

KMDiary Volume 8: Issue #12—December 2007

The KMDiary is an electronic newsletter for sharing ideas and information of interest to the University of Toronto's Knowledge Media Design Institute (KMDI) community.



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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



This is the last issue for 2007. With the January issue we begin our 9th year of publication (1). The KMDiary currently goes out to over a thousand people in the digital media community each month. Thanks to Elise Chien, our capable Editor, who over the year has gone through a small mountain of email, abstracting and digesting the news. As always we are pleased to pass on any information relevant to this community, which includes our members, local and international scholars and students from across the disciplines

with interests in knowledge/digital/new media, practitioners, members of government and research organisations and the ICT and digital media industries.

December brought several visitors to the institute, including two external reviewers who were here as part of the institutional 5-year review of KMDI. With four KMD courses running this term, a series of class presentations and poster sessions were organised at the end of term to feature the work of our students, and the month ended with a holiday party. It was lovely to see so many members of the community.

A number of lectures, events and workshops are already planned for .January [see *Announcements*]. KMDI will be hosting four seminar series in the Spring term – these will be interwoven in terms of scheduling so each series will not run weekly. These include two series produced by our Collaborative Program students. The first, *In Process*, is a series of research talks by KMDI graduate students and Fellows. The second is a series of talks by recent alumni who are now in practice. There will also be a series of faculty research talks, something we have done in the past as a way to bring this virtual community together and to foster new research partnerships and awareness for our students. We last ran this series in 2004 as part of the process of preparing our

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Stepping UP academic plan. Since then more than 20 new members have joined, and in a dynamic field such as this new clusters of opportunity continue to emerge. The fourth series will be on design research and will reach across the disciplines to consider the ways in which design research is conceptualised. Of particular interest is the question of epistemology. We'll explore what constitutes a knowledge claim and the ways in which this varies across disciplines and fields of practice. This series parallels a graduate reading course and series of conversation that I started in the fall with three KMDI doctoral students.

Project Open Source | Open Access (2), now in its research phase, will be announcing a series of research projects in late January. We'll be looking for a number of RA's to support these activities. These will be announced in the KMDiary and KMDigest. Students interested in all aspects of software development will want to check out the opportunities in Ron Baecker's lab this coming term [see *Announcements*]. If you have digital media research opportunities for students we'd be happy to announce them.

Finally, on the conference front, don't forget that the call for papers (3) for EIPub 2008: 12th International Conference on Electronic Publishing (4) being held in Toronto this June closes January 20th 2008. The Conference Chair is **Leslie Chan** (UTSC, KMDI) and the conference will be hosted by KMDI. This is the first time the conference has been held in North America and the theme – *Open Scholarship: Authority, Community and Sustainability in the Age of Web 2.0* is relevant across the disciplines.

Thanks to Jason Moore (5) who captured the holiday feeling with this shot taken during last week's 'big snow'. I sat out the storm in a Collingwood farmhouse in the midst of holiday preparations, accompanied by several children and adults, three dogs, and a cat. It was lovely to watch the flakes fall from our warm perch beside the fire and then to bundle up and walk in the very quiet snow covered landscape. The internet was also there... drilling in to my UofT machine (on dial-up) I was able to check my appointments, locate the phone numbers and email addresses needed to re-schedule Monday. And responses came quickly back – others were snowed in Guelph and Collingwood!, or shoveling snow in Toronto. Early theorists saw Cyberspace as a new 'place', a place distinct and different from life in the material world. Today, this distinction is gone, and there's nothing like a good snowstorm to remind us of how the experience of the virtual is embedded in so many ways in our material world and part of everyday life.

Best wishes for the holidays. Let it snow!

Gale

- (1) <http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/publications/KMDiary.aspx>
- (2) <http://open.utoronto.ca>
- (3) <http://www.utoronto.ca/~elpub2008/call.html>
- (4) <http://www.utoronto.ca/~elpub2008/index.html>
- (5) <http://xinsight.ca/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN GAINING EXPERIENCE IN SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Professor Ron Baecker (CS, KMDI) has part-time opportunities for new development /design/support talent for ePresence Interactive Media (1) and research projects on electronic memory aids and other cognitive assistive devices (2) . Applications are due by Jan. 8th at the latest. Full details in the postings below.

- (1) <http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/documentshomepage/ePresence.Posting07DEC18.pdf>
 (2) <http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/documentshomepage/MemoryAids.Posting07DEC18.pdf>

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Wednesday January 9th, 2008, 6:30pm

OCAD PRESIDENT'S SPEAKER SERIES

OCAD Auditorium
 100 McCaul St.



Cameron Sinclair(1) the co-founder and Executive Director of Architecture for Humanity, and co-founder of the Open Architecture Network, an online, open source community dedicated to improving living standards around the world. will be speaking on *The Role of the Designer in the New World Order/Economy*. Full details on the website (2). Free entry.

