

KMDiary Volume 9: Issue #12—December 2008

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



We are very pleased that our landmark lecture series, KMDIat13, begins on Thursday, Jan. 15th (see below for details). We shall over the year feature and celebrate the many achievements of University of Toronto scholars and researchers active in knowledge media design.

Sadly, our friend and colleague Liss Jeffrey passed away on Dec. 16, 2008. Liss was an active member of KMDI and we will miss her ideas, passion, energy, and optimism. Dr. Gale Moore knew Liss well and writes about her active participation in our community. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

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<http://mail.kmdi.utoronto.ca/mailman/listinfo/kmdiary>

REMEMBERING DR. LISS JEFFREY

IN MEMORY OF DR. LISS JEFFREY 1951 – 2008 (Obituary in the Toronto Star and the Globe and Mail)



Peacefully at home, a fighter to the end, on Tuesday December 16, 2008. Never to be forgotten by her loving partner and husband Fraser McAninch. Sister of Jennifer Jeffrey Deacon (Campbell) and Stephen Jeffrey (Robin Robarts). Sister-in-law to Carolynn (Andre LeBlanc) and Patricia (William Lee), and Godmother to Jeremy Large. Brilliant daughter of Paul and Jane Jeffrey.

Mary Elisabeth Goforth was born in Nakuru, Kenya where she danced with the Zulus. Educated at Bishop Strachan School, Forest Hill Collegiate, Harvard U. (graduated A.B., summa cum laude), York U. (M.A.) and McGill U. (Ph.D).

Investigative journalist (CITY-TV), teacher, author, international orator, McLuhan scholar, new media critic, fabulous friend, Honey Harbour nature lover, public intellectual and fierce seeker of the truth.

The family expresses their sincere thanks to Joan Schafer, Anne Howard, Celia Chassels, and to Dr. Lorraine Wood and Nurse Deirdre.

A service celebrating Liss' life [was] held at the CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, 65 Church Street, Toronto (at King St. East) on Friday, December 19 at 2 p.m.

Flowers gratefully declined. If desired, donations may be made to "Light for the Cathedral Campaign" to renew St. James Cathedral or to the Dr. Liss Jeffrey Scholarship for Media Studies (c/o Morley Bedford Funeral Home).

Please visit <http://www.ecommons.net/dr.lissjeffrey/> (pending) to read personal recollections. Personal recollections to be added to the website memorial can be sent to Fraser McAninch: frasser@gmail.com.

Favourite saying: "Now here's my plan..."

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Liss Jeffrey's academic biographies can be found on the KMDI and McLuhan websites
<http://www.kmdi.utoronto.ca/people/bios/lissjeffrey.aspx>
<http://www.mcluhan.utoronto.ca/lissjeffrey.htm>

Words from Dr. Gale Moore, Senior Fellow, KMDI, Director, KMDI 2003-2008
Sunday, Dec. 21, 2008

Liss was an original; a force of nature. As we sat in the cathedral last Friday and drew comfort from the community of her family and friends, a winter storm raged outside – snow blowing and swirling. Liss. By evening, the wind had stopped; the sky was clear and the city quiet, white, and peaceful. Remembering Liss.

I first met Liss, as many did, at a conference. It was 1994 or '95 and I no longer remember the event, but I do remember clearly Liss coming over at the end of the day and *insisting* that I join a small group working to assure that the public interest was being taken into account by the recently established federal Information Highway Advisory Committee. This group of eight or nine members included UofT faculty members [Kelly Gottlieb](#) and [Andrew Clement](#), [Liz Hoffman](#), then UofT Ombudsperson, and community technology activist [Mark Surman](#). We met regularly for years and can modestly claim to have made a difference. In various ways, each of us continued this work. In 1997, Liss launched *Canada by Design: Building a Canadian Knowledge Nation Using New Media and Policy*. Located in the McLuhan Programme which she so ardently supported, one part of this project was a seminar on New Media and Policy which Liss co-taught with Andrew Clement in the Faculty of Information Studies. To accompany the course she proposed a 12-part visionary speaker series. KMDI: the University of Toronto's Knowledge Media Design Institute agreed to be one of the sponsors and I met with Liss to discuss *the plan*. In the first meeting Liss announced her intention to bring in two federal cabinet ministers. Knowing better than to contradict, I suggested that perhaps this was a tad ambitious as the series was beginning within weeks! No, she assured me, they would come – and come they did -- the Minister of Canadian Heritage, Sheila Copps, and the Minister of Industry, John Manley both gave talks along with other prominent figures from the media and corporate world. For those unable to attend in person, Liss had organized a 'netcast' so they could participate online – new media for new forms of citizen participation. The year -- 1998.

