

Program Co-Chair's Message

On behalf of the *WWW2004* Program Committee, we are pleased to welcome you to Manhattan, the heart of New York City and the financial capital of the world.

WWW2004 is the 13th conference in the International World Wide Web Conference series. This year, we received 506 submissions to the refereed paper track, the second-highest number of submissions ever. We accepted 74 papers for the proceedings and presentation at the conference, which translates into an acceptance rate of 14.6%. All papers were rigorously reviewed by the technical program committee, which was divided into the following nine areas:

- Applications
- Browsers and User Interfaces
- Data Mining
- Mobility and Wireless Access
- Performance and Reliability
- Search
- Security and Privacy
- Semantic Web
- Web Engineering

The Semantic Web area received the largest number of submissions (99 papers), followed by Search (83 papers), Data Mining (63 papers), and Web Engineering (63 papers).

This year, *WWW2004* is co-located with the ACM Conference on Electronic Commerce (EC'04). We therefore decided to suspend the customary Electronic Commerce area of the refereed track, and encouraged authors of E-Commerce papers to submit to EC'04 instead. Furthermore, *WWW2004* and EC'04 will feature half a day of joint presentations this year, including a joint plenary session with presentations by Udi Manber and Rick Rashid.

There are also a number of papers being presented in alternate tracks which are being published separately from the main proceedings. This year, we accepted 23 papers out of 86 paper submissions in the alternate tracks (not counting invited papers), with an acceptance rate of 26.7%. Altogether, we received 592 paper submissions for both the refereed papers track and alternate tracks this year.

Many people contributed to the success of the program. We would like to thank the entire *WWW2004* program committee for their exceptional work and dedication in the review process. Mae Isaac provided outstanding organizational and technical support. Judy Warren, Pia Owens and Ken Wee designed and deployed the *WWW2004* web site. Anatol Kark and Howard Johnson managed WitanWeb, the paper submission and review system used throughout the conference. Finally, Lisa Tolles-Efinger of Sheridan Printing put together the proceedings you now hold in your hands. Thanks to all of them!

Marc Najork
Microsoft Research

Craig Wills
Worcester Polytechnic Institute