- (1) <http://www.cameron Sinclair.com/work/bio.html>
 (2) http://apache.ocad.ca/events_calendar/eventdetail.php?id=149

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Thursday January 17th, 3 to 5 pm

Alice Moulton Rm., 2nd floor, Gerstein Science Information Centre

9 King's College Circle

Map: http://www.library.utoronto.ca/directories/guide_to_libraries/010211_location.html

Michael Eberle-Sinatra, Associate Professor of Nineteenth-Century British Literature at the Universite de Montreal and President of *Synergies* since 1995 will give a talk entitled *On Synergies and its Impact on Social Sciences and Humanities Research*. The talk will introduce the main goals of *Synergies: The Canadian Information Network for Research in the Social Sciences and Humanities* project and its impact on the production and dissemination of Canadian research. Synergies is a four year CFI funded project to create a national distributed platform for the creation, distribution, access and archiving of digital objects such as journal articles. It will further enable the distribution and use of social sciences and humanities research in the digital realm, as well as to

create a resource and platform for pure and applied research. The talk has been organised by the University of Toronto Library and is co-sponsored by **KMDI** and RCAT. Further details in January.

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Proposals due January 21, 2008

SESSION PROPOSALS FOR TECHNOLOGY IN THE ARTS: CANADA



The University of Waterloo's Centre for Cultural Management and Carnegie Mellon's Center for Arts Management and Technology, is now accepting proposals for presentations and hands-on workshops for the May 9-10 2008 Technology in the Arts: Canada conference to be held in Waterloo. The conference is arranged into two broad session tracks, "Front Line Culture and Heritage," and "Behind the Scenes." Within each track, proposed topics must cover a relevant issue relating to technology in culture and heritage

management or production including research, theory or practice. Traditional sessions are one hour and fifteen minutes, and Hands-On workshops are two hours long. Traditional sessions may take any of the following formats: research or data presentations, case studies, facilitated discussions or demonstrations. Additional innovative formats are encouraged. Further details, including instructions for submission below (1).

(1) http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/documentshomepage/TITA_Call_for_Session_Proposals.pdf

THE VIRTUAL WATER COOLER: AROUND THE COMMUNITY

KMDI WELCOMES MARC DRYER AS A NEW MEMBER



KMDI welcomes **Marc Dryer** (BMC, UTM) as member of the Institute. Marc received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology in 1996 from UofT, his Master of Science in Paleoanthropology in 1999 from UofT, and his Master of Science in Biomedical Communications from UofT in 2001. He also has a diploma in 3D animation production from Sheridan College and currently teaches 3D biomedical visualization techniques and theory at the graduate level, and courses in advanced visual media for Anthropological data at the undergraduate level. Marc is a faculty member in Biomedical Communications (1) in the Institute of Communication and Culture (2). Marc is also actively involved with the Toronto Police Services Forensics Identification Unit as part of an initiative to promote the use of digital techniques to aid in the identification of individuals known only from skeletal remains. Marc has been closely associated with **MediaGenerator@UTM** (3), a project co-directed by **Louis Kaplan**, ICC and **Gale Moore**, KMDI.

(1) <http://www.bmc.med.utoronto.ca/bmc/>

(2) <http://www.erin.utoronto.ca/icc/>

(3) <http://mediagenerator.ca/new/>



The latest issue of *idea&s*, the arts & science review published by the Faculty of Arts and Science takes as its theme the turn to the digital. Seven KMDI members including **Gale Moore** (Soc) **Ian Lancashire** (Eng), **Karan Singh** (CS), **Ron Diebert** (PolSci), **Brian Cantwell Smith** (Phil), **Lisa Steele** (Visual Studies) and **John Danahy** (FALD) have articles or made contributions to this issue. Special thanks to the Editor, Diana Kuprel for another beautifully produced issue. In the age of the digital, this form calls attention to the significance of the material artefact. A free subscription to the magazine is a

can be requested online (2).

(1) <http://www.ideasmag.artsci.utoronto.ca/>

(2) <http://www.ideasmag.artsci.utoronto.ca/subscribe.html>



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 Congratulations to John Chattoe who successfully defended his doctoral thesis on *The Influence of Design- relevant Parameters on Multiple- Object Tracking Performance* in the Dept. of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering this month. John is currently the Product Line Prime and Chief Scientist at BCS GLOBAL Inc., the leading worldwide provider of IP-based video conferencing and collaboration services. Many in our community will know John as former head of ITRC: Information Technology Research Centre, the Ontario Centre of Excellence that administered the \$6M Ontario Telepresence Project, 1992-1995, in which many of the founding members of KMDI participated. Congratulations Dr.

Chattoe!

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Jacek Gwizdka, a former KMDI Graduate Fellow, now a professor at Rutgers, in town for a brief visit, gave a guest lecture on Nov. 1st in **Mark Chignell**'s (MIE, KMDI) KMDI course on Technologies for Knowledge Media (KMD2002). The lecture entitled *Soccer? Cricket? or What Can We Learn from Social Tagging?* reported on an exploration of tagging activities within communities of interests.



