protege and Protege-OWL developers

Topic List

We intend to have an open discussion on any topic relevant to the general subject of uncertainty in the Semantic Web. Therefore, the following list should be just an initial guide.
• Syntax and semantics for extensions to Semantic Web languages to enable representation of uncertainty
• Logical formalisms to support uncertainty in Semantic Web languages
• Probability theory as a means of assessing the likelihood that terms in different ontologies refer to the same or similar concepts
• Architectures for applying plausible reasoning to the problem of ontology mapping
• The concept of a probabilistic ontology and its relevance to the Semantic Web
• Best practices for representing uncertain, incomplete, ambiguous, or controversial information in the Semantic Web
• The role of uncertainty as it relates to Web services
• Interface protocols with support for uncertainty as a means to improve interoperability among Web services
• Uncertainty reasoning techniques applied to trust issues in the Semantic Web
• Existing implementations of uncertainty reasoning tools in the context of the Semantic Web
• Issues and techniques for integrating tools for representing and reasoning with uncertainty
• The future of uncertainty reasoning for the Semantic Web

Important Dates

July 20, 2006  Paper submissions due
August 25, 2006  Paper acceptance notification
September 15, 2006  Camera-ready papers due
November 5/6, 2006  2nd Workshop on Uncertainty Reasoning for the Semantic Web

Submission Details

The URSW will be accepting submissions of technical papers and position papers. Each submission will be evaluated for acceptability by at least three members of the Program Committee. Decisions about acceptance will be based on relevance to the above topic list, originality, potential significance, topicality and clarity. Since all accepted papers will be presented at the workshop, we require that at least one of the submitting authors must be a registered participant at the ISWC 2006 Conference, and committed to attend the URSW Workshop.

Submission to the Workshop is only accepted in electronic format and should be sent to the organizing committee via the workshop email address: URSW2006_submissions@iet.com. Papers must be submitted in PDF format, and follow the same submission format used by the ISWC 2006 Conference, the Springer Publications format for Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS), available at http://www.springeronline.com/sgw/cda/frontpage/0,11855,5-164-2-72376-0,00.html.

Technical papers submitted to the URSW Workshop must not exceed 10 pages, including figures. Submissions exceeding this limit will not be reviewed.

Position papers consist of a summary of ideas, projects, or any research efforts that are relevant to the URSW Workshop and must not exceed 2 pages.

Following the general acceptance rules of the ISWC 2006 conference, papers that, at the time of submission, are under review for or have already been published in or accepted for publication in a journal or another conference will not be accepted to the URSW workshop.
Presentation and Publication

All papers accepted to the URSW will be presented during the workshop and published in the workshop proceedings, which will be available as a separate publication after the Conference. Authors of accepted technical papers will have 20 minutes to present their work, while authors of accepted position papers will have a 5-minute slot to share their ideas.

In addition, both technical and position papers will be published in the URSW Workshop proceedings, to be available after the ISWC 2006 Conference.

Program Committee

The program committee is as follows (in alphabetical order):

- Ameen Abu-Hanna – Universiteit van Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- Bill Andersen – Ontology Works, Inc., USA.
- Paulo C. G. Costa – George Mason University, USA.
- Fabio G. Cozman – Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil.
- Bruce D’Ambrosio – Cleverset, Inc., USA.
- Francis Fung – Information Extraction & Transport, Inc., USA.
- Ivan Herman – CWI, the Netherlands. W3C Activity Lead for the Semantic Web.
- Markus Holi – University of Helsinki, Finland.
- Kathryn B. Laskey - George Mason University, USA.
- Kenneth J. Laskey - MITRE Corporation, USA. Member of the W3C Advisory Board.
- Thomas Lukasiewicz – Università di Roma “La Sapienza”, Italy.
- Trevor Martin – University of Bristol, UK.
- Kirk Martinez – University of Southampton, UK.
- Bill McDaniel – DERI, Ireland.
- Leo Obrst – MITRE Corporation, USA.
- Yun Peng – University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA.
- Michael Pool - Convera, Inc., USA.
- Dave Robertson – The University of Edinburgh, UK.
- Oreste Signore – Istituto di Scienza e Tecnologie dell' Informazione "A. Faedo", Italy. Manager of the W3C Office in Italy.
- Masami Takikawa – Information Extraction & Transport, Inc., USA.
- Frans Voorbraak – Universiteit van Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Organizing Committee

The organizing committee is as follows (in alphabetical order):

- Paulo C. G. Costa - George Mason University
- Francis Fung – Information Extraction & Transport, Inc.
- Kathryn B. Laskey - George Mason University
- Kenneth J. Laskey - MITRE Corporation
- Michael Pool - Convera, Inc.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the workshop!