

KMDiary Volume 8: Issue #2—February 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



Trust everyone had a great Reading Week and that some of you even had a chance to read!

The exciting news this month was the announcement on Feb.15th of the funding for the Consortium on New Media, Creative and Entertainment R&D in the Toronto Region. KMDI is the UofT partner in this initiative. Further details in *Announcements* below.

There was a strong response to the Call for proposals for papers on broadband issued by the Ministry of Government Services. The Call focused on themes identified in the December 2006 Academic Workshop. An announcement of the results of this competition are anticipated shortly, and a list of the successful proposals will be posted on the broadband website we are maintaining on behalf of the Ministry (1). Two community workshops on rural broadband will be taking place in March. Full details are on the site.

The image in my column this month will be familiar to many users of Windows XP. Thanks to Quan Zhang (KMDI alumnus) for bringing to my attention the fact that the background picture, called Autumn, was shot in Campbellville, Ontario. A recent issue of Vanity Fair tells the story of the hard work of one man who was determined to know the location (2).

Gale Moore

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

(2) <http://www.vanityfair.com/ontheweb/features/2007/02/autumn200702>

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE KNOWLEDGE MEDIA DESIGN INSTITUTE IS THE UofT PARTNER IN THE NEWLY FUNDED CONCERT CONSORTIUM

On Feb.15th the Minister of Culture and Chair of Ontario Media Development Corporation (1), announced the awarding of \$1.8 million to 14 initiatives in the first year of Ontario's Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund (2). One of the projects funded was CONCERT – the Consortium on New Media, Creative and Entertainment R&D in the Toronto Region. CONCERT is a public-private sector GTA consortium of small and large companies, academic institutions, government, and industry associations specifically designed to support R&D, commercialization, and economic development within the entertainment, screen-based and other creative industries. CONCERT will create a dynamic, integrated agenda to identify priorities, attract and direct resources in order to create a world-leading economic cluster in the GTA.

Led by York University (3), partners include Ryerson University, Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, Ontario College of Art and Design, Cinespace Film Studios, Xenophile Media Inc., New Media Business Alliance (NMBA), FilmOntario, Ontario Film and Television Consortium, George Brown College, Side Effects Software, University of Toronto's Knowledge Media Design Institute. KMDI faculty from across the university and all three campuses comprise the UofT Academic Researcher Working Group.

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

(2) <http://www.omdc.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=5604>

(3) <http://www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=7928>

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VISUAL COGNITION: WHERE COGNITION AND CULTURE MEET (April 27-29, 2007, University of Toronto, Toronto)

This is an international interdisciplinary symposium exploring the role played by visualization in the creation of scientific knowledge (1). Visualization will be explored both in terms of the mental process of visualizing and the product of the process of visualization — whether a visual or material image, model or scientific illustration.

(1) <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/main/visualization-in-scientific-practice>

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Proposal Submission—April 16, 2007

NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FROM BELL UNIVERSITY LABORATORIES

Bell University Laboratories (1) at the UofT is soliciting **proposals** (2) for new full and seed projects from researchers at UofT and the affiliated hospitals. Full projects may be one or more years in duration with an annual budget of \$50K to \$150K. Multiyear project funding is provided on an annual basis, with a renewal proposal required for ongoing annual funding. Seed projects in this

competition are expected to have a 12 month duration, show potential to grow into full projects, and have an annual budget of \$20K to \$50K. There is an **information session** on Thursday, March 1, 2007 at the Bahen Centre, 40 St. George Street, Room #7256.

- (1) <http://www.bul.utoronto.ca>
 (2) <http://www.bul.utoronto.ca/researcher.html>

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Comment Submission—April 16, 2007


SSHRC INVITES COMMENTS REGARDING QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN THE CONTEXT OF TCPS

This is an open invitation (1) to participate in a consultation on evolving the **Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans** (TCPS) to be more inclusive of the full diversity of Canada's research community by better meeting the needs of Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities. Communities with respect to qualitative research issues in the TCPS. The deadline for receiving submissions is April 16, 2007 at sshwc@pre.ethics.gc.ca or fax: 613-996-7117.

- (1) http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/english/workgroups/sshwc/consultation_instructions07.cfm

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New Deadline—March 5, 2007

OXFORD INTERNET INSTITUTE SUMMER DOCTORAL PROGRAMME DEADLINE EXTENDED

 Due to popular demand the OII is happy to announce that the deadline for applications for the 5th **OII Summer Doctoral Programme** (1) has now been extended until **March 5, 2007**. Applications are welcomed from students in any discipline who are currently undertaking doctoral research on social, political, legal and economic issues relating to the Internet.