Professor Dominique Scheffel-Dunand (French Studies, York University) has been invited to be a Research Fellow in KMDI. Dominique has a PhD in Linguistics from Lyon III (France) and is currently finalizing a LL.M at Osgoode Hall Law School. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of French Studies at York University in Toronto. Her area of research in linguistics and communication covers Discourse/Conversation Analysis, Philosophy of language, Orality, Interlanguage Pragmatics, Cross-Cultural Communication, Second Language Acquisition and Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW). Her current research focuses on media laws and more specifically on the transformation of the language of law to protect free speech and cultural rights across transnational ties in the context of digital broadcasting media such as participatory and communitarian technologies (social forums, wikis and blogs). Dominique has a

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decade long association with KMDI, has been involved in a number of projects in the Institute and has worked with several of our students. We are delighted to welcome her in this new role.

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Jeremy Birnholtz, now an assistant professor in the Department of Communication and the Faculty of Computing and Information Science at Cornell University, will continue his association with KMDI and his research on the NECTAR Project (1). Jeremy received his PhD from the School of Information at the University of Michigan in 2005, and is interested in improving the usefulness and usability of collaboration technologies through a focus on human attention, and in the intersections of social science theory and technology design. He uses both laboratory and field methods and has conducted field research in a diverse range of settings. His work has been presented at the ACM CHI, CSCW, and GROUP conferences, and published in *Organization Science*, *JASIST*, *JCMC* and *Social Science Computer Review*. Jeremy spent two-years as a post-doctoral Fellow in KMDI and we're delighted this relationship will continue.

(1) <http://www.nectar-research.net/>

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KMDI ALUMNI DAVE GILLIS KICKS OFF SPEAKING SERIES



On December 6, 2007, alumni **Dave Gillis** gave the first of a series of talks dedicated to linking KMD Collaborative Program alumni and current students in discussion, collaboration, and opportunity. Dave is a graduate of the **Faculty of Information Studies** and the **KMDI Collaborative Program**. He works as an interaction designer and information architect at **Teehan+Lax** (2), a user interface/web design and consulting shop in Toronto. Teehan+Lax is well known for its gorgeous designs with a Web 2.0 edge. The company even created its own UX Fund that reveals the bottom line of good design

(1) <http://teehanlax.com/>

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Congratulations to **Rhys Causey**, an undergraduate computer science student working on the ePresence project who has been selected for Honorable Mention in the Computing Research Association's Outstanding Undergraduate Award competition for 2008. A copy of the announcement as it will appear in the January 2008 issue of *Computing Research News* will be posted on CRA's website (2).

(1) <http://epresence.kmdi.utoronto.ca>

(2) <http://www.cra.org>

“NEIGHBORING IN NETVILLE” PRAISED

In the December issue of *City & Community* (1), Anthony Orum's Editorial introduction praised the article “Neighboring in Netville: How the Internet Supports Community and Social Capital in a Wired Suburb” (2) by **Keith Hampton** and **Barry Wellman** (SOC, KMDI). Orum stated, “The last time I wrote a brief introduction we published the now-famous article by Keith Hampton and Barry Wellman on social networks and the Internet. That article led off the issue, and it is now the most widely cited article that has been published in the journal.”

- (1) <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=1535-6841&site=1>
- (2) <http://www.mysocialnetwork.net/downloads/cityncomm12-mp.pdf>

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The Personal Information Protection Toolbar

(PIPWatch) (1) is the first privacy technology designed specifically for Canadian Internet users. Built as a toolbar extension for the Firefox web browser, PIPWatch gives real-time feedback on the privacy practices websites visited by Canadian users, in particular whether a site's owners respect Canadian privacy laws. The PIPWatch team, which includes a number of KMDI students is part of a research project of the University of Toronto's Information Policy Research Program (IPRP)(2) led by **Andrew Clement** (FIS, KMDI).

- (1) <http://www.pipwatch.ca>
- (2) <http://www3.fis.utoronto.ca/research/iprp/>

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ATRC WINS PRIZE FROM MELLON FOUNDATION



The **Adaptive Technology Research Centre** (1) has won a \$50,000 prize from the **Andrew Mellon Foundation**, in recognition of their development and release of the **ATutor** (2) learning management system. ATutor is an Open Source Web-based Learning Content Management System (LCMS) designed with accessibility and adaptability in mind. The prize was one of 10 “**Mellon Awards for Technology Collaboration**” (3) awarded to honor not-for-profit organizations for leadership in the collaborative development of open source software tools with application to scholarship in the arts and humanities.

- (1) <http://atrc.utoronto.ca/>
- (2) <http://www.atutor.ca>
- (3) <http://matc.mellon.org/winners/2007-matc-awardees-announced/>

CHARLES FINLEY HAS NEW ROLE WITH CRITICAL MASS



Charles Finley, former Executive Director of Project OS|OA (1), has moved into a new role with interactive web agency **Critical Mass** (2) as Account Planner in their Toronto office, where he will be responsible for digital strategy for clients such as Citigroup North America. Since April of 2007 Charles has been Senior Project Manager at Critical Mass, managing creative and development projects where he will continue to contribute part of his time to Program Management for his accounts. Critical Mass is an interactive services firm based in Calgary, with offices in Toronto, Chicago, New York, London and Geneva, among others.

