

Journal of Computers

Special Issue on Selected Papers in ICS 2012

FOREWORD

International Computer Symposium (ICS), one of the largest international conferences held biennially in Taiwan, offers a forum for researchers, educators, and professionals to exchange their discoveries and practices, and to explore future trends and applications in computer technologies. In ICS 2012, we accepted a total of 150 high-quality papers from 257 submissions. We invite some outstanding accepted papers in their extended versions and open for other submissions to this special issue. Each paper submitted to this special issue was rigorously reviewed by at least two reviewers in its corresponding research area. Then, after conscientious selection, we accept 3 papers for this special issue.

The first paper in the collection, entitled “Design and Implementation of a Secure Service-Oriented Workflow Platform” is by Tao-Ku Chang and Jyun-Siao Huang. This paper emphasizes the design and implementation of a secure service-oriented workflow platform effectively integrating heterogeneous platforms. Moreover, current system architectures could adopt the developed WS-Security application framework rapidly and inexpensively.

The second paper, entitled “IEBSR: An Integrated e-Tourism Service for Self-Guided Travel” and authored by Jeng-Wei Lin, Chun-Hsin Chang, Chen-Ying Hsieh, Young-Tin Cheng, and Xiao-Ting Huang, proposes an integrated e-tourism service for self-guided travel, named IEBSR. IEBSR integrates with Google Maps and other travel information systems. Thus, users can edit their travel plans intuitively on the map. They can easily and quickly browse the information recorded in a travel plan in the app based on the GPS location information sensed by their smart mobile devices. With itinerary sharing and recommendation, they can customize a proprietary travel plan from an existent one. Experiment results have successfully demonstrated that the proposed integrated e-tourism service can help backpackers significantly.

The final paper, entitled “SMS and Emails as Class Reminders to Assist Subject Learning” and authored by Chih-Hung Lai, Shun-Po Yang, Ai-Chiun Yen, and Chen-Gjun Chou, introduces advantages on both class email and short message service (SMS) to assist preview as well as review activities. Furthermore, this paper also examined the effect of different genders and above two technologies on learning achievement, students’ acceptance, and learning achievement. The results showed that there is no difference on learning achievement and technology acceptance for both groups, but distinct treatments and genders placed significant influence on their leaning behaviors.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all reviewers for their expertise and efforts in making helpful comments and suggestions. We also would like to express our thanks to Dr. Der-Jiunn Deng, the Editor-in-Chief of JOC journal, for his encouragement and support to publish this special issue and to Dr. Chun-Cheng Lin, the Associate Editor-in-Chief, for his professional help during the preparation of this special issue. Thanks also go to all authors for their significant contributions. Without all of their great contribution and help, it is impossible to have this special issue.

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