- (1) <http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/teaching/sdp/Y2007.cfm>

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Nomination Deadline—March 2, 2007

CNMA 2007: NOMINATION DEADLINE APPROACHING



Now in its 7th year, the **Canadian New Media Awards** (1) continues to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of individuals and companies in the Canadian new media industry. The CNMA continues to offer the premiere forum for promoting and recognizing achievement in this very dynamic industry. There is a two step process to complete your nomination. You must complete the nomination

form, and submit payment for the administration fee. Both must be completed by **March 2, 2007**.

(1) http://www.cnma.ca/index_e/index.html

THE VIRTUAL WATER COOLER: AROUND THE COMMUNITY

JAMES TILL NAMED TO THE ORDER OF ONTARIO



Dr. James Till (left), a member of the Project OS|OA Executive Committee, and **Dr. Ernest McCulloch** were recently appointed to the **Order of Ontario** for their pioneering work in stem cell research (1). The Order of Ontario (2) is the province's most prestigious official honour, awarded in recognition of the highest level of individual excellence and achievement in any field. In addition to receiving the Order of Ontario, these UofT professors have received the **Order of Canada**, are inductees of the **Canadian Medical Hall of Fame**, and have taken home the two top prizes in medicine – the **Lasker Prize** and the **Gairdner Award**.

Photo credit: *News@UofT*

- (1) http://open.utoronto.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=499&Itemid=66
(2) <http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citdiv/honours/order/order.htm>

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On February 12, 2007 **Colin Furness** (PhD candidate, FIS & KMDI) presented at a conference of the **Knowledge Strategy Exchange Network** (1), a group of practitioners in knowledge management convened by the **Conference Board of Canada**. Entitled “Top 10 obstacles to user centred design (UCD)”, Colin’s talk divided UCD problems into either simple project management issues, naive assumptions, or deep cultural problems. Colin's talk was a warning that undertaking UCD simply as a checklist of activities (rather than as a mindset) is as ineffective as it is commonplace. In addition, he provoked a fiery debate in suggesting that industry has generally chosen to manage information and not knowledge, by concentrating on systems features rather than the characteristics and needs of knowledge workers as users.

- (1) <http://www.conferenceboard.ca/KSEN/Default.htm>

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Earlier this month, **Leslie Chan** (UTSC, KMDI) presented via videoconference on a report that he jointly authored entitled, *Study of the Feasibility of Open-Access Publishing for Journals Funded by SSHRC's Aid to Scholarly and Transfer Journals Programme* (1). The event was an **Open Access Symposium** (2) at the **University of Winnipeg**, which explored the implications of the open access model of publishing on scholarly communication.

- (1) http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/publications/journals_report_e.pdf
(2) http://wiki.uwinnipeg.ca/index.php/Open_Access_Symposium

DRM: IT LOCKS YOU IN

DRM: It locks you in



Imran Hasan (Masters candidate, FIS & KMDI), **Mike Tissenbaum** (Masters student, FIS), and **Dan Kurtz** (Masters candidate, FIS) have launched two videos (1) (2) on **YouTube** as a product of the KMD2004 course, Knowledge Media, Culture and Society. The videos serve as an intervention piece about Digital Rights Management, specifically by targeting Apple's use of its own proprietary DRM in the form of the 'FairPlay' technology. The group's goal was to highlight some of the lesser known restrictions placed upon users of iPods and the iTunes music service.

(1) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABWu1l6jKzQ>

(2) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YPltb8_nqAs

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Leslie Chan (UTSC, KMDI) recently returned from Brussels, where he attended the conference on **Scientific Publishing in the European Research Area Access, Dissemination and Preservation in the Digital Age** (1). The goal of the conference was to bring together stakeholders concerned with access, dissemination and preservation issues in connection with scientific publication and data in an effort to provide policy options for scientific publishing under FP7 and in the European Research Area.

(1) http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/page_en.cfm?id=3459



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Nina Czegledy (KMDI Senior Fellow) was recently nominated to co-chair the **Leonardo Education Forum** (1) for 2007-2010, sharing the duties with Victoria Vesna, Chair of Design/Media Arts at UCLA. The Leonardo Education Forum promotes the advancement of artistic research and academic scholarship at the intersections of art, science, and technology.