(1) <http://open.utoronto.ca>

(2) <http://www.criticalmass.com>

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ERIC YU GIVEN MOST INFLUENTIAL PAPER AWARD



Congratulations to **Professor Eric Yu** (FIS, KMDI) who was awarded the *Most Influential Paper After Ten Years Award* for his paper, "Towards Modelling and Reasoning Support for Early-Phase Requirements Engineering," from the RE'97 IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering held in Annapolis, Maryland, USA, in September 1997. The award was presented last month at the RE'07 conference in New Delhi, India.

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RON DIEBERT FEATURED AS ONE OF THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST IN *ESQUIRE*

Professor **Ron Diebert** (PoliSci, KMDI) has been chosen as one of the "Best and Brightest" in the December issue of *Esquire* magazine. Deibert specializes in media, technology, and world politics, and is a Ford Foundation Research Scholar of Information and Communication Technologies (2002-2004). He was named as a "world-changer" by *Esquire* for his work on a new software program called **Psiphon** (1). Launched in 2006, Psiphon is a software tool that enables citizens living in countries with restricted web access to circumvent Internet censorship.

Source: UofT News, Nov. 27/07 (2)

(1) <http://psiphon.civisec.org/>

(2) <http://www.news.utoronto.ca/bin6/071127-3518.asp>

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FORMER UTSC STUDENT NAMED RHODES SCHOLAR

Wojciech Gryc, a graduate of UofT at Scarborough's international development studies program and mathematics, has been awarded an **Ontario Rhodes Scholarship** (1). Throughout his university career, Gryc has been committed to using technology to improve lives in the developing world.

Gryc received two Student Experience Awards from Project Open Source | Open Access (2) – the first to support his work in Chad and the second to work on the development of Egotistics: an open source tool for personal network analysis. Congratulations Wojciech!

Source: UofT News, Dec. 3/07

(1) <http://www.news.utoronto.ca/bin6/071203-3535.asp>

(2) http://open.utoronto.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=0&Itemid=248

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CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM UofT REGARDING CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION FUNDS



The **Canada Foundation for Innovation** (1) has just released a draft call for proposals for a new round of national competition involving \$400M for infrastructure and an additional \$120M for support of infrastructure operations and maintenance. This new competition comprises two application streams: **The Leading Edge Fund** – for proposals that build on previous CFI investment; and **The New Initiatives Fund** – for new proposals that have not previously been funded through a national CFI competition. Professor R. Paul Young, VP of Research at UofT, is seeking feedback on the priority initiatives emerging within and/or between divisions that researchers feel should be amongst the University's submissions at the *Notice of Intent* stage, currently proposed for April 2008. Contact grip.assistant@utoronto.ca for further information.

(1) <http://www.innovation.ca>

OTHER NEWS

THE FIRST GLOBAL CENSUS OF ENTERPRISE OPEN SOURCE ADOPTION

the open source census The Open Source Census (1) is a global, collaborative project to collect and share quantitative data on the use of open source software in enterprise. In short that means we want to count how many enterprise installations there are in the world for each open source software package. OpenLogic(2) is the founding sponsor of The Open Source Census.



(1) <http://www.ossensus.org/>

(2) <http://www.openlogic.com/index.php>

NORTHERNER JEAN-LOUIS TAKES OVER AS CHAIR OF ONTARIO RESEARCH NETWORK (1)



Maxim Jean-Louis, one of Ontario's most accomplished education leaders, takes over as Chair of the Board of the **Optical Regional Advanced Network of Ontario (1)**, which owns and operates the **ORION** ultra high-speed optical research and education network. The President and CEO of Contact North/Contact Nord, Jean-Louis replaces York University VP of Research and Innovation, Dr. Stan Shapson, who steps down as Chair and board member after three years at the helm. Anne Sado, President of George Brown College in Toronto, was elected Vice Chair.

Source: Orion News, Dec. 7/07

(1) <http://www.orano.on.ca/>

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Application Deadline—February 28, 2008

INAUGURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE SCIENCE OF SOCIO-TECHNICAL SYSTEMS

(July 20-25, 2008, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA)



Thanks to Professor **Andrew Clement** (FIS, KMDI), who has brought our attention to the **Consortium for the Science of Socio-Technical Systems (1)**, a new organization devoted to advancing research on socio-technical systems. As its inaugural activity, the CSST will be hosting a summer research institute for advanced doctoral students and pre-tenure faculty. A primary goal of the institute is to build a new cohort of faculty and graduate students who are interested in research on the design and interplay of technology and humans at the level of individuals, groups, organizations, and larger communities.

