

Title: The Localisation Research Centre - Localisation Research, Education, and Networking since 1995

Abstract:

This contribution to CIICT 2013 will introduce the Localisation Research Centre (LRC) at the University of Limerick, Ireland, established in 1995, as an example of making connections between academia and industry in one of the most important fields for global communication: localisation.

The LRC works with worldwide digital publishers and their partners who are interested in future technologies and processes for Globalization, Interpretation, Localisation, and Translation (GILT). It focuses its activities on the provision of relevant well-researched content-rich information on future trends and technologies within a framework of a unique industry and academic collaboration, which provides an unparalleled network of expertise. The LRC co-operates at national and international level with researchers and students, the media, consultancy firms, government agencies, and the European Commission.

The contribution will highlight some of the success stories as well as some of the ongoing challenges faced by the LRC as an interdisciplinary research centre working within a relatively young field of academic research. The LRC activities introduced will include, amongst others:

- The Annual LRC Localisation Summer School (the 12th edition of the Summer School will take place in Limerick on 20-24 May 2013);
- The Annual LRC Internationalisation and Localisation Conference (the 18th edition of the LRC Conference will take place in Limerick on 23-25 September 2013);
- Action for Global Information Sharing (AGIS), including AGIS Africa: Promoting African Language Localisation (launched 19 November 2012, University of Limerick);
- Localisation Focus – The International Journal for Localisation (established in 1995);
- MSc in Multilingual Computing and Localisation (Distance Learning), since 1997;
- The Rosetta Foundation (founded in 2009), empowering language communities.

The lessons learned by the LRC during its almost 20 years of existence, building bridges between academia and industry, and its role in the development of the localisation industry in Ireland and beyond, could support the planning and the development of similar initiatives in the future. They also inform its own current three-year development plan.

This contribution might spark the interest of individuals and organizations wishing to develop new partnerships with the LRC in teaching and research, as well as within the Action for Global Information Sharing (AGIS) initiative.