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# Personal Information Management in a Socially Networked World

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**Abstract**

As more and more information is exchanged digitally, and as the tools for sharing and collaborating become more pervasive, users are presented with new opportunities and challenges in how they manage their personal information. Despite the traditional emphasis on the individual in research related to personal information management (PIM), it is apparent that family, friends, co-workers and other collaborators can strongly influence one's PIM behaviors. In this workshop, we will explore: 1) the role that other people play in an individual's PIM in a variety of collaborative and sharing contexts, and 2) the effects that web and cloud-based services are having on PIM practices. We focus on the challenges users face in an evolving communication ecology when sharing and exposing personal information in a variety of situations.

**Author Keywords**

Personal information management; on-line social networks; social media

**ACM Classification Keywords**

H.5.m. Information interfaces and presentation (e.g., HCI): Miscellaneous.

**General Terms**

Design, Human Factors

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## Introduction

Personal information management (PIM) is the practice and study of the activities that people perform to acquire, organize, maintain, and retrieve personal information for everyday use [2]. PIM research has traditionally focused on how to help individuals improve their own personal information management. However, an individual's PIM behaviors are often influenced by other people [2]. People today communicate and manage personal information not only via well-established channels such as email, shared calendars, and to-do lists, but also through an expanding suite of on-line group collaboration tools, social network services, cloud services, and increased use of smartphones and location-based services. People may also create personal information with sharing in mind or decide to share aspects of their PIM for collaborative purposes, sometimes resulting in *group information management* (GIM) [1][3].

Web and cloud-based services are changing the practice of PIM – creating new contexts for collaborating and sharing information, but also creating new challenges for the management of personal and shared information. Ownership of what has traditionally been considered personal information is increasingly becoming shared. Managing personal information that can be seen or used by others presents different challenges than managing information solely for personal use.

In this workshop, we explore the role that other people play in one's PIM behaviors and how web- and cloud-based services are influencing PIM practices.

## Workshop Goals

Building on the success of the series of PIM research workshops held at the University of Washington (2005), SIGIR (2006), CHI (2008), and ASIS&T (2009), the goals of the workshop are:

- To provide a forum for researchers and practitioners working on topics related to personal information management to share their work and discuss challenges
- To strengthen communication and encourage collaboration between researchers, especially between the PIM, CSCW, and WSDM communities
- Discuss how PIM is evolving in a "Socially Networked World" and outline an agenda for future PIM research

## Organizers and Website

PIM 2012 is made possible thanks to the efforts of many researchers active in the PIM community. The organizing committee consists of: Robert Capra and Jaime Teevan (co-chairs), David Elsweiler, Manas Tungare, Kirstie Hawkey, and Deborah Barreau. Workshop website: <http://pimworkshop.org/2012/>

## References

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