REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT MEDINFO
Submitted by Dr. Kaija Saranto

Timetable

MedInfo2017 August 21st-25th Hangzhou, China

On February 23-24, 2017, Dr. Elizabeth Byrocki had organized the SPC meeting jointly with CEO Elaine Huesing. The meeting was held in Victoria, Canada to finalize the reviewing process for the submissions. The SPC co-chairs Elizabeth Borycki and Niels Peik led the workshop with the help of the four track chairs: Connected and Digital Health: Mowafa Househ (Saudi Arabia), Human, Organizational, and Social aspects: Heather Strachan (UK), Knowledge Management: Patrick Weber (Switzerland), Quality and Safety, and Patient Outcomes: Patricia Dykes (US). Unfortunately, Fei Wang (US) (Health Data Science) was not able to join the meeting.

The meeting was very successful as Mr. Huang and Emmett Huang from XMIA had the possibility to be present and give up-to-date information about the venue in Hangzhou.

After the meeting in Victoria, Canada the SPC and LOC started joint bi-monthly virtual meetings in late February, 2017. With the support of IMIA CEO Elaine Huesing providing the network and Mr. Huang and Emmett leading the work of the LOC from Peking and Shanghai the meetings have been very fruitful towards the conference "Precision Healthcare through Informatics".

The LOC for the Hangzhou conference consisted of the following members: Yongqin Huang (Chair), Emmett Huang (LOC Vice Chair), CMIA Board members and conference organizers: Shuqian Luo, Ding Baofen, Haiyi Liu, Dongsheng Zhao, Ying Liang, Helen Wu, Meizhu Huang, Lieping Wu, Serena Meng, Yue Huang, Hua Li, Bright Chen, Michael Zhang, Maggie Liu, Sissi Shen, Lemon Liao, Phil Xiong, Cathy Zuo and Garry Yu.

Despite of different time zones the progressive meetings regularly consisted of reports by the SPC and LOC as well as joint discussion on milestones. However, we met some unexpected difficulties in terms of conference management and resources. We also needed to clarify the contract between IMIA and XMIA due to changes in conference venue.

Towards the conference

The deadline for papers and posters was postponed for three weeks due to several requests from international authors. The deadline for workshops, panels and tutorials was the original one - January 5th 2017. The reviewing process went smoothly and the results were summarized
in the meeting in Victoria in February. Table 1 is presenting these submission rates and finally the numbers of presentations in the program.

Table 1. Submission rates and number of presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submitted</th>
<th>Papers</th>
<th>Posters</th>
<th>Workshops</th>
<th>Panels</th>
<th>Tutorials</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the program</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In comparison, MedInfo 2015 had a total of 792 submissions with 473 papers and 173 posters. The program included 178 papers, 247 posters, 30 workshops, 27 panels and 16 demonstrations. Besides 21 tutorials there was also 7 satellite symposiums.

The program for MedInfo2017 has presentations from about 40 countries, representing all IMIA regions. The tutorials are partly joint activities with two in the same time slots.

**Marketing of MedInfo2017**

The conference web site [www.medinfo2017.org](http://www.medinfo2017.org) was launched in February 2016 and had to be updated due to change of the venue from Xiamen to Hangzhou. The LOC members in Shangahai have updated the material and information on the web-site regularly. The LOC has sent out material to market the conference eg at MIE2017. Unfortunately, stands with presenters to discuss with attendees were not organized during the conferences. The Sponsorship and Exhibition Prospectus was drafted by LOC in Xiamen and updated by XMIA in spring 2017. In Medinfo2017 four exhibitors are presenting their organizations and products.

**Timeline towards the conference**

The timeline defined by the Steering Group of MedInfo and used in the previous conferences has guided the planning and organization of the work of the committees. However, due to several changes in terms of conference organizer and venue it has requiered extra resources to update the materials and inform the committees.

The submission system was used as a stand-alone system by the SPC and the notifications of acceptance to authors were sent out in late April. The lack of interoperability between the registration and payment systems caused some delay and the final acceptance process took some extra time. Due to several requests for postpones in terms of registration and payments the final acceptances for presentations could be approved in late June.

The EC negociated with the IOS Press and the papers and posters could be transferred to editors under the leadshep of Dr. Adi Gundapalli in late June- July. Due to the delay in this pocess the proceedings will be published online in late August.

In the conference the keynote presentations are held in three timeslots: at the opening two, on the second conference day one and in the closing one. The opening ceremony also recognizes the IMIA 50 years anniversary and student best paper awards.

**MedInfo2019**

Medinfo2019 will be held in Lyon, France, hosted by the French Medical Informatics Association (AIM). The agreement between the AIM and IMIA has been accepted in spring 2016. The preparations have started and they will have a stand in MedInfo 2017.
MedInfo 2021

The call for bids went out in November 2016. The following bids for the MedInfo 2021 have been submitted: AMIA (US), SAHI/EHIS (Saudi Arabia/UEA), HISA (Australia) and HiNZ (New Zealand) they will be presented in the GA.

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