(1) <http://www.si.umich.edu/csstinstitute/>

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SUBMISSIONS FOR INTERNET2IDEA AWARDS NOW OPEN



The **Internet2 IDEA Awards (1)** program recognizes and thereby encourages innovative advanced network applications that have had the most positive impact within the research and education community. IDEA Award candidates will have applied advanced networking to enable transformational advances in research, teaching and learning by researchers, faculty, and students. Online submissions for 2008 are now being accepted – check out the website for more details.

(1) <http://www.internet2.edu/idea/>

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR



The **Government of Canada Program for International Polar Year** is issuing a **Call for Proposals** (1) for training, communications and outreach projects in conjunction with

International Polar Year. Funding will be available to a diverse range of Canadian-based applicants, including community organizations, educational groups, government departments and agencies and others to carry out creative and innovative projects and activities that will become part of Canada's contribution to IPY. All proposals will be subject to a rigorous review process, including Northern regional review, in which proposed projects will be evaluated against a set of criteria.

(1) http://ipy-api.gc.ca/fnds/tco_e.html

TORIES BLINK ON COPYRIGHT LAW CHANGE (1)

Kempton Lam, Corey Doctorow, Michael Geist and **Howard Knopf** aren't exactly familiar names in Ottawa's political power circles. But [on December 10], those four – along with thousands of other Canadians – managed to throw a spanner into the works of the Harper government. As leaders of an increasingly vocal and organized grassroots cyber-movement against controversial, anticipated changes to the federal Copyright Act, their persistent efforts derailed Industry Minister Jim Prentice's plan to introduce an amended bill.

Source: Ottawa Citizen, Dec. 11/07

(1) <http://www.canada.com/ottawacitizen/news/story.html?id=a2d52e40-96cd-4329-abfb-45382e522363&p=1>

COLLEGES ONTARIO NETWORK FOR INDUSTRY INNOVATION



Funded by the Government of Ontario, **CONII** (1) is a consortium of 10 leading colleges dedicated to helping business and industry become more competitive -- and stay competitive -- in a challenging and rapidly changing global economy. Colleges, which have always provided skilled employees and training to business and industry are now building on that record of success to provide R&D services in key economic sectors across the province, in response to market pull and industry needs.

(1) <http://www.conii.ca/>

VIRTUAL REALITY CAVE FOR JAGUAR AND LAND ROVER (1)

Jaguar and **Land Rover** revealed plans for a new industry-leading design facility that will draw on advanced audio visual technologies with the projection power of eight cinemas to significantly

speed up product development cycles. Some £2M is to be invested in a state-of-the-art 'Virtual Reality Centre' which will allow engineers and designers to see in life-size three-dimension, models of vehicles and components. It will reduce the need for physical prototypes, saving both time and money in the process.

Source: MotorTorque, Dec. 12/07

(1) <http://motortorque.askaprice.com/news/auto-0712/virtual-reality-cave-for-jaguar-and-land-rover.asp>

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS RECEIVES 2007 MELLON AWARD FOR OPEN EAI PROJECT

The **University of Illinois** has received the 2007 Mellon Award for Technology Collaboration (MATC) for contributions to the OpenEAI Project (1). The purpose of the OpenEAI Project is to discover and document the controlling dynamics, principles, and practices of enterprise application integration and to present, implement, and promote those findings. The OpenEAI Project presents findings in the form of the OpenEAI methodology and OpenEAI software for implementing integrations.

(1) <http://www.openeai.org/live/?p=0>

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LAUNCH OF THE GAME XP LAB AT EINDHOVEN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

 On November 29 – the 35th anniversary of the game Pong – the **Game Experience Lab** (1) was launched. This is an interdisciplinary group of scholars working together to better understand the captivating player experiences associated with digital games. Our scientific endeavours are enabled through multiple laboratory spaces with state-of-the-art gaming equipment and high-end measurement and observation tools.

(1) <http://www.gamexplab.nl/index.php?page=home>

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ACADEMIC SERVICES SPENDING TO REACH \$1.2 BILLION (1)

With institutional leadership focused heavily on instructional objectives, the academic services market is growing rapidly as technology's advances also help fuel this market. Composed of professional services such as those supporting online education and faculty recruitment that help institutions support teaching and learning objectives, the academic services market is serving key postsecondary priorities.

Source: Campus Technology, Nov. 27/07

(1) <http://www.campustechnology.com/articles/56212/>

RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

Submissions—January 15, 2008

CALL FOR PAPERS: SPECIAL ISSUE ON ACADEMICS IN VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENTS



Innovate (1), published as a public service by the Fischler School of Education and Human Services and sponsored, in part, by Microsoft is soliciting manuscripts for a special issue on academics in virtual environments. This issue focuses on the use of Multi-User Virtual Environments (MUVes) as an enhancement to K-21 education. A MUVe combines graphics and audio with the ability to communicate with multiple users in real time within the context of a 3-D virtual environment. MUVes are not necessarily considered games, as programs like Second Life and There have no end goal or objective.

