

# Preface

Context-sensitive processing plays a crucial role in many modern intelligent IT applications. Contextual concerns affect reasoning, decision-making, and adaptation for a wide range of areas including not only mobile and ubiquitous computing, but also areas such as collaboration support, information sharing, workflow, health care, personal digital assistants, adaptive games, and e-learning. Future advances will depend on the ability to represent and manipulate information about a rich range of contextual factors, including not only physical characteristics of the task environment, but other aspects such as knowledge states (of both the application and user), and emotions.

Numerous approaches are currently being brought to bear to address these issues (e.g., machine learning, logical reasoning, object relationship models, and ontologies), but are being pursued in divergent communities with limited interactions. The AAAI-06 Workshop on Modeling and Retrieval of Context (MRC 2006) aimed to bring together researchers and practitioners exploring issues and approaches for context-sensitive systems, from a broad range of areas, to share their problems and techniques across different research and application areas. Specifically, the workshop aimed to examine issues and advances in methods for structured storage of contextual information, for retrieving and exploiting this information, and for integrating context and application knowledge.

The workshop program included an invited keynote talk by Anind Dey, of Carnegie Mellon University, plus presentations of the seven full papers and four posters, published in this proceedings, reflecting a range of perspectives and task domains. These sessions, in addition to live

system demonstrations and discussion time for focused exploration of specific issues, contributed to a stimulating atmosphere.

This workshop was the third in a series started in 2004 with the First International Workshop on Modeling and Retrieval of Context (MRC 2004), held at the 27<sup>th</sup> German Conference on Artificial Intelligence (KI-04) in Ulm, Germany, and continued with MRC 2005 at the 19<sup>th</sup> International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI-05) in Edinburgh, Scotland. The continued interest in the MRC workshops, as well as in context-related meetings at other AI events, demonstrates the interest in context within the AI community.

We would like to offer special thanks to Anind Dey for his invited talk, to Sven Schwarz for his excellent service as demonstrations chair, and to the program committee and the additional reviewer for their careful work in the reviewing and selection process. In addition, we thank all the workshop authors and participants who made it possible. Finally, we would like to thank Carol Hamilton, AAAI and the AAAI staff for their support of this workshop.

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