

Preface

The eighth International Conference on Shape Modeling and Applications (SMI 2006) takes place in the gorgeous area of Matsushima, Japan, 14-16 June 2006. Since its launch, Shape Modeling and Applications has been characterized by a wide spectrum of research topics related to shape modeling and processing, addressed in various application areas.

From 2001, the SMI conference became an annual event with the venue changing circularly from Asia to Europe and to America. Traditionally, it includes the Eurographics/ACM SIGGRAPH Workshop on Implicit Surfaces as a specific session. Previous conferences were organized in Japan (1997, 1999), Italy (2001), Canada (2002), South Korea (2003), Italy (2004), and USA (2005).

In response to the call for papers, 58 papers (54 full paper submissions and 4 short ones) were submitted. After a thorough review process, 20 full papers were selected. In addition, 10 short papers have been carefully selected among the submitted short and full papers. The accepted contributions mainly focus on shape matching and retrieval, modeling with implicit surfaces, and various issues of shape analysis, representation, and processing. Besides these 30 papers, this volume contains three invited contributions highlighting topics of particular importance.

This year the conference features two relevant satellite events organized and promoted by the Network of Excellence AIM@SHAPE, funded by the European Commission under the 6th Framework Program: the first International Workshop on Shapes and Semantics and the first International 3D Shape Retrieval Contest (SHREC). The workshop aims at providing a forum for the dissemination of new and emerging fields engaged in the integration of Multidimensional Media with Knowledge and Content processing technologies. The SHREC contest is aimed at the evaluation of the effectiveness of 3D-shape retrieval algorithms, and the evaluation results have been presented during the conference. SHREC will be organized jointly with SMI also for subsequent years.

The conference is sponsored by IEEE Computer Society Visualization and Graphics Technical Committee, in cooperation with ACM SIGGRAPH, the EUROGRAPHICS Association, and the Computer Graphics Society.

Many people contributed to the organization of the conference. We would like to thank all the members of the Program Committee, the authors of submitted and invited papers, and the reviewers for their efforts in setting the quality of this volume. Our thanks to Yuriko Takeshima for managing the conference secretariat effectively and maintaining the conference Web site, to Danyi Wang (MPII) for managing the electronic submission Web site, and to Naomi Suzuki for the cover layout arrangement.

SMI 2006 Program Chairs

Michela Spagnuolo, Alexander Belyaev, and Hiromasa Suzuki

SMI 2006 Conference Chairs

Issei Fujishiro and Bianca Falcidieno