(1) <http://fm.hunter.cuny.edu/lef/>

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 Earlier this month, **Nina Czegledy** gave a lecture on "Aurora the language of light", and advised New Media graduate students at Penn State (1). This was followed by a visit to the **Arts Symposium 2007** (2) in New York, where Nina moderated a panel discussion with Lyn Hughes (Concordia University) and Trebor Scholz (SUNY, Buffalo) entitled "On Media Art Education Initiatives."

(1) <http://www.psu.edu/>

(2) <http://arts-symposium.com/welcome.html>

KMDI GRADUATE FELLOW: COLIN FURNESS

KMDI Graduate Fellow **Colin Furness** is a Ph.D. candidate in the **Faculty of Information Studies** (1). His dissertation is a case study investigating the relationship between the normative influences of workplace groups on the individual, and patterns of use (and non-use) of a collaborative information system. This topic emerged from Colin's own observations in industry that large information systems intended to foster collaborative knowledge work are often built at great expense and subsequently underused.

A number of theories, models and dimensions have been proposed to explain patterns of adoption and rejection of information systems. One prominent model is Fred Davis' Technology Acceptance Model (TAM). It distills the myriad possible causes of instances of failure to adopt technology into a simple questionnaire comprising two dimensions: individuals' perceptions of usefulness and their perceptions of ease of use. The TAM provides a measure of 'intention to use' a given technology, and it has shown excellent predictive power for actual use of technology in many contexts. In the setting of an organization however, it has often been observed that users' measured intention to use information systems in an organization often does not consistently predict actual use very well. In such cases, something would appear to be intervening between intention and subsequent behaviour.

Colin proposes that a plausible candidate to explain this discrepancy between intention and subsequent behaviour is the normative influence of the group on the behaviour of the individual. (Indeed, the parent theory from which the TAM is derived, Ajzen's Theory of Planned Behaviour, does include the dimension of 'social influence' but it was discarded by Davis.) In particular, it may be that the behaviour of individuals in using collaborative information systems is significantly influenced by group behavioural norms regarding practices and processes around the creation, use and sharing of information. These can be called information behavioural norms.

Colin has found a dearth of research measuring the group influence of information behavioural norms in the effective use of collaborative information systems. This may be due in part to methodological and epistemological challenges in conducting this research, including developing operational definitions for the difficult constructs of 'information behavioural norms' and 'effective use' of information systems, as well as locating a suitable research setting. Colin conceptualizes information behavioural norms using four dimensions drawn from Marchand's theory of Information Orientation: information sharing, information transparency, information integrity, and the proactive use of information. 'Effective use' is operationalized as an amalgam of actual use statistics, subjective ratings of usefulness and organizational impact, and qualitative interviews to deepen understanding of what effective use connotes at the firm being studied.

Colin's research approach is a mixed-methods, case study of an installation of a collaborative information system at Atlantis Systems International, a medium-sized engineering firm based in Brampton, Ontario. A naturalistic approach is required for this research, because the independent variable is the behavioural norms of groups of workers. Such norms will tend to develop over time among a stable group of individuals who work together closely in a real-world setting, but will not exist among a group of strangers in the laboratory. The information system in question is

Knowledge ForumTM (2), a networked database for idea and knowledge building and learning. KF was created at the **Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, OISE/UT** (3), a member unit of the KMDI family. KF includes its Analytic Toolkit, which allows for sophisticated system usage measurement, such as discriminating the behaviours of reading vs. posting.

Colin is hopeful that his research will be useful beyond addressing the relationship between behavioural norms and information systems use, in four ways. First, a focus on 'effective use' in lieu of simpler, traditional measures such as 'actual use' may help frame future research to be more oriented toward improving industry practices. Second, he wonders if group norms will be able to be gauged as effectively as individual perceptions (embodied in the TAM), to allow for easier assessment of what practices, policies and behaviours may facilitate or impede information systems adoption. Third, he believes that his research could help clarify the oft-invoked but seldom defined construct of 'information culture' in an organization. Finally, Colin maintains that while there is broad recognition of the central role of the user as the object of design in the academy, such enlightenment seems less common in industry. Because this research will have implications for business use of collaborative systems, his findings may help narrow the gulf between ivory tower and office cubicle.