(1) http://www.innovateonline.info/index.php?view=special_issues

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CALL FOR CHAPTERS AND REVIEWERS: ISSUES IN INFORMATION AND MEDIA LITERACY



The editors of Issues in Information and Media Literacy (1), a volume of case studies and academic papers to be published by the **Informing Science Institute** (2) invite chapters on a range of issues related to information and media literacy. We also seek colleagues from all fields involved with this area who are willing to provide quality reviews of submitted chapters in a timely manner. This book will bring together accounts from practitioners, educationalists, academics and others in an innovative, exciting and mutually informing manner. The text will offer a fresh interdisciplinary approach to the issues and aims to identify new areas of practice and research. The book will be widely available in print through online book retailers including Amazon and available free in electronic format online.

(1) <http://infoliteracy.ispress.org/>

(2) <http://informingscience.org/>

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SHARED SPACE: THE COMMUNITIES AGENDA



Shared Space: The Communities Agenda (1) seeks to capture the essence of the profound changes taking place in communities across the country and around the world. Community interventions to promote economic and social well-being are not new. What is new is the way in which communities are organizing themselves both strategically and comprehensively to achieve their goals.

(1) <http://www.renoufbooks.com/Enter.aspx?m=b&pg=d&p=80155>

SSHRC 2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT RELEASED AND STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SET

The **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's 2006-07 Annual Report** (1) showcases the Council's continued efforts throughout the past year to best support and promote social sciences and humanities research excellence in Canada. It also conveys how, through its programs and policies, the Council facilitates knowledge-sharing and collaboration across research disciplines, universities and all sectors of society. In addition, SSHRC presents *Framing Our Direction* (2), a document that reports on SSHRC's achievements over the past two years, situates its activities and ambitions within the current research and policy environment, and sets out SSHRC's strategic priorities for 2008-10.

- (1) www.sshrc.gc.ca/web/about/publications/sshrc_annual_report_2006_e.pdf
- (2) www.sshrc.ca/web/about/publications/framing_our_direction_e.pdf

CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION 2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT RELEASED



The *2006-2007 CFI Annual Report* (1) has now been released. This report shows many of CFI's successes and links them to the benefit for Canadians. Since its creation in 1997, the CFI has committed more than \$3.74 billion in support of approximately 5300 projects across a number of Canadian universities, colleges, research hospitals and non-profit research institutions.

- (1) http://www.innovation.ca/publications/annual/annual07_e.pdf

COOL TOOLS

BOX.NET



Founded in March 2005, Box.net (1) is the first online file system. Box.net enables users to share, store, and access files of any type from anywhere. Box.net is a leader in this space with more than 1.2 million users, over 1 million files served every day, and more than 1000 developers in the Box Enabled Network.

Box.net is the first web-native system for access and collaboration which allows a broad array of functionality. The system is used by individuals, small businesses and Fortune 1000 companies.

- (1) <http://www.box.net/about>

FORGET STICKY NOTES, MICROSOFT USING INKBLOTS AS PASSWORD REMINDERS



Microsoft Research is investigating if the inkblot is a better idea than the sticky note when it comes to remembering passwords that aren't easy for others to crack. On [December 3] the company opened a public Web-based project called

InkblotPassword.com (1). The Web site lets users create a password using a series of random inkblots and a formula to select letters. The user associates a word with the inkblot that corresponds to what they see in the image, such as a bird or a shield. InkblotPassword.com currently has 1,000 inkblots in its database.

Source: NetworkWorld, Dec. 4/07

(1) <http://www.inkblotpassword.com/>



IPKarma (1) is a new karma system to help track users who comment on your blog. The twist is it doesn't just track them for you, but also for any other blog owner who has the plug-in installed. It tracks each user by their IP address (not their username or e-mail address) and automatically creates a user profile for them when they leave a comment.

Source: Webware, Dec. 14/07

(1) <http://ipkarma.com/>

WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA

WORKSHOP: SURROUNDED BY PERSUASIVE AMBIENT INTELLIGENCE (April 6, 2008, Florence, Italy)



This CHI 2008 workshop (1) will discuss the implications of the use of Ambient Intelligence (AmI) for Persuasion. AmI allows surrounding the user with persuasive technology in their everyday life, giving the possibility for persuasive interventions just at the right time and in the right place.

(1) <http://workshops.icts.sbg.ac.at/chi2008ampers/>

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SOCIOTECH-ID 2008 WORKSHOP (May 30, 2008, London, UK)



Interaction design is becoming more challenging because of advances in technology – pervasive, ubiquitous, multimodal and adaptive – are changing the nature of interaction. The aim of this workshop (1) is to provide a forum for interaction design practitioners and specialists interested in knowledge from the social sciences to discuss how sociotechnical insights can best be used to inform interactive design and how social methods and theories can fit into changing patterns of development and participatory design. Both long papers and short papers submissions are invited, addressing key aspects of current research and practical case studies.

