

A Message of Welcome

The First Symposium on the Personal Web Chairs

It is our great pleasure to welcome each of you to this, the First Symposium on the Personal Web, sponsored by the IBM Canada Center for Advanced Studies [Research](#) and co-located with CASCON 2010 in Markham, Ontario. The purpose of this symposium is to bring together prominent researchers and practitioners from a diverse range of research areas whose expertise can be leveraged in the advancement of science and practice relating to the Personal Web. Research on the Personal Web is an outgrowth of the Smart Internet initiative, which seeks to extend and transform the web to be centered on the user, with the web as a 'calm' platform ubiquitously providing cognitive support to its user and their tasks. As with the preceding SITCON workshop (held at CASCON 2009), this symposium involves a multi-disciplinary effort that brings together researchers and practitioners in data integration; web services modeling and architecture; human-computer interaction; predictive analytics; cloud infrastructure; semantics and ontology; and industrial domains such as health care and finance.

The goal of the symposium is to discuss and investigate different aspects of the architecture and functionality needed to make the Personal Web a reality. Interactions during the symposium should identify opportunities for linking research and sharing results. The longer term outcome includes the creation of an edited book with the tentative title "The Personal Web" based on extended versions of the symposium proceedings. Another anticipated outcome is the deployment of a public instance of the Personal Web infrastructure in the IBM cloud in order to generate real life data that can be used in future studies. The goal of that "venture research" will be to collect data that can guide future directions in the Personal Web, with researchers amending data models, ontologies and functionality as appropriate to match real-world practice. The symposium will be held over the course of a full day, being launched by a brief welcome introduction, followed by a keynote presentation by Joanna Ng, introducing the Personal Web vision and related research challenges. A series of twenty papers will then be presented covering a wide range of research areas relating to the Personal Web, followed by a closing session of discussion. Each presenter will be encouraged to present one major research question or challenge relating his or her area of interest to the Personal Web.

We would like to thank those who submitted papers to these proceedings, along with all the symposium participants, for bringing their expertise and enthusiasm to this event. This symposium would not have been possible without the generous support of the IBM Canada Center for Advanced Studies Research, and we are grateful for their support. A number of people have put a lot of effort into organizing this workshop, and we would like particularly to thank Emilia Tung, Debbie Kilbride, and Jimmy Lo for their help. We look forward to active and enjoyable discussion on this important and exciting topic.

The Symposium Chairs:

Mark Chignell, Department of Industrial Engineering, University of Toronto
James R. Cordy, School of Computing, Queen's University
Joanna Ng, IBM Canada Center for Advanced Studies Research
Yelena Yesha, University of Maryland, Baltimore County