Liss went on to complete her doctorate, writing a thesis on Marshall McLuhan while at the same time launching new projects, speaking at conferences and appearing regularly in the media and before the CRTC; critically commenting on what she understood to be crucial and defining issues of our times. New media and policy. Civil society. Citizen engagement. Always in a hurry, her passion and commitment drew many remarkable young people to her projects and they worked tirelessly on her behalf.

And there was another Liss, the woman I would come to know at Honey Harbour – her haven in the north – where she gathered so many of us on numerous occasions to share this place she loved. There was always debate, even formal meetings - but something more was being shared. Liss was a giver and what mattered most were ideas. Not only ideas, but ideas combined with action - visionary pragmatism she proclaimed was her philosophy. And while the journey was not always smooth, she gave far more than she ever got back – and it was never about her. Through it all, she never wavered in her belief that is it possible to change the world.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK



The year ahead is already shaping up to be an exciting one for us here at KMDI with our KMDI at 13 Speakers Series, various student activities, and the prospect of a new home.

As a community we think about and frequently discuss how knowledge media are shaping, and are shaped by our interaction with them. There is an incredible wealth of experience and expertise within the community around this topic and I encourage all our readers to join us before and after each speaking event for some lively discussion and a chance to meet each other.

To get that discussion started I want to point to a couple of things that I came across over the holidays that clearly highlight the importance of what we are doing:

The MacArthur foundation recently released a study on youth and digital media entitled "Living and Learning with New Media" (1). Perhaps the most important finding of the report is that it confirms that teens and youth acquire essential social and technical skills when they interact in a complex digital ecology - which are key to their ability to successfully participate in modern society.

Later this week the International Consumer Electronics Show (2) in Las Vegas will launch numerous new products into the marketplace. This is where the hot products of 2009 will be announced. This year content companies will have a more prominent presence at the show which has traditionally been a hardware exposition (3). This is a telling sign of the continual convergence of devices and content.

Digital media and interaction design have never been more important than they are now. The implications of digital media on society, and the rapid evolution and convergence of content and devices, means our discussions are more relevant than ever.

I look forward to what promises to be a year of exciting ideas and stimulating conversation. See you on January 15th!

Adriana

- (1) <http://digitalyouth.ischool.berkeley.edu/report>
- (2) www.cesweb.org
- (3) <http://venturebeat.com/2008/12/29/ces-preview-what-to-expect-at-the-big-not-so-gloomy-tech-trade-show/>

KMDI AT 13: LECTURE SERIES



KMDI PRESENTS LECTURE SERIES ON DIGITAL MEDIA RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

(Next Lecture: Thursday, January 15)

For 13 Years, KMDI faculty and students have advanced the frontiers of digital media, creating, interpreting, and studying novel digital media while always asking the fundamental question, "How does this improve society?" These talks celebrate the innovation and thoughtfulness of our knowledge media designers and researchers in exploring answers to this question.

Details for the first event, "Enabling Enhanced Communication and Commerce" presented by Barry Wellman and Mark Fox, are given below. A complete listing of the series can be found posted in U of T hallways and online (http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/events/KMDI_at_13_KMDI_2009_Lecture_Series.pdf).

ENABLING ENHANCED COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMERCE

(January 15, 2009, 4:10 p.m., Bahen Centre for IT, Room 1130, UofT, 40 St. George Street, Toronto)

Please RSVP at <http://kmdiat13january15.eventbrite.com> or see below for webcast details.

