DEOS 2014 Chairs' Welcome

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the *WWW'14 Workshop on Data Extraction and Object Search – DEOS'14.* This is the fourth installment of DEOS, co-located with WWW on April 7th, the previous installments were held in Como 2010, in Vienna 2011, and in Oxford 2013. Web data extraction is witnessing a renaissance. In an increasing number of applications such as price intelligence or predictive analytics, the value of data-driven approaches has been conclusively proven. However, the necessary data is often available only as HTML, e.g., in form of online shops of competitors that can serve as sources for pricing and offer data. DEOS is a regular forum for researchers and practitioners in data extraction and object search, to present and discuss ongoing work on data extraction and object search for products, events, reviews, and other types of structured data on the web.

The aim of the workshop is not only to share innovative ideas and results in data extraction but also to create a community of interest that flourishes during and after the workshop. This year has attracted submissions from Asia, Canada, Europe, Russia, and the United States. The program committee accepted 7 papers with a particular emphasis on entity extraction approaches and their use in structured data extraction and integration. In addition, we are thrilled to announce two keynotes and an invited industrial talk from Yandex, the leading search engine in Russia:

- *From Information Extraction Research to Vertical Search Products: The Semantic Gap is more than the Structure Divide,* Kevin C. Chang (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

- *From Data Fusion to Knowledge Fusion,* Xin Luna Dong (Google Research)

- *Evaluating Features for Named Entity Extraction/Disambiguation in Arbitrary Web Documents,* Dmitry Ushanov (Yandex Russia)

We are grateful to the program committee, who worked very hard in reviewing papers and providing feedback for authors. We also thank the ACM WWW'14 workshop organizers for their logistic support and advertising. We are sure that you will find this program interesting and thought-provoking and that the workshop will provide you with a valuable opportunity to share ideas with other researchers and practitioners from institutions around the world.

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DEOS 2014 Organization

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