In cooperation with the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), the Twenty-First International Conference on Case-Based Reasoning (ICCBR), the premier international meeting on research and applications in case-based reasoning (CBR), was held from Monday July 8 to Thursday July 11, 2013, in Saratoga Springs, NY. ICCBR is the annual meeting of the CBR community and the leading conference on this topic. Started in 1993 as the European Conference on CBR and 1995 as ICCBR the two conferences alternated biennially until their merger in 2010.

In addition to the main conference, this year ICCBR featured an Industry Day and the fifth annual Doctoral Consortium, both held July 8 in the General Electric Global Research campus in Saratoga Springs. ICCBR also featured a workshop program consisting of three workshops.

The main conference track featured 16 research paper presentations, nine posters, and two invited speakers. The papers and posters reflected the state of the art of case-based reasoning, dealing both with open problems at the core of CBR (especially in similarity assessment, case adaptation, and case-based maintenance), as well as trending applications of CBR (especially recommender systems and computer games) and the intersections of CBR with other areas such as multi-agent systems. The first invited speaker, Igor Jurisica from the Ontario Cancer Institute and the University of Toronto, spoke about how to scale up case-based reasoning for “big data” applications. The second invited speaker, Ashok K. Goel...
from the Georgia Institute of Technology, discussed biologically inspired design and how to view nature as a library of design cases. Additionally, this year ICCBR focused on the idea of “reproducibility,” with David Aha, from the Naval Research Laboratory, and Odd Erik Gundersen, from Verdande Technology, presenting a special report on the reproducibility of the CBR research presented at the conference.

The Industry Day provided an opportunity for both industry and academic application developers to showcase their work without the need to write a paper for the conference proceedings. The program featured nine speakers both from industry and academia.

The fifth ICCBR Doctoral Consortium gave early stage postgraduate students the important opportunity to discuss their research ideas and get very valuable feedback. This year the doctoral consortium featured seven students, and included two invited “career reflection” talks by Mirjam Minor, from the University of Trier, and Barry Smyth, from the University College Dublin, which included insightful suggestions about research career planning.

The conference included three workshops. The Case-Based Reasoning in Social Web Applications workshop was organized by Lara Quijano-Sánchez, from the Complutense University of Madrid, and Derek Bridge, from the University College Cork. The workshop discussed topics such as extraction of cases from the web and group recommendations. It included invited talks by Enric Plaza, from IIIA-CSIC, and Amélie Cordier, from LIRIS, which discussed ideas about how to share experiences over the web and how to mine arguments expressed by users in the Internet. The Case-Based Reasoning in Health Sciences workshop, organized by Isabelle Bichindaritz, Cindy Marling, and Stefania Montani, and the EXPPORT workshop (Experience Reuse: Provenance, Process-Orientation and Traces), organized by David Leake, Béatrice Fuchs, Juan A. Recio García, and Stefania Montani, were held jointly and dealt with how to deal with data represented as workflows or traces.

ICCBR 2013 was organized by Sarah-Jane Delany, from the Dublin Institute of Technology, and Santiago Ontañón, from Drexel University, as the program chairs; William E. Cheetham, from CDPHP, was the local chair; William E. Cheetham and Frode Sørmo, from Verdande Technology, organized the Industry Day; Thomas Roth-Berghofer, from the University of West London, and Rosina Weber, from Drexel University, organized the Doctoral Consortium; Michael Floyd, from Carleton University, and Jonathan Rubin, from the Palo Alto Research Center, were the workshop chairs; and David Aha served as the sponsorship chair.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the local organization team, Aisha Yousuf, Bouchra Bouqata, and Justin McHugh, and also Claudine Cheetham for their tremendous help during the conference organization.

Notes

1. More information about the conference can be found at the conference website: www.iccbr.org/iccbr13.

2. More information about the conferences can be found at cbrwiki.fdi.ucm.es/mediawiki/index.php/Meetings.

Santiago Ontañón is an assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science at Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

Sarah Jane Delany is the assistant head of school at the School of Computing at the Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland.

William E. Cheetham is a Senior Statistician at Capital District Physicians’ Health Plan (CDPHP).