Netting Together: Social networks meet computer networks

Barry Wellman, Sociology

Abstract:

Evidence from the Connected Lives studies of East York and Chapleau show how the Internet and mobile phones are transforming relationships. In contrast to the group-centred world of yore, spouses, friends, relatives and coworkers connect together in loosely-bounded, sparsely-knit social networks in which offline and online connectivity are intertwined.



Sociologist Barry Wellman directs NetLab at the University of Toronto, a team studying the intersection of online and offline networks – social, communication and computer – in communities and at work. Wellman learned to keypunch as a Harvard graduate student in 1964, and he hasn't stopped playing with computers since. He's written more than 200 papers with more than 80 co-authors, and he's the (co-)editor of *Social Structures: A Network Approach* (1988); *Networks in the Global Village* (1999), and *The Internet in Everyday Life* (2002). Wellman is the S.D. Clark Professor of Sociology and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He founded the

International Network for Social Network Analysis 1976, and he has won lifetime achievement awards for the study of community, the internet and society.

Spending Together: Commerce in a Socially Networked World

Mark Fox, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering

Abstract:

Without a doubt, the web has changed how we conduct commerce. Within the span of a decade, US consumer online retail sales have grown from millions to over \$200 billion. Have we experienced a retailing revolution or just the technical evolution of catalog retailing introduced by Richard Sears in 1887? Some believe the advent of social networking will revolutionize our paradigm of retailing. This presentation will explore how social networking is transforming retailing today and the possibilities for the future. Is it a revolution? We'll let your avatar decide.



Mark Fox splits his time between being a Professor of Industrial Engineering at the University of Toronto where his research has focused on Ontologies for Enterprise Modelling and Constraint-Directed Reasoning in Manufacturing & Logistics, and being the CEO of Novator Systems a provider of online retailing software and solutions since 1994.

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Each talk will be webcast live and an archive will be available. To view the webcast, please follow these instructions:

Requirements: All you need to participate is a fast internet connection (1mb/sec), a screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher and Flash Player v.9+

1. If you haven't registered an ePresence account, go to <http://epresence.tv/mediaContent/> and click "Join" at the top-right of the interface. Fill in the form and submit.
2. On the day of the event navigate to <http://epresence.tv/mediaContent/> and look for your event in the Live Event schedule.
3. Click on the event link. You will be asked to login with your username and password. If the event hasn't started yet you will be placed in a waiting room. When the webcast begins a "Join Event" button will be available. Click it to enter the webcast.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

USING WEB-BASED TOOLS IN RECRUITING RETENTION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

(January 20, 2009, 3:30-5:00 p.m., NATCON 2009 Workshop, Toronto, Canada)

Presenter: Kelly Juhasz, President of the **JUHASZ Development Group**, active member of the **Knowledge Media Design Institute** at University of Toronto and the **eLearning Special Segment Group of Interactive Ontario**.

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Finding talented and qualified staff is always a difficult process. As many industries are laying people off, others are desperately looking. Using technological tools that the Internet and Intranets provide can take your company a long way in targeted recruiting and retention efforts. Training and HR departments can use these capabilities to attract new employees, motivate and develop current employees and encourage knowledge transfer across the organization. In this interactive workshop, you will be introduced to media-based tools used for recruiting and retention and look at strategies that other companies are using that could work for you. You will learn how the creation of shared information sites (portals) and in-house training programs can tie into initiatives for recruiting new employees and holding on to productive employees. You will also see some of the strategies being used on social networking sites such as YouTube and LinkedIn. Join us in this workshop and come prepared to share some of your current issues around recruitment and retention and together we'll determine which tools may benefit your company. This workshop is part of **NATCON 2009: National Consultation on Career Development and Workforce Learning Event** (1), January 19-21, 2009.

(1) <http://www.natcon.org/default/About.aspx>

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NEW COURSES IN THE FACULTY OF INFORMATION



The Faculty of Information (1) will be offering two courses in inclusive design of information and communication systems in the coming winter term. This should be of interest to any student interested in diversity, equity studies, disability studies or inclusive design. Students from outside FI are welcome. The two new courses are:

FIS2187H: Introduction to Inclusive Design – A course designed to provide an introduction to and critical analysis of the inclusive design of information and communication technologies and practices.