In addition to Colin's dissertation research, he has been a Teaching Assistant in several KMD Collaborative Program, FIS, and UofT courses since 2002, including Fundamental Concepts in Knowledge Media Design (now KMD: Fundamental Concepts), Introduction to Technology Applications, Research Frontiers in Knowledge Media Design (now KMD: Contexts and Practices), Human-centred Design, Introduction to Information Systems, Core Seminar in Knowledge Media Design. Colin has also been an Information and Knowledge Management Consultant since 2001 in New York and Toronto, with a focus on evaluation and design improvement of knowledge-oriented information systems. His recent clients include: Visa Canada, Borden Ladner Gervais, and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

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

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

(3) <http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/>

KMDI's PROJECT OS | OA

REPORT ON THE FEASIBILITY OF OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

In response to SSHRC's request for community input on funding for open access journals, Project OS|OA's Executive Committee member, **Leslie Chan** (UTSC, KMDI) and co-authors **Frances Groen** and **Jean-Claude Guédon**, have submitted a report (1) now published on SSHRC's website, examining feasibility and providing recommendations. SSHRC has announced that open access journals will have the opportunity to apply for one-year grants in a one-time-only competition; and, in 2008, will be eligible for support via SSHRC's Aid to Research and Transfer Journals program.

(1) http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/publications/journals_report_e.pdf

EVENT: NEW WAYS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH TECHNOLOGY

This event will start a dialogue about new ways of teaching and learning with technology, with a focus on how to expand on traditional pedagogical models. It will include presentations from UofT educators who will review their innovative uses of technology for learning and instruction. The event will be held on **Thursday March 8, 2007** from 3-5 PM, at the KITL lab on the 3rd floor of OISE (1).

(1) http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/ec/academic_computing/kitl.php

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EVENT: THE FUTURE OF THE CMS

Project OS|OA invites you to the second meeting of the UofT Open Source Content Management Systems (CMS) Community, held on **Wednesday March 21, 2007**, from 10 AM – 12 PM. See the Project OS|OA website (1) for event details.

(1) http://open.utoronto.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=46&Itemid=264

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OPEN SOURCE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH JOURNAL LAUNCHED

Earlier this month, Project OS|OA launched a new open source journal (1). The Journal of Undergraduate Life Sciences is a student led and faculty sponsored double-blind peer-reviewed journal dedicated to showcasing students' research achievements, encouraging interdisciplinary intellectual exploration, and furthering broader interest in the life sciences.

(1) http://open.utoronto.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=481&Itemid=66

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CFI TO FUND SYNERGIES

As reported in *News@UofT(1)*, the **Canada Foundation for Innovation** has granted \$11.5 M to **Synergies**, a national consortium of 21 universities that will support two major aspects of research dissemination: online access to research papers published in Canada and a digital publishing service for researchers. UofT is the Ontario leader. The intent of the project is to build a nation-wide network of scientific publishing centres which researchers can access in order to publish and disseminate their research.

Source: News@UofT, Feb. 13, 2007

(1) <http://www.news.utoronto.ca/bin6/070213-2942.asp>

EC OPEN ACCESS PETITION SURPASSES 20,000 MARK

According to a posting in the **American Scientist OA Forum** (1), “The European research and academic community has demonstrated overwhelming support for the European Commission's proposed **Open Access Self-Archiving Mandate** (2).” The **petition** (3) has drawn over 20,000 signatures from Europe and worldwide, including almost 1,000 institutional signatories from National Academies of Sciences, Universities, Rectors' conferences, Learned Societies, national and private research funding councils, and industries that apply research.

(1) <http://listserver.sigmaxi.org/sc/wa.exe?A2=ind07&L=american-scientist-open-access-forum&D=1&O=D&F=1&S=&P=20156>

(2) http://www.eua.be/fileadmin/user_upload/files/newsletter/EUA_WG_open_access.pdf

(3) <http://www.ec-petition.eu/>

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BIOMED CENTRAL AND OPEN SCIENCE ENDEAVORS

David Weinberger (BioMed Central) states that a commercial publisher of peer-reviewed scientific research that permits open (free) access to all of its content “happens to exemplify a whole bunch of trends, many of which are associated with ‘Web 2.0.’” This thought-provoking article in the **Cyber-Society-Live Archives** (1) goes on to analyze how BMC deals with the future today in practical ways. [Note: you have to log in to get the full article]

