



SNOW Chairs' Welcome

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the *First Workshop on Social News on the Web – SNOW 2013* – held in conjunction with the *WWW'13* conference on May 13th 2013 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In recent years, the topics addressed by *SNOW* have become very popular among diverse scientific communities. Data-mining researchers have studied how information spreads and diffuses in social networks. Journalists, social scientists, economists, are typical users who can improve their respective fields by adopting technologies of interest to *SNOW*. The workshop aims to provide a new forum to foster communication between these communities. In particular, for its first edition, the workshop has attracted a small number of high-quality submissions on the relationships between online news and social media.

With this workshop we hope to start a tradition of interdisciplinary exchange and cross-domain fertilization among different research communities. The goal of the workshop is to share novel ideas and to discuss future directions in the emerging areas of *news search*, *news mining*, and *news recommendation*. We also welcome investigations on the topics of *citizen journalism* and *computational journalism*. *SNOW* aspires to give researchers and practitioners a unique opportunity to share their perspectives with others interested in news and social media.

The call for papers attracted 12 submissions from Asia, America and Europe. The program committee accepted 6 papers that cover a variety of topics, including news breaking, curation, verification, evaluation and selection. In addition, the program includes two keynote speeches: the first by Professor Steve Schifferes on “The Past and Future of Social Media” from a journalist’s perspective, and the second by Carlos Castillo on “Traffic Prediction and Discovery of News via News Crowds”. The workshop will also include a breakout session on the theme of “Experts versus the crowd: is big data enough?”. We hope that these proceedings will serve as a valuable reference for researchers and journalists alike.

Putting together *SNOW 2013* was a team effort. We first thank the authors for providing the content of the program. We are grateful to the program committee, who worked very hard in reviewing papers and providing feedback for authors. Finally, we thank the organizers of the *WWW 2013* conference for giving us the opportunity to run this workshop.

We hope 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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