(1) <http://iit.tvu.ac.uk/sociotech-id08/index.htm>

8th THINKING QUALITATIVELY 2008
(June 23-27, 2008, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada)



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
QUALITATIVE METHODOLOGY

The **8th Annual Thinking Qualitatively Workshop Conference** is an interdisciplinary educational series that allows participants to engage with experts in qualitative

inquiry and learn about specific methods, techniques and approaches to qualitative research. The academic program consists of five days of hands-on workshops on such topics as qualitative coding and categorization, participatory action research, discourse analysis, literature reviews, arts-based methods, poststructuralism in qualitative research, and much more! The workshop is organized by **The International Institute for Qualitative Methodology** (2).

- (1) <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/iiqm/thinking.cfm>
(2) <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/iiqm/index.cfm>

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Paper Submission—February 19, 2008

PRIVACY ENHANCING TECHNOLOGIES SYMPOSIUM
(July 23-25, 2008, Leuven, Belgium)



The 8th
Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium
2008, Leuven, Belgium

The **8th Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium** (1) will bring together anonymity and privacy experts from around the world to discuss recent advances and new perspectives in privacy for the Internet and other

communication networks. The symposium seeks submissions from academia and industry presenting novel research on all theoretical and practical aspects of privacy technologies, as well as experimental studies of fielded systems. Submissions from other communities such as law and business that present their perspectives on technological issues are encouraged.

- (1) <http://petsymposium.org/2008/>

CONFERENCES

Abstract Submission—January 15, 2008

WHEN MEDIA BECOMES REAL
(February 4-6, 2008, University of Berne, Switzerland)



The purpose of this conference (1) is to explore the phenomenon of being fully immersed in media environments. Which processes are going on when media users are shifted into a secondary reality and which influence does this shift have on the reality? To analyse these topics, several concepts such as

presence, transportation, media entertainment, and flow have been proposed in recent years. In the course of our symposium, the main focus lies on the debate on these constructs.

- (1) <http://www.mediaconference.ch/index.html>

Call for Papers—January 28, 2008

**STUDENT INTERACTION DESIGN RESEARCH CONFERENCE
(March 27-28, 2008, Sønderborg, Denmark)**

The **Mads Clausen Institute at the University of Southern Denmark** has announced the fourth **Student Interaction Design Research** conference (1). The conference theme this year is *Participation and Innovation*. When we do interaction design we necessarily alter users' lives with the technologies we devise. In the process of designing interaction, we determine how they may access technology and its functions, which affects how they weave the use of products and systems into the existing fabric of their lives. The theme *Participation and Innovation* is a reference to the dual responsibility of interaction designers to (a) understand users' practices through forms of involving users in the design process, and (b) ensure that the technology introduced actually adds something of value and significance to users and society.

(1) http://www.dexigner.com/design_events/student-interaction-design-research-2008.html

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Demonstration Deadline—December 31, 2007

**MUSEUMS AND THE WEB
(April 9-12, 2008, Montreal, Canada)**



Museums and the Web
April 9-12, 2008
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Register Online

Museums and the Web (1) addresses the social, cultural, design, technological, economic, and organizational issues of culture, science and heritage on-line. Taking an international perspective, senior speakers with extensive experience in Web development review and analyze the issues and impacts of networked cultural, natural and scientific heritage. Together, we are transforming communities and organizations.

(1) <http://www.archimuse.com/mw2008/>

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**MAKING CONNECTIONS: ePORTFOLIOS, INTEGRATIVE LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT
(April 11-12, 2008, LaGuardia Community College, City University of New York)**

Electronic Student Portfolios have gained wide popularity in higher education as a way to document, enhance, and assess learning and teaching. Universities around the world use ePortfolio to help students reflect upon and create digital portraits of their evolving identities as learners. As a political debate over assessment and accountability heats up, college educators have found new ways to use ePortfolio to examine the learning/teaching process. LaGuardia invites proposals for presentations, roundtables and workshops.

(1) <http://www.eportfolio.lagcc.cuny.edu/cfpapers.html>

EUROGRAPHICS '08 (April 14-18, 2008, Crete, Greece)



Eurographics 2008 (1) the 29th annual conference of the **European Association for Computer Graphics** (2) will be hosted by the **Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas** (3) in Crete, Greece from Monday, April 14 to Friday, April 18, 2008. The Eurographics Annual Conference is a leading international event devoted to computer graphics and all related visual and interactive domains.

- (1) <http://www.ics.forth.gr/eg2008/home.php>
- (2) <http://www.eg.org/>
- (3) <http://www.ics.forth.gr/>

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FUTURESONIC (May 1-4, 2008, Manchester, UK)



Futuresonic (1) brings 500 opinion formers, futurologists, artists, technologists and scientists from the digital culture, music and art communities to Manchester for four days of seminars, workshops and events. At the heart of the Futuresonic festival is the internationally-acclaimed Futuresonic conference, and its focal point the Social Technologies Summit, which looks at how technologies can create an extension of social space or support group interaction, and asks how we can make technology more social.

