



PHAROS Summer School

Como, Italy, June 22-26, 2009

PHAROS (Platform for search of Audiovisual Resources across Online Spaces) is glad to announce that the PHAROS Summer School will be held in Como, Italy at the Polo Regionale of the Politecnico di Milano, from June 22-26, 2009.

PHAROS PROJECT

PHAROS is a European Project of the 6th Framework Programme with costs of over 13M €, with funding from the European Community of 8.5M €, and comprising 12 partners from 9 European countries.

PHAROS aims at innovating search technology by providing automatic annotation and full multimedia searching on audiovisual content, whatever its nature and structure.

The PHAROS mission is to build an innovative, open, and distributed architecture that enables consumers, businesses, and organisations to unlock the value found in audiovisual content.

PHAROS SUMMER SCHOOL

The Summer School will engage **students, researchers, and practitioners** in the most challenging topics of next-generation search technology, explained by top international experts in the field from both academia and industry.

The addressed **research areas and business scenarios** include information retrieval, indexing and relevance computation, knowledge extraction from audiovisual data, query processing on audiovisual data, content-based search, social search, industrial and business scenarios for audiovisual search.

The Summer School will feature a training program of **five full days** dedicated to the hottest topics in audiovisual search, allowing the attendees to get in touch with the principles and practices of information access in rich media.

Participants will also experience a **close-by view of the PHAROS platform** and its technological components and learn how to develop advanced audiovisual search applications in practice. A set of laboratory and hands-on sessions will guide the participants through the main technical aspects of a multimedia search platform.

The school will be tightly associated with the **major European research projects** in multimedia search of the 6th and 7th FP. A dedicated session will focus on the most relevant research areas addressed by the other projects in the audiovisual search domain.

An **industrial track** will be devoted to the presentation of an industrial perspective on multimedia search, with contributions from major companies in Europe and worldwide.

Contact

Silvia Boi
Engineering - Ingegneria Informatica
Via San Martino della Battaglia, 56
00185 Roma, Italy
Email: silvia.boi@eng.it
Phone: +393406666351

Summer school





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TOPICS AND PROGRAMME

The preliminary program of the school will comprise training modules on the following topics:

- **Rich media annotation through automatic feature extraction**
 - o Content analytics within PHAROS (by FAST, a Microsoft subsidiary)
 - o Machine learning techniques for automatic audiovisual annotations (by University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona)
- **Relevance computation and social annotations for multimedia content** (by L3S, Hannover)
- **Content-based search** (by KMI, the Open University, Milton Keynes, UK)
- **The PHAROS architecture**
 - o Architecture overview (by Engineering, Rome, Italy)
 - o Extensibility of the PHAROS platform (by Web Models, Milan, Italy)
- **Interactive hands-on sessions on extension and testing of features of the PHAROS platform** (by FAST, a Microsoft subsidiary)
- **Joint sessions with experts from industrial and research projects in the multimedial search field**

LOGISTICS

The PHAROS Summer School will be held in **Como, Italy**. The venue is in the Palazzo Natta, one of the premises of **Politecnico di Milano** located in the city centre of Como.

Several hotels at walking distances are available for students and teachers. Some rooms are reserved for students in nearby hotels.

Lunches and coffee breaks will be provided at the Summer School site. This will give students ample opportunities to get to know each other and to exchange ideas among themselves and with the teachers.

REGISTRATION

The PHAROS Summer School will be **free of charge**. Attendance will be limited to 35 participants. Admission will be based on an evaluation of the CV and experience of students.

Interested participants must register by sending an email to Ms. Silvia Boi (see reference below), **before June 5th, 2009**, including a full CV. The form is available on the Web site of the school (<http://www.pharos-audiovisual-search.eu/summer-school.html>).

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Full-time students can apply for a **scholarship**, which will grant them free hotel accommodation for the duration of the school. Five scholarships will be granted to the best five applicants, based on their CVs.

REFERENCES

<http://www.pharos-audiovisual-search.eu/summer-school.html>

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00185 Rome, Italy

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