**L3S Membership at WSTNet**

L3S is accepted as a member of the Web Science Network of Laboratories (WSTNet) the famous international network, which is bringing together world-class research laboratories to support the Web Science research and education program.

Prof. Wolfgang Nejdl – Executive Director of L3S - represents the L3S in the WSTNet Board of Directors. WSTNet membership brings access to a vibrant network and an 'option' on a world class research capability. WSTNet combines some of the world's leading academic researchers in Web Science, with new academic programs that will enhance the already growing influence of Web Science. Through a number of specific agreements and commitments with the Web Science Trust, which will manage WSTNet, the member Labs will provide valuable support for the ongoing development of Web Science. There are ten founding WSTNet labs. Contributions from the Labs will include the organization and hosting of summer schools, workshops and meetings, including the WebSci conference series. The WSTNet labs will also identify new opportunities for additional events and fundraising, all as part of the ongoing development of Web Science. **The 10 founding WSTNet labs are**

- Annenberg Network of Networks, University of Southern California
- Decentralized Information Group, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Prof Sir Tim Berners-Lee)
- Department of Computer Science, VU Amsterdam
- Digital Enterprise Research Institute, NUI Galway
- Institute for Web Science and Technologies (WeST), Universität Koblenz-Landau
- Oxford Internet Institute
- SONIC Lab, Northwestern University
- Tsinghua-Southampton Web Science Laboratory at Shenzhen
- Web Science Research Centre, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Web Science Research Group, University of Southampton (Prof. Dame Wendy Hall)

**New members in 2011**

- KAIST Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- L3S Research Centre, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Universität Hannover (LUH) [www.l3s.de](http://www.l3s.de)

The benefit for L3S is to be part of a leading network of labs, advancing the area of Web Science, similar to a Network of Excellence. Therewith, as Prof. Nejdl mentioned lately, the L3S is endeavoring to increase research collaboration and research visits, possibly joint project proposals. To be part of the network is a global research partnership. More information about Web Science Network of Laboratories (WSTNet): [webscience.org/WSTNet.html](http://webscience.org/WSTNet.html)