FIS2196H Laboratory in Inclusive Design – A course that will provide students with the opportunity to gain practical experience on a real applied research project in information systems design and specifically inclusive design, working alongside professionals in the field. The course is a lab course: Students will gain hands-on experience with information systems design methodologies and tools, and will work to balance and overcome practical issues that arise from the myriad constraints (including material, physical, social, political, economic, etc.) that converge within a real project.

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

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Registration Deadline—January 9, 2009

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INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES IN PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH (January 21-April 9, 2009, offered online by the University of Victoria's Certificate in Adult Education Program)



This is a Canada-based online distance education course (1), which is open to educators, community development/health/agriculture practitioners, scholars, artists, and activists from around the world. Developed in collaboration with the India-based Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), this course is an introduction to the practice and theory of community-based participatory research.

The emphasis is on the applicability of participatory research in adult learning, community action, and community transformation. Examples are drawn from global case studies and from students' personal experiences. Issues around control over research process, partnership, degrees of participation, insider/outsider power dynamics, and guidelines for practice are explored, along with artistic ways of creating and representing knowledge in a community-based context. Assignments lead participants to develop a plan for action-oriented participatory research in their communities. Learners work through the material and interact with the online classroom on a weekly basis, according to their own schedules.

(1) <http://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/cace/course-text.aspx?courseCode=edca510>

THE VIRTUAL WATER COOLER: AROUND THE COMMUNITY

KDMI End of Year Bash!



Our annual "End of Year Bash!" was on December 18. There were some familiar faces and a few new ones too. A special thanks to Aadila for all her hard work in putting the event together and for Kelly's special touch the day of the party with final preparation details. Faculty, students, alumni and our industry members all attended the event. It was a fantastic opportunity for KMDI members to come together, relax, and

get to know each other. As always - the conversation was fascinating and there was no lack of wonderful and interesting people.



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In October 2008, **Reza Savami** (PhD Candidate, MIE, KMDI) attended the **27th International Conference on Conceptual Modeling** (1) in Barcelona, Spain. His paper, *Designing Privacy-Aware Personal Health Record Systems* (2) was published in **Lecture Notes in Computer Science**, a compilation of papers following the 2nd International Workshop on Conceptual Modelling for Life Sciences (3), which coincided with the conference.

- (1) <http://www.upc.edu/ER2008>
- (2) <http://www.springerlink.com/content/y41658n2428t726u/>
- (3) <http://cmlsa2008.mucoms.org/>



Recently, **Professor Ron Baecker** (CS, KMDI) gave the keynote address at the **Tenth International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility**, held in Halifax in October 2008 (1). His talk was entitled "Designing Technology to Aid Cognition." The ASSETS series of conferences is aimed at providing a technical forum for presenting and disseminating innovative research results that address the use of computing and information technologies to help persons with disabilities.

- (1) <http://www.sigaccess.org/assets08/>



Clare Brett (OISE, KMDI) encourages you to attend the **TIC-STH** (1) conference - an international forum for state-of-the-art research across a broad spectrum of the IEEE science and technology fields of interest. Clare is part of the Technical Program Committee as the Symposium Chair for the Social Implications of Technology section of the conference.

- (1) <http://toronto.ieee.ca/tic-sth2009/>

OTHER NEWS

PATCH ISSUED FOR MICROSOFT INTERNET EXPLORER



Microsoft has issued an **off-cycle patch (MS08-078)** (1) to address a **vulnerability in Internet Explorer**, where malicious website links are allowing an attacker to run arbitrary commands as the user who is running the web browser. The patch should be applied everywhere as soon as possible. For more information, go to Microsoft's

website (2). In general, however, it remains recommended that one's default web browser be something other than Internet Explorer, with Internet Explorer used only for specific sites that require it.