(1) <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A2=ind0702&L=CYBER-SOCIETY-LIVE&P=R5711&D=0&H=0&I=-3&O=T&T=0>

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JOB POSTING: OA|OS DEVELOPER FOR THE JOURNAL OF MEDICAL INTERNET RESEARCH

The **Eysenbach Research Group** at the **Centre for Global eHealth Innovation** (1) is seeking a web-developer (2) to be in charge of the **Journal of Medical Internet Research** (3) OJS website-related activities. Gunther Eysenbach, Editor and Publisher of JMIR, and Senior Scientist, Centre for Global eHealth Innovation, is a member of the Project OS|OA Executive Committee.

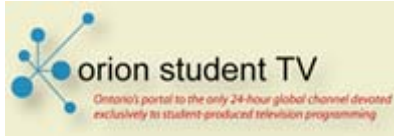
(1) <http://www.ehealthinnovation.org/ehmembers/14>

(2) http://open.utoronto.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=498&Itemid=66

(3) <http://www.jmir.org/>

OTHER NEWS

ONTARIO SCHOOLS JOIN STUDENT TV



Several Ontario colleges and universities (including UofT) have responded to the call to join the new **Open Student Television Network** and submit student television content to the new IP-based television channel (1). The channel is multicast over Internet2 and available to ORION-connected institutions in Ontario. A number of institutions have started the process to transmit the channel on campus and work with students and faculty to submit content. The first to join was Belleville's Loyalist College, last fall.

(1) <http://www.orion.on.ca/research/orionstudenttv.html>

CFI INVESTS \$25 MILLION ON THE SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES



Researchers and students in the social sciences and humanities in Canada will benefit from a \$25 million investment by the **Canada Foundation for Innovation** (1). Dr. Eliot Phillipson, President and CEO of the CFI, was joined by the Honourable Maxime Bernier, Minister of Industry, to announce the landmark investment.

Source: CFI, Feb. 8, 2007

(1) <http://www.innovation.ca/media/index.cfm?websiteid=486>

€1.2 BILLION INVESTMENT TO DRIVE EUROPEAN ICT RESEARCH

The European Commission is this year allocating EUR 1.2 billion of EU funding to new Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) research projects. This has led to the largest single call for proposals ever launched in the history of EU-funded research. On February 1st, more than 2000 ICT researchers from across Europe met in Cologne to learn how best to address the research priorities and to form project consortia in response to the EU's newly-launched call.

Source: Europe's Information Society Newsroom, Feb. 1, 2007

Entry Deadline—March 9, 2007

PRIX ARS ELECTRONICA DEADLINE APPROACHING



Since 1987, the **Prix Ars Electronica** (1) has served as an interdisciplinary platform for everyone who uses the computer as a universal medium for implementing and

designing their creative projects at the interface of art, technology and society. The Prix Ars Electronica is one of the most important awards for creativity and pioneering spirit in the field of digital media.

(1) <http://www.aec.at/en/prix/about.asp>

RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

Manuscript Submission—March 30, 2007

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE JOURNAL OF APPLIED RESEARCH ON LEARNING



The Canadian Council on Learning (1) is pleased to invite submissions for its online peer-reviewed publication, the **Journal of Applied Research on Learning**, published twice yearly. JARL is intended to

address topics that, while focused on examples of applied research on learning, offer readers relevant theoretical discussions and act as a catalyst for expanding existing knowledge in specific areas of practice and/or research on learning relevant to the Canadian context.

(1) <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/ccl>

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CANADIAN COUNCIL ON LEARNING RELEASES *STATE OF LEARNING IN CANADA* REPORT

The *State of Learning in Canada* report (1), published for the first time in 2007, examines just that—Canada's state of learning in early childhood, at school, through adulthood, in the workplace and for Aboriginal Peoples, with a special feature on literacy that touches all these areas. Each chapter introduces and defines a particular learning area, and presents data indicators on the topic. Individual indicators are then explored in terms of their importance and applied as measures of the evolving state of learning in Canada. Where possible, Canadian indicators are compared over time and to relevant data from other countries.

(1) <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/ccl/reports/stateoflearning/stateoflearning2007.htm?Language=EN>

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PODCAST ON THE CONVERGENCE OF POP CULTURE WITH POLITICAL ACTION

Steve Schultze discusses the convergence of pop culture with political action as it creates a new, networked form of participatory democracy on **MediaBerkman** (1). The discussion is a primer for the **Beyond Broadcast 2007 Conference** (2).

