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Preface

The International Conference on Advanced Learning Technologies (ICALT) is an annual conference organized by IEEE Computer Society and IEEE Technical Committee on Learning Technology. It aims to bring together people who are working on the design, development, use and evaluation of technologies that will be the foundation of the next generation of e-learning systems and technology-enhanced learning environments. After its kick-off as IWALT in Palmerston North, New Zealand (2000), ICALT has been held in Madison, USA (2001), Kazan, Russia (2002), Athens, Greece (2003), Joensuu, Finland (2004), Kaohsiung, Taiwan (2005), Kerkade, The Netherlands (2006), Niigata, Japan (2007), Santander, Spain (2008), Riga, Latvia (2009), Sousse, Tunisia (2010), Athens, Georgia, USA (2011), Rome, Italy (2012), Beijing, China (2013), Athens, Greece (2014), Hualien, Taiwan (2015), Austin, USA (2016), Timisoara, Romania (2017), Mumbai, India (2018), Maceiô, Brazil (2019), and Tartu, Estonia (2020, Online). The 21st IEEE International Conference on Advanced Learning Technologies (ICALT 2021) is organized by IEEE TCLT and held virtually online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year, the ICALT conference was structured around 14 tracks on various thematic topics, including: Technologies for Open Learning and Education; Adaptive and Personalised Technology-Enhanced Learning; Wireless, Mobile, Pervasive and Ubiquitous Technologies for Learning; Digital Game and Intelligent Toy Enhanced Learning; Computer Supported Collaborative Learning; Big Data in Education and Learning Analytics; Technology-Enhanced Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education; Technology Enhanced Language Learning; Technology Enabled Learning of Thinking Skills; Technology Supported Education for People with Disabilities; Artificial Intelligence and Smart Learning Environments; Augmented Reality and Virtual Worlds in Education and Training; Motivational and Affective Aspects in Technology-enhanced Learning; and a Doctoral Consortium.

ICALT 2021 received 207 papers from 43 countries. All submissions were peer-reviewed through a double-blind review process by an international panel of at least three international expert referees and decisions were taken based on research quality. We are very pleased to report that the quality of the submissions this year turned out to be very high. A total of 14 papers were accepted as full papers which is around 19.7% full paper acceptance rate. Furthermore, 87 papers were accepted for presentation as short papers, 17 as discussion papers and 4 papers were selected for the Doctoral Consortium.

We acknowledge the invaluable assistance of the track chairs and the track program committee members. A complete list of track chairs and track PC members can be found in the next page. Most reviewers provided detailed and constructive comments which were valuable for the authors to continue improving their papers, even if their submissions were not selected for the conference.

Given the high quality works done by authors, reviewers and track chairs, we are confident that the ICALT 2021 proceedings captures the current state of the art research in the learning technology field and will have significant impact to the research community in the longer term.

Nian-Shing Chen
Demetrios G Sampson
Maiga Chang
Ahmed Tlili

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Track 8: Technology Enhanced Language Learning

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Track 9: Technology Enabled Learning of Thinking Skills

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Mrinal PATWARDHAN, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India
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Track 10. Technology Supported Education for People with Disabilities

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Track 11. Artificial Intelligence and Smart Learning Environments

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Track 13. Motivational and Affective Aspects in Technology-enhanced Learning

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