- (1) <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/ms08-078.msp>
- (2) <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/advisory/961051.msp>

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NATIONAL STRATEGY PUTS INFORMATION ACCESS ON THE AGENDA FOR PEOPLE WITH PRINT DISABILITIES

On December 3, 2008, representatives from the library community and the publishing sector came together with consumers and consumer groups in a unique forum to discuss the progress of the **Initiative for Equitable Library Access (IELA)** in addressing the present state of access to information and the future needs of people with print disabilities. The event was organized by Library and Archives Canada on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Strong interest from consumer groups and library communities led to the announcement in October 2007 of \$3 million in funding from the Government of Canada to Library and Archives Canada towards the Initiative for Equitable Library Access. With input from Canadian libraries, people with print disabilities, publishers and producers of alternate formats, the Initiative is developing a national strategy to assist Canadians with print disabilities to access library collections. For more information on the Initiative for Equitable Library Access, please visit the following website (1).

Source: MarketWatch, Dec. 2/08

- (1) www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/iela/

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“WHY COPYRIGHT?” DOCUMENTARY



In June 2008 the Canadian government introduced new copyright legislation, a version of the US Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) called Bill C-61 (1). Opposition to this bill has been widespread, showcased by a recent film produced by **Michael Geist** and **Daniel Albahary** (2). This online documentary interviews Canadians from many sectors to find out why so many are passionate about copyright law and intellectual property rights. Geist and Albahary ask the simple question “Why Copyright?”

Source: TechDirt, Dec. 4/08

- (1) [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_C-61_\(39th_Canadian_Parliament,_2nd_Session\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_C-61_(39th_Canadian_Parliament,_2nd_Session))
- (2) <http://blip.tv/file/1513205/>

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CANADA SOURCE OF OVER 9 BILLION SPAM MESSAGES A DAY: STUDY

Canadian computers — many of them unwittingly — send out over nine billion spam e-mails a day, almost five per cent of all global spam traffic, according to a report from network and internet security firm Cisco. In an annual security report released Monday, Cisco estimated almost 200 billion messages per day, or 90 per cent of all e-mails sent worldwide — can be defined as spam, double the volume of the previous year. For more information, go to the CBC News website (1).

Source: CBC News, Dec. 16/08

(1) <http://www.cbc.ca/technology/story/2008/12/16/canada-spam.html>

SUN, CONSORTIUM TO DRIVE TECH ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT



Sun Microsystems is working with the European Commission-funded open **Accessibility Everywhere: Groundwork, Infrastructure, Standards (AEGIS) Project** to improve disabled users' access to mobile devices, computers, and rich Internet applications (1). AEGIS involves about 20 companies from Europe and Canada, as well as the **Adaptive Technology Resource Center** at the **University of Toronto**, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, the University of Cambridge, the European Platform for Rehabilitation, and the Vodafone Spain Foundation. For desktop computers, AEGIS will focus on an open source framework for future magnification-based assistive technologies, says Sun's Peter Korn. "Fundamentally, we are looking to take advantage of advances in video hardware. What a cheap video card can do these days is really impressive." To read the full article, go to PCWorld online (2).

Source: PCWorld, Dec. 18/08

(1) <http://www.aegis-project.eu/>

(2) http://www.pcworld.com/article/155744/sun_consortium_to_drive_tech_accessibility_project.html

RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

NEW BLOG FROM THE AACE



The **Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE)** has announced a blog (1). Founded in 1981, the AACE is an international, not-for-profit, educational organization with the mission of advancing Information Technology in Education and E-Learning research, development, learning, and its practical application. The blog will contain:

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- IT in Education and E-Learning from guest postings authored by outstanding leaders in the field.
- AACE Conference announcements and Calls for Presentations for the ED-MEDIA, E-Learn, and SITE International Conferences
- AACE Journals: Calls for Papers and special journal publications.
- AACE Career Center: Connecting IT in Education/E-Learning Professionals and Employers
- AACE Bookshelf: Designed to help you find the best books recommended by topic from community members.
- EdITLib-Education and Information Technology Digital Library: most popular articles and new feature
- The AACE Journal: International Forum on Information Technology and Education selected articles.
- Awards announcements: Outstanding conference papers, service and achievements, and fellowship awards.

