

**IUI 2009 Workshop Proposal:
“VISSW: Visual interfaces to the Social and the Semantic Web”**

1. Workshop Organizers

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2. Organizers' bio

Dr. Siegfried Handschuh is an Adjunct Lecturer at the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) and a project leader at the Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI). Siegfried holds Honours Degrees in both Computer Science and Information Science and a PhD from the University of Karlsruhe. He published over 70 papers as books and journal, book chapters, conference, and workshop contributions, mainly in the areas of Annotation for the Semantic Web, Knowledge Acquisition and Social Semantic Collaboration. The full overview of his scientific career can be found at <http://www.siegfried-handschuh.net/>.

Tom Heath is a Researcher in the [Platform Division](#) at [Talis](#), a leading global player in the development and application of Semantic Web technologies. At Talis, Tom works on collective intelligence and recommendation applications in a Linked Data/Semantic Web context. He will shortly receive his PhD in Computer Science from the Knowledge Media Institute of The Open University in the UK, for work in the area of trust and recommendation in social networks. As part of his PhD research, Tom created the Semantic Web reviewing and rating site [Revyu.com](#), which won the 2007 Semantic Web Challenge. Tom is a regular contributor to the grassroots Linking Open Data community project - a significant catalyst in the realisation of a Web of Data/Semantic Web - and speaks regularly on the subject of Linked Data and the Semantic Web. He has a first degree in Psychology from The University of Liverpool.

VinhTuan Thai is currently a PhD student at DERI, NUIG. He received a Master degree from the same university for his work on Passage Retrieval for business analysis activity, by providing an interface for business analysts to access information in business reports in a timely manner. His current research work focuses on visual interface supporting exploration of textual document collections.

3. Motivation

The advent of the Social Web (Web 2.0) and the Semantic Web has resulted in even more data created, published and consumed by users. This vast amount of data is available in various formats (text, image, video, etc.), can be presented on different platforms, and most importantly, contains linkages between different entities on the Web. The ability to easily integrate vast amounts of data from across the Social and Semantic Web raises significant and exciting research challenges, not least of which how to provide effective access to and navigation across heterogeneous data sources. Furthermore, the need for intelligent and visual human interfaces to this evolving Web is not limited simply to the modalities of searching and browsing (important as these are). As the Web continues to evolve from a read-mainly to a read-write medium, and the level of social interaction supported on the Web increases, there is also a pressing need to support end-users who engage in a wide range of online tasks, such as publishing and sharing their own data on the Web.

4. Objectives

This workshop aims to bring together researchers and practitioners from different fields, such as Human-Computer Interaction, Information Visualization, Semantic Web, and Personal Information Management, to discuss latest research results and challenges in designing, implementing, and evaluating intelligent interfaces supporting access, navigation and publishing of different types of contents on the Social and Semantic Web. In addition, the workshop also serves as an opportunity for researchers to gain feedback on their work as well as to identify potential collaborations with their peers. We would argue that this potential for fostering links between diverse but highly related facets of the IUI community would ensure the workshop made a significant contribution to the conference program.

Topics of interest include, but not limited to:

- Visual interfaces supporting exploration and/or navigation of unstructured or structured data on the Web
- Visualizing and interacting with semi-structured/linked data on the Semantic Web
- Ontology-based visualization of & interaction with collections of data
- Novel paradigms to interact with textual data, photos, music, videos on mobile devices
- Lightweight components for casual users to publish/share their own contents on the Web
- Real-world use cases
- Lessons learned from intelligent interfaces built to interact with Web-based contents

5. Potential Participants

- Researchers and practitioners in the areas of Human-Computer Interaction, Information Visualization, Linked Data and the Semantic Web.

6. Workshop Attraction

- The workshop's call for papers and participation are to be announced via relevant mailing lists in the areas of Semantic Web, Linked Data and Human-Computer Interaction, Information Visualization, e.g. semantic-web@w3.org, public-lod@w3.org, public-semweb-ui@w3.org and CHI-ANNOUNCEMENTS@LISTSERV.ACM.ORG, infovis@infovis.org

7. Format

This one-day workshop will consist of:

- Invited talk by an established researcher who has contributed to the area
- Presentation of long papers, posters, demos & position papers
- Discussion on research challenges, emerging trends and future directions

8. Organization

All organizers are quite experienced in the area of social and semantic web with a special interest in intelligent user interfaces and information visualization. Together, we have published work on semantic web, user interfaces and information visualization at major scientific conferences and journals such as SIGIR, WWW, ISWC, ESWC, IV.

Selected publications:

- **VinhTuan Thai, Siegfried Handschuh**, Stefan Decker: Tight Coupling of Personal Interests with Multi-dimensional Visualization for Exploration and Analysis of Text Collections. IV 2008: 221-226
- **VinhTuan Thai, Siegfried Handschuh**, Stefan Decker: IVEA: An Information Visualization Tool for Personalized Exploratory Document Collection Analysis. ESWC 2008: 139-153
- Paul-Alexandru Chirita, Stefania Costache, Wolfgang Nejdl, **Siegfried Handschuh**: P-TAG: large scale automatic generation of personalized annotation tags for the web. WWW 2007: 845-854
- **Tom Heath** and Enrico Motta: Revyu.com: A Reviewing and Rating Site for the Web of Data. ISWC+ASWC 2007.
- **Siegfried Handschuh**, Steffen Staab, Raphael Volz: On deep annotation. WWW 2003: 431-438
- Harald Reiterer, Gabriela Mussler, Thomas M. Mann, **Siegfried Handschuh**: INSYDER - an information assistant for business intelligence. SIGIR 2000: 112-119

Selected organizational experience:

- Sören Auer, Chris Bizer, **Tom Heath**, Gunnar Aastrand Grimnes (eds.) (2008) [Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Scripting for the Semantic Web \(SFSW2008\)](#) at ESWC2008, Tenerife, Canary Islands, June 2, 2008.
- Christian Bizer, **Tom Heath**, Kingsley Idehen, Tim Berners-Lee (eds.) (2008) [Proceedings of the Linked Data on the Web workshop \(LDOW2008\)](#) at WWW2008, Beijing, China, April 22, 2008.
- Sören Auer, Chris Bizer, **Tom Heath**, Gunnar Aastrand Grimnes (eds.) (2007) [Proceedings of the 3rd International Workshop on Scripting for the Semantic Web \(SFSW2007\)](#) at ESWC2007, Innsbruck, Austria, June 6, 2007.
- **Siegfried Handschuh**, Nigel Collier, Rose Dieng-Kuntz, Anita de Waard, Michael Sintek, Tudor Groza (eds) (2007) Proceedings of the Workshop on Semantic Authoring, Annotation and Knowledge Markup at K-Cap 2007, Whistler, BC, Canada, October, 2007.
- Stefan Decker, Jack Park, Leo Sauermann, Soeren Auer, **Siegfried Handschuh** (eds.) (2006) Proceedings of the Workshop on Semantic Desktop and Social Semantic Collaboration at ISWC 2006, Athens, GA, USA, August 2, 2006.

Program Committee (to be confirmed)

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