

Preface

THIS VOLUME contains the papers presented at the 20th International FLAIRS Conference (FLAIRS-20) held 7–9 May 2007, in Key West, Florida, USA. The call for papers attracted 182 paper submissions, 65 to the general conference and 117 to the 11 special tracks. Each paper was reviewed by at least three reviewers, coordinated by the program committees of the general conference and the special tracks. The program committees accepted the 125 papers that appear in these proceedings, 95 as presented papers (23 from the general conference and 72 from the special tracks) and 30 as poster papers (8 from the general conference and 22 from the special tracks).

The best paper awards went to Joachim Baumeister, Thomas Kleemann, and Dietmar Seipel: “Towards the Verification of Ontologies with Rules” and Susan Fox: “Introductory AI for both Computer Science and Neuroscience Students.” The best student paper award went to David Kaiser: “The Design and Implementation of a Successful General Game Playing Agent.”

The general conference program included three invited talks, by Ramon López de Mántaras of The Spanish Scientific Research Council Artificial Intelligence Research Institute (III-CSIC): “Playing with Cases: Tempo Transformations Of Jazz Performances Using Case-Based Reasoning,” Sebastian Thrun of Stanford University: “Self-Driving Cars—An AI-Robotics Challenge,” and Tim Finin of The University of Maryland, Baltimore County: “Finding Knowledge, Data and Answers on the Semantic Web.” Within the special track sessions there were five special track invited talks given by Jean-Pierre Desclés, Jean-Guy Meunier, Ashwin Ram, Michael Richter, and Danielle McNamara. Papers or abstracts for the invited talks are in these proceedings.

Thanks go to the authors (of both accepted and rejected papers); the special track coordinator Rainer Knauf and all the special track organizers; the program committees and their reviewers; the invited speakers; Douglas Dankel for organizing the conference; Jean Gerber for administering the conference; the Florida Artificial Intelligence International Research Society for maintaining the conference series; the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence for its cooperation with the conference; the AAAI Press staff for organizing the publication of the proceedings; and EasyChair for hosting the review process.

*David Wilson and Geoff Sutcliffe
FLAIRS-20 Program Chairs*