(1) <http://blogs.aace.org/aace>

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Submission Deadline—January 15, 2009

CALL FOR CHAPTERS: CITIZENS AND E-GOVERNMENT: EVALUATING POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Citizens and E-Government (1) will examine the impact of electronic government or e-government on citizens. This edited book focuses on e-government as digital means for citizens to initiate contact with government, the impact of e-government on citizens, and the effectiveness of citizen contacts through e-government. The chapters in the book will cover both the management aspects of citizens' contact and its impact on public policy. This book considers developed and developing countries throughout the world that have, or are in the process of initiating, e-government to enhance citizen access.

(1) <http://www.igi-global.com/requests/details.asp?ID=559>

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Chapter Proposal Submissions—February 5, 2009

CALL FOR CHAPTER PROPOSALS: COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE IN SERVICES SCIENCES




Studies which address computational intelligence techniques, socio-technical or organisational aspects of services are cordially invited and particularly those that are ICT-enabled. All aspects of novel intelligent services are of

interest including e-commerce, e-services, value co-production, service quality, customer satisfaction or service delivery. Survey articles that emphasize the research and application of computational intelligence in any of these domains are greatly welcome. The primary target audience for the book includes researchers, scholars and developers who are interested in computational intelligence and services sciences with particular emphasis on e-commerce and e-service models, tools and techniques. The book may include several volumes and will be organized in self-contained chapters to provide greatest reading flexibility.

(1) <http://icdim.insa-lyon.fr/ciss.htm>

COOL TOOLS

ZIGTAG


 **ZigTag** (1), a social bookmarking tool that has been in the works for years, has finally launched to the public. Competing with services like **Delicious** and **Ma.gnolia**, ZigTag categorizes bookmarks through the use of tags and allows users to share those bookmarks with friends. To set itself apart, ZigTag claims its service is “intelligent” and uses semantic technology to understand the meaning of tags. In essence, ZigTag tags have stated definitions, which the company uses to categorize bookmarks more effectively. ZigTag is available upon registration.

Source: Webware, Dec. 29/08

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

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SCRIBD

 **Scribd** (1) began with a simple observation – that there's a writer in all of us. And that even more fundamental than our desire for self-expression is our need to learn and be inspired. Today, Scribd is the place where you publish, discover and discuss original writings and documents. More than 50 million people each month are finding or sharing fun, functional or fantastical writings and documents on Scribd.com and tens of thousands of other websites that have embedded Scribd's document reader. With Scribd's iPaper document reader, anyone can easily upload and immediately share their original works on Scribd.com or any other website. iPaper transforms PDF, Word, PowerPoint and many other file formats into an elegant web display. Your work can be shared with Scribd's community of passionate readers, and because every word of your document is indexed for search engine optimization, your screenplay, novel or even sheet music and recipes also can be discovered by the world.

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

WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA

3rd INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON SECURE SOFTWARE ENGINEERING (March 16-19, 2009, Fukuoka, Japan)



In our modern society, software is an integral part of everyday life, and we expect and depend upon software systems to perform correctly. Software security is about ensuring that systems continue to function correctly also under malicious attack. As most systems now are web-enabled, the number of attackers with access to the system increases dramatically and thus the threat scenario changes. The traditional approach to secure a system includes putting up defence mechanisms like IDS and firewalls, but such measures are no longer sufficient by themselves. We need to be able to build better, more robust and more secure systems. Even more importantly, however, we should strive to achieve these qualities in all software systems, not just the ones that need special protection. This workshop (1) will focus on techniques, experiences and lessons learned for engineering secure and dependable software.

(1) <http://www.sintef.no/Home/Information-and-Communication-Technology-ICT/Software-Engineering-Safety-and-Security/Projects/SecSE-2009/>

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2009 INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND INDEPENDENT LIVING (July 7-10, 2009, Brisbane, Australia)

The **ICT for Independent Living Workshop** (1) will present the latest research initiatives in people-centred technologies for empowered ageing and aged-care. Areas of interest include smart homes; assistive technologies for the frail aged, those with chronic illness and people with disabilities; and ICT systems for better serving residents in aged care facilities. The area of "Independent Living and Inclusion" is one of seven ICT Challenges identified by the European Union's framework-seven research program, and is an area of active research interest throughout the developing world. It is a direct and compelling application of ubiquitous computing technologies to improve community well-being. An important aim of this workshop is to provide a forum where researchers and practitioners from health and allied health fields and from ICT fields can meet together.

