

The Semantic Conference Program

Eat the Semantic Dogfood!

Motivation

While walking around this conference I have seen many people who repeatedly go through the conference program, marking the papers that interest them, trying to identify which talks to see, which papers to read and what people to drink beer with. All while minimizing session-hopping and not having to be two places at once. Surely our fantastic semantic technologies should be able to do this task for us?

Extending the data

Firstly, the current RDF data for the conference should be extended with some additional meta-data on the actual content of the papers. The session titles do of course provide some good hints, but a few additional tags for each paper should be very easy to provide, for instance by following the ACM Computing Classification System¹. These tags could either mirror the keywords used for matching papers and reviewers for conference submissions, or they could potentially be extracted from the text of the paper (Another great chance to practice eating our own dog-food).

The application

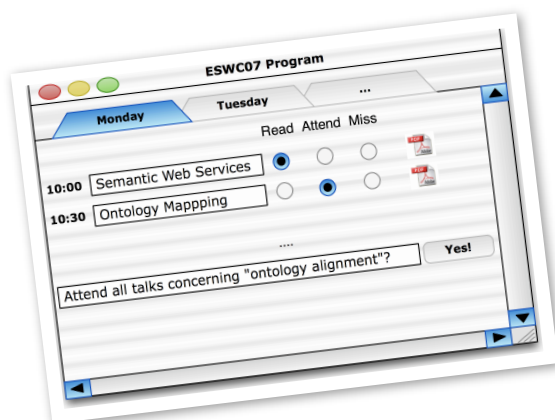
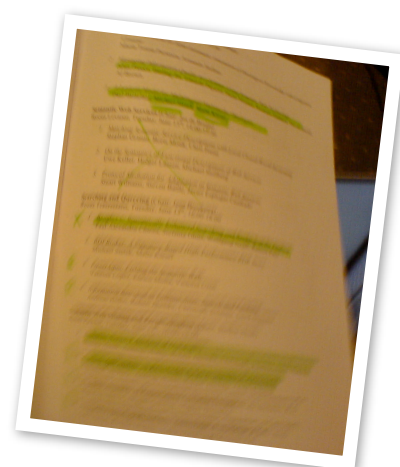
The conference web-page would provide an interactive conference program with following features:

1. Allow people to browse the session programs online, like today.
2. Allow them to mark talks as 'must see', 'must read', 'must miss', etc.
3. The system knows about parallel sessions, and warns of conflicts.
4. Based on the tags from above, make suggestions like: "Shall I also highlight all other talks concerning clustering-distance measures?", or "Do you

5. Alternatively, the system could also do social tagging, as in "Other people who go to this talk also go to talk X"

6. The system could be initialized using the delegates FOAF profile (link already provided when registering), this could also be used for authentication (For example, see FOAFRealm!²). The FOAF interest fields could be used to make initial proposals for what talks to attend.

Now get to work! :)



¹ <http://www.acm.org/class/1998/>

² <http://www.foafrealm.org/>