- (1) <http://www.futuresonic.com/submissions-conference/>

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10th INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CONFERENCE (May 19-22, 2008, Dubrovnik, Croatia)



The forthcoming **Design 2008 Conference** (1) is founded on the continuous development of organization and evaluation procedure that resulted in a capacity to deliver procedures and conditions of communicative competence. Organization of a Design Conference series is a result of the continued policy and continuous learning process, connecting researchers and practitioners attempting to understand better the problems they are trying to address. The objectives of the Design Conferences tend to be integrative across the various disciplines, to reach the current state-of-the-art, to cover the multidisciplinary aspects of design and to assure high level review policy.

- (1) <http://www.designconference.org/>

NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CURRENT RESEARCH INFORMATION SYSTEMS
(June 5-7, 2008, Maribor, Slovenia)



CRIS 2008 (1) focuses on how quality, reliability and trust can be established at different levels of research information systems, and how they contribute to the overall quality of service from a user's point of view. The conference is aimed at promoting scientific discussion on CRIS-related aspects and information exchange on best practice examples. CRIS 2008 continues the tradition of encouraging the sharing of experiences among developers, producers and users of research information systems. CRIS 2008 seeks also to foster discussion on novel approaches and ideas on international dialogue, pan-European cooperation, and the transfer and use of information related to CRIS.

(1) <http://www.uni-kassel.de/hrz/db4/extern/adamczak/CRIS2008/>

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Full Paper Submissions—January 25, 2008
Short Paper Submissions—April 5, 2008

COMPUTER GRAPHICS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2008
(June 9-11, 2008, Istanbul, Turkey)

Computer Graphics International Conference (1) is the official conference of the Computer Graphics Society (CGS). One of the few truly international computer graphics organizations, CGI and CGS were started by Professor Kunii in the early 1980s as CG Tokyo. CGI conference is one of the top recognized international computer graphics conferences. Key research papers have been published in the proceedings of CGI, which are actually published as journal papers.

(1) <http://www.cgi-conf.org/>

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ETHICS, TECHNOLOGY AND IDENTITY
(June 18-20, 2008, Delft, The Netherlands)



Information technology plays an increasingly important role in society and in human lives. Identity Management Technologies (e.g. biometrics, profiling, surveillance), in combination with a variety of identification procedures and personalized services are ubiquitous and pervasive. This calls for careful consideration and design of collecting, mining, storing and use of personal information. This conference (1) aims to discuss the theme of 'identity' in light of new (information) technology.

(1) http://www.ethicsandtechnology.eu/index.php/news/comments/ethics_technology_and_identity/

**DIRECTIONS AND IMPLICATIONS OF ADVANCED COMPUTING SYMPOSIUM
CONFERENCE ON ONLINE DELIBERATION
(June 26-29, 2008, University of California, Berkeley, USA)**



DIAC-08 (1) combines CPSR's 11th DIAC symposium with the third **Conference on Online Deliberation**. The joint conference is intended to provide a platform and a forum for highlighting socio-technological opportunities, challenges, and pitfalls in the area of community and civic action. Technology enhanced community action ranges from informal communities of practice to democratic governance of formal organizations to large social movements.

(1) <http://www.publicsphereproject.org/events/diac08/>

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Abstract Submission—January 7, 2008

**CONSCIOUSNESS REFRAMED
(July 3-5, 2008, Vienna, Austria)**



Consciousness Reframed (1) is an international research conference that was first convened in 1997, and is now in its 9th incarnation. It is a forum for transdisciplinary inquiry into art, science, technology and consciousness, drawing upon the expertise and insights of artists, architects, performers, musicians, writers, scientists, and scholars, usually from at least 20 countries.

(1) <http://cr9.dieangewandte.at/>

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Abstract Submission—January 21, 2008

**CHANGING THE CHANGE
(July 10-12, 2008, Torino, Italy)**



The conference **Changing the Change** (1) seeks to make a significant contribution to a necessary transformation that involves changing the direction of current changes toward a sustainable future. It specifically intends to outline the state-of-the-art of design research in terms of visions, proposals and tools with which design can actively and positively take part in the wider social learning process that will have to take place.

(1) <http://www.changingthechange.org/>

Submission Deadline—February 25, 2008

AGILE 2008
(August 4-6, 2008, Toronto, Canada)



Agile 2008 (1) will be an exciting conference about techniques and technologies, attitudes and policies, research and experience, and the management and development sides of agile software development.

Agile 2008 puts attendees in contact with the latest thinking in the agile domain, enriching our collective body of knowledge, influencing the line of thought in the field, encouraging debate, and fostering innovative ideas. It brings together executives, managers, software development practitioners and researchers from labs and academia. The conference is not about a single methodology or approach, but rather provides a forum for the exchange of information regarding all agile development technologies.

(1) <http://www.agile2008.org/>

ABOUT THE KMDiary

The KMDiary Volume 8, Issue #12 (December 2007). Current issue and archives also available on the web as both pdf and rtf files at <http://www.kmdi.utoronto.ca/publications/KMDiary.aspx>. We encourage contributions from our members. Please forward your submissions to elise@kmdi.utoronto.ca. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is January 10, 2008. To subscribe to the Diary, send an email to info@kmdi.utoronto.ca and ask to be added to the KMDI Diary mailing list.

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