

Preface

Cloud computing has transformed the ways in which both individuals and enterprises make use of information technologies (IT) services and network infrastructure within the last decade. Everything including infrastructure, platforms, applications, software, data, and communication is now seen as a “service.” Information, the life blood of scientific progress, economic growth, and social development, is mostly produced, disseminated, used, shared, and re-used in digital formats today. Science, industry and business enterprises tend to become “information” enterprises in that even “money” as matter gets converted to “bits” so as to be stored digitally in computers and transmitted as “information” over the network. Enterprises have tended to spend well over 70% of their time and money to support the IT and network infrastructure. Now they embrace cloud-based services to manage information more efficiently and effectively. As information managers we must now look beyond the cloud, collaborate in order to innovate, and inspire while trying to predict what the future holds.

The 4th International Symposium on Information Management in a Changing World (IMCW 2013) co-organized by Hacettepe University Department of Information Management, Turkey, and Limerick Institute of Technology, Ireland, took place in Limerick, Ireland, during September 4-6, 2013. The theme of the symposium was “Beyond the Cloud: Information... Innovation... Collaboration...” With this theme, the symposium aimed to bring together information professionals, computer and information scientists, business people, and engineers to discuss the implications of cloud computing on information management and to contemplate on how to design and develop innovative and collaborative information services beyond the cloud. More than 20 papers were submitted. In addition, 11 papers were submitted with three panel proposals, seven of which specifically deal with intellectual property issues and collaboration in the cloud. All papers, panel and workshop proposals were subjected to a double-blind reviewing process and 11 papers were selected for inclusion in this book along with three keynote papers. The accepted contributions come from seven countries (Belgium, Canada, China, Japan, Turkey, USA, and Venezuela) and address a number of issues dealing with, among others, cloud computing, intellectual property rights in the cloud, information policy, and information security, all in the context of information management.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank both Hacettepe University and Limerick Institute of Technology for their support. It is a great pleasure to thank the symposium keynote speakers Clifford Lynch (Executive Director, Coalition for Networked Information), Christian Verstraete (Chief Technologist, Cloud Strategy Team, Hewlett-Packard), and Marshall Breeding (Independent Consultant). We would also like to thank and acknowledge the hard work

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Yaşar Tonta