(1) <http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/mediaberkmann/2007/02/07/pop-culture-to-democracy/>

(2) <http://www.beyondbroadcast.net/blog/>

NEW ONLINE TRAVEL MAGAZINE OFFERS STUNNING PANORAMIC IMAGES



Arounder (1) reimagines the magazine for the 21st century. Stunning 360 degree full screen panoramic images highlight The magazine offers a complete guide to the finest finds in great cities in Europe and around the world. Issues include both the scenic highlights as well as amenities, such as hotels, spas, restaurants and nightlife. Published by VRWAY Communication (2), *Arounder* is a true revolution in publishing and takes full advantage of the potential for presentation on the World Wide Web. It presents a kind of photographic panorama only possible on the Internet and which engage readers in a whole new way.

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

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

NEW WORKING PAPER FROM OXFORD INTERNET INSTITUTE



The **Oxford Internet Institute** (1) has released a working paper that analyses and reports on discussions at the international forum held at the University of Oxford, entitled, *Internet Governance for Development: Focusing on the Issues* (2). The paper explores underlying values and policy-making dynamics in international Internet government processes, particularly in relation to the needs of developing countries. The paper stemmed from a recent OII event that aimed to clarify what is at issue for the Internet Governance Forum (3).

(1) <http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/>

(2) http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/FD8_pa1.pdf

(3) <http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/research/project.cfm?id=35&pa=1>

ECAR STUDY OF UNDERGRAD STUDENTS AND IT, 2006

A longitudinal extension of the 2004 and 2005 ECAR studies of students and information technology, this 2006 study (1) is based on quantitative data from nearly 29,000 freshman and senior students at 96 higher education institutions. It focuses on what kinds of information technologies today's students are using, with what levels of skill they are using them, how IT use contributes to the undergraduate experience, and what value the use of IT adds in terms of learning.

(1) http://www.educause.edu/content.asp?PAGE_ID=12479&bhcp=1

COOL TOOLS

WIKISEEK: A BETTER WAY TO SEARCH WIKIPEDIA



Wikiseek (1) utilizes Searchme's category refinement technology, providing suggested search refinements based on user tagging and categorization within Wikipedia, making results more relevant than conventional search engines.

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

THE NEXT GENERATION OF USB FLASH DRIVES



U3 Smart Technology has introduced the **U3 Smart Drive** (1). With this upgraded device, you can carry and access your files more efficiently. The U3 Smart Drive is password-protected, keeping your data safe and secure. It also comes with pre-loaded software, not to mention that you can select from hundreds of software titles available.

(1) <http://www.u3.com/>

GAPMINDER: UNCOVERING GLOBAL INEQUALITIES THROUGH INNOVATIVE STATISTICS



With **Gapminder** (1) you can use a Flash-based interactive method for generating any sort of graphic from the available statistics for various countries. Gapminder is a non-profit venture for development and provision of free software that visualize human development. This is done in collaboration with universities, UN organizations, public agencies and non-governmental organizations.

(1) <http://gapminder.org/index.html>

WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA

7th SOCIAL STUDY OF ICT WORKSHOP

(March 19-20, 2007, London School of Economics, London, UK)



Under the theme, "Identity in the Information Society: Security, Privacy, The Future", this workshop (1) offers an opportunity to engage with leading researchers and professionals in the identity, security and privacy area, to be informed of developments, and to

debate these contemporary issues. The workshop will be followed by the **3rd SSIT Open Research Forum** (below) on March 21-22, 2007.

- (1) <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/informationSystems/newsAndEvents/2007events/SSIT7.htm>

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3rd SSIT OPEN RESEARCH FORUM

(March 21-22, 2007, London School of Economics, London, UK)

The **Open Research Forum** (1) is an opportunity for IS researchers to present their work and discuss a broad range of themes relating to the SSIT in an informal, constructive setting. Primarily, the Forum provides an ideal opportunity for PhD and junior IS researchers to present their work and raise questions on issues of their concern—substantive, theoretical, methodological or practical. It is also a useful experience for other researchers wishing to understand what SSIT is like, though their research approach may be different—e.g. from an engineering or business perspective.

