

ELPUB 2010 – PUBLISHING IN THE NETWORKED WORLD: TRANSFORMING THE NATURE OF COMMUNICATION

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Overview of the conference

The International Conference on Electronic Publishing – ELPUB 2010 was organized for the 14th time in Helsinki 16-18 June 2010. The host for the conference was Hanken School of Economics in Helsinki, Finland. Professors Turid Hedlund (Hanken School of Economics) and Yasar Tonta (Hacettepe University in Ankara) served as General chair and Programme chair respectively.

The title for the conference was “Publishing in the Networked World: Transforming the Nature of Communication”, addressing the timely discussion on the changes in scholarly publishing and the influence of Web 2.0 and social networks also on scholarly communication. The themes in the over 30 papers and short communication presented at the conference in nine sessions can be categorised into the broad themes; electronic publishing and social networks; scholarly publishing models; and technological convergence. The speakers at the conference represented over 20 countries and four continents, thus the conference had a truly world wide dimension.

Keynotes

The keynote speakers at the conference were Professor Carol Tenopir from the University of Tennessee, and Director for data services Pirjo-Leena Forsström from CSC, Finland. The opening keynote by Carol Tenopir addressed the issue of access and use of scholarly publications and its importance to science. Keywords in the talk were the evolutionary perspective - the use of e-publications is building on a long publishing tradition, and the revolutionary perspective - the ability to act to changes in scholarly and scientific practices. The talk was based on research identifying patterns of scholarly information use over three decades and included a discussion on evolutionary and revolutionary implications for e-publications. Pirjo-Leena Forsström addressed the scenario of scientific data magnitude and the ability to access and preserve for future use. The fact that almost all disciplines has shifted exceedingly to data-driven methods means that huge amounts of data are stored in repositories and on desk-top computers without the possibility of interconnectivity and interoperability. The large amount of stored data also challenges the present

capabilities to store and preserve data for future use.

Conference sessions

Open access and e-journals was the title of the first session. It included papers on business models, impact factors for open access journals as well as authors strategies when choosing publishing channel. The second session titled Semantic indexing included papers of more technical art describing search engines, collaborative categorization systems and automatic indexing. The third session titled Scholarly communication presented papers on new ways for researchers to communicate, to present themselves (blogs). Researcher's web presence, linking possibilities and the scholarly information landscape was also discussed. The first day ended with a session on Social networks. In the session interesting proposals for art galleries and museums to use digital objects, electronic publications and social networks were presented. Also a study on motivations for image publishing on Flickr showed the importance of social organization and social communication as motivational factors.

The second day started with parallel sessions, session five titled User studies and session six on the Publishing process. User studies were presented on Europeana, libraries' Facebook profiles and the NARCIS portal in the Netherlands. The automation as well as intellectual property rights were themes presented in the session on the publishing process. Session seven titled Short papers was dedicated mainly to the presentation of case studies. The eight session, titled Information extraction presented more technical papers on among others geo information extraction. The last session of the conference was a plenary session called Visions on electronic publishing. It included a paper on costs for alternative publication models, a presentation of the prevalence of open access articles and a bibliometric paper on the structure and evaluation of electronic publishing as a research field.

As a concluding remark the conference sessions were attended by people well informed by the topics presented and in many cases lively discussions took place after the presentations but also informal ones during coffee breaks and lunches.

All the presentations at the conference were peer-reviewed by members of the international Programme Committee.

The conference proceedings are available to interested readers at <http://hdl.handle.net/10227/599>



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