

SWDM'15 Chairs' Welcome

We welcome you to the third edition of the Social Web for Disaster Management Workshop (SWDM), co-located with WWW 2015.

This workshop, now in its 3rd edition, provides a venue for research on disaster management as it relates to the real-time social web. Social Media in Emergency Management (SMEM) is an area that attracts researchers across a variety of specialties (e.g. natural language processing, machine learning, geographical information systems). These different perspectives are connected by social media as a common data source, and by disaster management as a common task. This workshop brings together researchers who strive to meet the urgent needs of the public and disaster response professionals during a crisis, by creating and improving Web-enabled disaster management methods and systems.

This year, we received 25 submissions and accepted 15 of them. We are thankful for the excellent work done by the program committee in selecting these papers and giving the authors detailed feedback.

We are also grateful to Daniele Quercia and Ken Anderson, who will offer two invited talks during the workshop. Dr. Quercia's talk, "Social Media for Cold Management" connects the management of emergencies using social media data ("hot management") with the management of calm situations ("cold management") such as crime, deprivation and poverty. Dr. Anderson's talk, "Towards Next-Generation Software Infrastructure for Crisis Informatics Research" presents his experience with one of the pioneer platforms for social media collection during disasters. EPIC Collect and EPIC Analyze have been in 24/7 operation in various forms since 2010, and collected terabytes of social media data on hundreds of emergency events.

We are sure that the variety and depth of the contributions presented at the workshop will be appreciated by the attendees and by the broader community. Thanks to all the participants!

Carlos Castillo
SWDM'15 Co-Chair
QCRI, Qatar

Fernando Diaz
SWDM'15 Co-Chair
Microsoft Research, USA

Jie Yin
SWDM'15 Co-Chair
CSIRO, Australia

Maja Vukovic
SWDM'15 Co-Chair
IBM Research, USA



SWDM'15 Organization

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Sarah Vieweg, Qatar Computing Research Institute, Qatar.