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Dr Alfred Kobsa is a Professor in the [Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences](#) of the [University of California, Irvine](#). Before he was a Director of the Institute for Applied Information Technology ([FIT](#)) at the German National Research Center for Information Technology ([GMD](#)), and a Professor of [Computer Science](#) at the University of Essen, Germany. He was also an Associate Professor of Information Systems at the [Department of Information Science](#) at the University of Konstanz, Germany, and a Senior Researcher at the [Department of Computer Science](#) of the University of Saarbrücken. He received his master degrees in Computer Science and in the Social and Economic Sciences from the [Johannes Kepler University Linz](#), Austria, and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the [University of Vienna](#), Austria and the [Vienna University of Technology](#).

Dr Kobsa's research lies in the areas of user modeling and personalized systems (with applications in the areas of information environments, expert finders, and user interfaces for disabled and elderly people), privacy, and in information visualization. He is the editor of [User Modeling and User-Adapted Interaction: The Journal of Personalization Research](#), Associate Editor of the ACM Transaction on Intelligent Interactive Systems, editorial board member of [Lecture Notes in Computer Science](#), [World Wide Web](#) and [Universal Access in the Information Society](#), and was the founding president of [User Modeling Inc](#). Dr. Kobsa edited several [books](#) and authored numerous [publications](#) in the areas of user-adaptive systems, human-computer interaction and knowledge representation. He also co-founded a national [workshop series](#) and an international [conference series](#) in these areas. He received research awards from the [Humboldt Foundation](#), Google, and several other organizations.