- (1) <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/informationSystems/newsAndEvents/2007events/ORF3.htm>

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ENABLING GRIDS FOR E-SCIENCE USER FORUM

(May 9-11, 2007, Manchester, UK)



The **EGEE (Enabling Grids for E-science)** (1) project provides the world's largest production grid infrastructure for applications. The EGEE infrastructure is the home for an increasing number of diverse user communities for whom it provides both infrastructure services and a range of user support services. The

EGEE User Forum (2) provides an important opportunity for innovative applications to establish contacts with EGEE and with other user communities, to plan for the future usage of the EGEE grid infrastructure, to learn about the latest technological advances, and to discuss the future evolution in the grid middleware.

- (1) <http://www.eu-egee.org/>
 (2) <http://egee-intranet.web.cern.ch/egee-intranet/User-Forum/index.html>

CONFERENCES

THE FUTURE OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES: TOWARD A CRITICAL REMAPPING OF THE FIELD (March 15-16, 2007, Ottawa)

The 2007 Annual Conference of the Communication Graduate Caucus of Carleton University (1) will be on the theme of *The Future of Communication Studies: Toward a Critical Remapping of the Field*. The aim of the conference is to critically examine the foundations of the field by reevaluating key texts, exploring new perspectives and approaches to the study of communication as well as alternative sources of communication theory.

- (1) <http://www.cgcannualconference.ca>

GENERAL ONLINE RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2007
(March 26-28, 2007, University of Leipzig, Leipzig, Germany)

GOR 2007 (1) will feature presentations, roundtable discussion, posters, and exhibitions about the Internet as a research tool; the Internet measured; and the Internet in its context. GOR is the only international symposium worldwide bringing together practitioners and researchers in the field of internet research.

(1) http://www.gor.de/gor07/index_en.php

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ONTARIO CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE DISCOVERY '07 CONFERENCE
(May 1, 2007, Toronto, Ontario)



Discovery 2007: TO NEXT (1) is the second annual conference of **Ontario Centres of Excellence**. Celebrating 20 years of innovation, OCE is a leading driver and key partner in the research to commercialization process. The conference will bring together leading scientists, investors, students, business and government representatives – all in one place, to explore what's new, what's needed, and ways to work together.

(1) <http://www.ocediscovery.com/default.aspx>

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1st CANADIAN MUNICIPAL WIRELESS APPLICATIONS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION
(May 28-30, 2007, Toronto, Ontario)



ITAC's 1st Canadian Municipal Wireless Applications Conference and Exhibition (1) will not only update you on the latest initiatives of Canadian Municipalities, but will provide you with real case study insights, proven strategies, commentary from leading wireless experts and techniques for deploying wireless applications in your communities.

(1) <http://www.itac.ca/Events/2007/municipalwireless/>

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Proposal Deadline—March 15, 2007

7th SAKAI CONFERENCE
(June 12-14, 2007, Amsterdam, The Netherlands)



Some of the conference tracks that will be featured at the **7th Sakai Conference** (1) include: community, implementation, pedagogy, technology, and tool carousel. **Sakai** is an online Collaboration and Learning Environment. Many

users of Sakai deploy it to support teaching and learning, ad hoc group collaboration, support for portfolios and research collaboration. Sakai is a free and open source product that is built and maintained by the Sakai community. KMDI is an institutional member.

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

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Deadline for abstract - March 1, 2007

Deadline for papers - June 1, 2007

THE DX NATIONAL DESIGN CONFERENCE - OURTOPIAS: IDEAL CITIES AND THE ROLES OF DESIGN IN REMAKING URBAN SPACE (June 14-16, Toronto)



DESIGN EXCHANGE
PROMOTING CANADIAN DESIGN

This interdisciplinary conference (1), the second presented by the Design Exchange, Canada's National Design Centre, seeks to explore the varied and future states of cities. Papers are invited that address such related and relevant topics as green space in cities, infrastructure, technology, environmentalism, and sustainability, Brownfield rehabilitation, exurban growth, public transportation, universal design, street furnishings, climate change and disaster preparedness. Several themes may be of interest to KMDI'ers: mass media, technology, infrastructure and policy and social responsibility.

(1) <http://www.dx.org/conference/>

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Proposal Submission—March 7, 2007

**JA-SIG SUMMER CONFERENCE
(June 24-27, 2007, Denver, Colorado)**

The **Java Architecture Special Interest Group** (1) invites anyone in higher education interested in community source, design and development, enterprise services, identity management, SOA, Java and much more, to participate in its summer conference. The conference has been expanded, adding an additional day to allow more time for networking and additional presentations in the morning followed by optional afternoon post-conference in-depth seminars.

