

Antonella De Angeli · Liam Bannon
Patrizia Marti · Silvia Bordin *Editors*

COOP 2016: Proceedings
of the 12th International
Conference on the Design of
Cooperative Systems, 23-27
May 2016, Trento, Italy

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Editors

Antonella De Angeli
InterAction Laboratory
Department of Information Engineering
and Computer Science
University of Trento
Trento, Italy

Patrizia Marti
Department of Communication Science
University of Siena
Siena, Italy

Liam Bannon
LERO Department of Computer
Science & Information Systems
University of Limerick
Limerick, Ireland

Silvia Bordin
Department of Information Engineering
and Computer Science
University of Trento
Trento, Italy

ISBN 978-3-319-33463-9 ISBN 978-3-319-33464-6 (eBook)
DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-33464-6

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016949411

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Printed on acid-free paper

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Preface

This volume presents the proceedings of COOP 2016, the 12th International Conference on the Design of Cooperative Systems. COOP 2016 has marked an important milestone for the European community of researchers who embrace the idea that the design of cooperative systems requires a deep and contextualised understanding of collective activities, involving both artefacts and social practices. While moving to Italy, COOP 2016 opened up to the topic of collaborative design, with a special emphasis on “Making Together”. This widening interest from research to design is evident in this volume.

The book is articulated in three main sessions. The papers were selected from 40 submissions following a process of blind review. They cover various and interconnected themes: grounding reflections in CSCW, research in the workplace, studies of collaborative working practices and analysis of formal and informal care relationships. The emphasis towards design increases towards the end of the book with studies on collaboration in design and design as reflective practice. The focus on design becomes central in the Interactive Experiences section.

The programme was supplemented by four thought-provoking workshops organised by leading experts in their fields and a symposium. The first workshop “Contextual Collaboration Where Automation and People Meet” investigated the emerging challenges of collaboration with autonomous systems and in automated environments. The second workshop “Infrastructuring Collaboration” addressed the issue of how to support collaboration in design. The third workshop “Exploring Data-Work in Healthcare: Making Sense of Data Across Boundaries” discussed how to increase the reuse of data for clinical, governance and research purposes. The fourth workshop “Making Laboratories” focused on the topic of “Workshopology”, engaging experts from different fields of research and practice – from academia to fablabs – in the co-creation of guidelines for workshops and physical prototypes of educational activities. Finally, the symposium was titled “Challenges and Experiences in Designing for an Ageing Society. Reflecting on Concepts of Age(ing) and Communication Practices”: it addressed issues of design for an ageing population in two parallel tracks that reflected on images of age and ageing from a meta-perspective and focused on communication practices in UCD and PD projects.

COOP 2016 was possible thanks to the help and enthusiasm of many people whom we would like to briefly acknowledge: all the authors who submitted high-quality papers, the participants to the workshops and the doctoral colloquium, the artists who submitted their interactive exhibitions, the members of the conference and programme committees, the student volunteers who provided support to the event and the sponsors.

Trento, Italy
Siena, Italy
Limerick, Ireland

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