The New WAC Website: Towards a Sustainable Conference

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Figure 1: Screenshot of the website design.

ABSTRACT

Started in 2015, WAC is a young conference, but has also reached a maturity state with regular 1-1.5 year intervals between editions. There is however a lack of consistency between the conference proceedings which makes them difficult to index and find. Also, publications often include associated audiovisual media. We have created a centralized website with the proceedings indexed consistently combined with other relevant information. We have also developed a collection of guidelines and designed the website in a format that can be used by the forthcoming conference organizers.

In this talk, we will present the new website, the project workflow, and the tools and libraries used for development. We will also reflect on the lessons learned and a set of recommendations to keep the conference sustainable.

1. WEBSITE

The website contains metadata and PDFs from proceedings up to current date, which has been catalogued and prepared for indexing. We have used Eleventy (11ty1), a static site generator, for building the website. Using several Node.js packages and JavaScript, the system automatically generates sites containing the data of each proceeding. From 2015 until 2018 all sites are generated from collections of BibTeX files. These collections are made using the reference manager Mendeley2. Since Mendeley uses special notation for special characters in BibTeX, we found another reference manager called JabRef3, which we used as a tool to remove all special notations. For the current and future editions, the system also supports input from excel spreadsheets generated by the conference management website.

As part of the sustainability plan, the domain used in 2018 will now become the permanent home for the Web Audio Conference:

http://webaudioconf.com

We have also documented how to maintain and upload new content here: https://github.com/web-audio-conference/Website/blob/master/README.md

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1https://www.11ty.io/  
2https://www.mendeley.com/?interaction_required=true  
3http://www.jabref.org/