(1) <http://www.ja-sig.org/conferences/07summer/index.html>

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Abstract Submission—March 12, 2007

**MIXED METHODS 2007
(July 8-11, 2007, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, UK)**

MIXED METHODS
CONFERENCE 2007

The 3rd annual **Mixed Methods Conference** (1) will bring together researchers utilizing mixed and multi methods in creative ways, particularly those working within the social

sciences, health and education. Mixed Methods refers to work that utilises the combination of quantitative and qualitative methods or critically reviews the development of issues that surround this approach. This is distinct from multi method work which draws on methodologies that cross the art/science divide or may include combined qualitative methods.

- (1) <http://www.health-homerton.ac.uk/research/events/MixedMethods2007/MixedMethods07Home.html>

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5th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMPUTING, COMMUNICATIONS AND CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES
(July 12-15, 2007, Orlando, Florida)



CCCT 2007 (1) will bring together researchers, developers, practitioners, consultants and users of Computer, Communications and Control Technologies, with the aim to serve as a forum to present current and future work, solutions and problems in these fields, as well as in the relationships among them. Consequently, efforts will be done in order to promote and to foster the analogical thinking required by the Systems Approach for interdisciplinary cross-fertilization, “epistemic things” generation and “technical objects” production.

- (1) <http://www.info-cyber.org/citsa2007/website/default.asp?vc=3>

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Paper Submission—March 31, 2007

PURE DATA CONVENTION '07
(August 21-26, 2007, Montreal, Quebec)



The PureData Convention '07 (1) will bring together artists, developers and theoreticians who develop, use and reflect on PureData. It will acknowledge the broad range of artistic disciplines that make use of the software and will address questions of openness and accessibility. It will provide a theoretical context for the understanding of media art practices that engage in the aesthetics and politics of Free Open Source Software Culture.

- (1) <http://convention.puredata.org/>

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Abstract Submission—March 31, 2007

Student Paper Contest and Nominations—May 1, 2007

35th RESEARCH CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION AND INTERNET POLICY
(September 28-30, 2007, George Mason University School of Law, Arlington, Virginia)

This conference (1) hosted by TPRC, is forum for scholars engaged in publishable research on policy-relevant telecommunications and information issues, and for public- and private-sector decision makers engaged in telecommunications and information policy. The purpose of the conference is to acquaint policy makers with the best of recent research and to familiarize researchers with the knowledge needs of policy makers.

(1) <http://www.tprc.org/TPRC07/2007.htm>

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Submission Deadline—April 26, 2007

E-LEARN 2007
(October 15-19, Quebec City, Quebec)



E-Learn 2007 – World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, & Higher Education (1) is an international conference serves as a multi-disciplinary forum for the exchange of information on research, development, and applications of all topics related to e-Learning in the Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education sectors.

(1) <http://www.aace.org/conf/elearn/default.htm>

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Technical Abstracts—April 16, 2007
Workshop Proposals—July 6, 2007

CASCON 2007
(October 22-25, 2007, Toronto, Ontario)



CASCON 2007 (1) is the 17th annual international conference hosted by the IBM Centers for Advanced Studies. This “Meeting of Minds” provides an exciting forum for exchanging ideas and experiences in the ever-expanding and critical fields of software development and computing. The CASCON 2007 program will include keynote presentations, technical papers, workshops, and a technology showcase.

(1) <https://www-927.ibm.com/ibm/cas/cascon/index.shtml>

Abstract Submission—April 1, 2007

**4th PRATO INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY INFORMATICS CONFERENCE
(November 4-5, 2007, Monash Centre, Prato, Italy)**

Through the theme *Communities and Action*, the **Prato CIRN 2007 Conference** (1) will investigate how information and communication technologies are used by communities for action, change, and community development, both in developed and developing countries. At the forthcoming event, we will accept that the concepts of action and community are variable, and that the forms of action which have emerged over the past decade should be judged in terms of what they achieve for community and social good. Through learning about multiple forms of action and how action is understood, we should improve our grasp of the complexities of social-technical relations.

(1) www.ccnr.net/prato2007

ABOUT THE KMDiary

The KMDiary Volume 8, Issue #2 (February 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 March 10, 2007. 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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