Foreword

On behalf of the entire organizing committee we proudly welcome you to the 4th ACM International Symposium on Pervasive Displays at the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) in Saarbrücken, Germany. Following the path of the three previous symposia at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark in 2014, Google, Mountain View, California, USA in 2013 and at the University of Minho in Porto, Portugal in 2012, this year’s edition of the symposium aims to further expand the audience by addressing the media architecture community.

As a targeted topic venue, Pervasive Displays offers participants a unique opportunity to network with a diverse but focused research community, resulting in an extremely lively event with all the energy and excitement that characterizes the emergence of a new research community. Pervasive Displays research has always attracted a broad cross-section of researchers from ubiquitous computing and HCI, and this year we have attempted to expand the scope of the symposium by encouraging contributions from art & design as well as from the media architecture community.

Furthermore, we closely collaborated with the University of Fine Arts Saar (HBK) and its Experimental Media lab (xm:lab) during the organization of the symposium. We are delighted that these efforts resulted into an increasing number of submissions from these communities, presenting research on various kinds of pervasive displays of different shapes and in numerous contexts. We thank our keynote speaker Soenke Zehle from the xm:lab for sharing his vision on ambient media and the design of a new environmentalism.

We have extended PerDis 2015 to a three day symposium, offering two tutorials held by Nigel Davis and Sarah Clinch, as well as by Patrick Tobias Fischer and an opening social event at the University of Fine Arts Saar (HBK) bringing together researchers from various disciplines with a common interest on the opportunities and challenges raised by the emergence of pervasive display systems as a new communication medium for public and semi-public spaces.

Our program committee—comprising 35 leading experts drawn from institutions in 12 countries around the world—selected 30 of the 56 papers submitted, through a single-blind review process and final selection by the program chairs. The program further includes 3 research videos along with 7 posters and 13 demos presented during our poster and demo reception on Thursday evening at the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI). As has been the case in previous years, we have emphasised inclusivity, aiming to showcase a wide range of work rather than maintain a low acceptance rate.

The symposium was organized by a large group of people. We would like to thank our program committee for delivering numerous reviews, our local arrangements chair Marco Speicher, our demo chairs Moritz Behrens and Michael Schnitz, our video chair Marko Jurmu, our poster chair Nora Broy, our publicity chair Nemanja Memarovic as well as our publications chair Stefan Schneegaß.

This year PerDis 2015 is supported by the ACM and SIGMOBILE, as well as by several sponsors, all of whom we would like to thank for their contributions.

We hope you enjoy the PerDis 2015 program, and that you get to enjoy Saarbrücken and our rich social program.

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Nigel Davies, Lancaster University, UK
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Timo Ojala, University of Oulu, Finland
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