(1) <http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/~uic09/WATIL09/>

CONFERENCES

Proposal Submissions—January 9, 2009

5th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGY, KNOWLEDGE AND SOCIETY

(January 30-February 1, 2009, Huntsville, Alabama, USA)



TECHNOLOGY
CONFERENCE

This conference (1) will address a range of critically important themes in the various fields that address the complex and subtle relationships between technology, knowledge and society. Plenary speakers include some of the leading thinkers in these areas, as well as numerous paper, colloquium and workshop presentations.

Associated with the International Journal of Technology, Knowledge and Society, this conference addresses multiple themes in the application of technology. The Conference and the Journal are guided by the ideals of an open society, where technology is used to address human needs and serve community interests. These concerns are grounded in the values of creativity, innovation, access, equity and personal and community autonomy.

(1) <http://t09.cg-conference.com/>

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2009 ICT SUMMIT

(February 19-22, 2009, Vancouver, Canada)

This is your invitation to participate in Canada's largest ICT Summit for all communities! The Summit attracts over 400 people from British Columbia, across Canada and across the Americas. Every year, we come together to better understand how ICT is changing our lives. The value of the Summit is immeasurable. Delegates and presenters are able to share unique experiences, which can serve to provide road-maps for others and participants can walk away with tools and resources that can directly benefit their own communities. It's a proven fact that we learn best when we learn from our friends. Those of you who have attended past conferences know how friendly this event is and that we've built a community of people who are dynamic, hard-working and fun to be with!

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

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CYBERCULTURES: EXPLORING CRITICAL ISSUES

(March 13-15, 2009, Salzburg, Austria)



This inter- and multi-disciplinary conference (1) aims to examine, explore and critically engage with the issues and implications created by the growing adoption of information technologies for inter-human

communication and focus on examination of the continuing impact of emergent cybermedia for human communication and culture. In particular the conference will encourage equally theoretical and practical debates which surround the cultural contexts within which cybermedial and technological advances are occurring.

(1) <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ci/Cyber/cybercultures/c4/cfp.htm>

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1st GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL MEMORIES
(March 17-19, 2009, Salzburg, Austria)

Digital Memories

This inter- and multi-disciplinary conference (1) aims to examine, explore and critically engage with the issues and implications created by massive exploitation of digital technologies for inter-human communication and examine how online users form, archive and de-/code their memories in cybermedia environment. In particular the conference will encourage equally theoretical and practical debates which surround the cultural contexts of memory co-/production, re-/mediation, dissemination, personal/mass interpretation and preservation.

(1) <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ci/Cyber/digmem/dm1/cfp.html>

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTER
(April 17-20, 2009, Singapore)



The main objective of **ICETC 2009** (1) is to provide a platform for researchers, engineers, academicians as well as industrial professionals from all over the world to present their research results and development activities in Education and Computer Technology. This conference provides opportunities for the delegates to exchange new ideas and application experiences face to face, to establish business or research relations and to find global partners for future collaboration.

(1) <http://www.icetc.org/index.htm>

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4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMMUNITIES AND TECHNOLOGIES
(June 25-27, 2009, Penn State University, USA)



In an increasingly networked world, the concept of community has taken on new meanings and inspired the development of a wide range of technologies aimed at forging connections, improving communication, and enabling coordination among groups of people. Today, such terms as virtual community, blogging, podcasting, and smart mobs have become commonplace, yet each represents a complex system of hardware, software, and people, shaped by

perceptions, norms, rules, and habits, and occurring within varied social and cultural settings. The **Communities and Technologies biennial international conference** (1) serves as a forum for stimulating and disseminating research on the complex connections between communities - both physical and virtual - and information and communication technologies.

(1) <http://cct2009.ist.psu.edu/index.cfm>

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Call for Papers—January 31, 2009

16th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY FOR PHILOSOPHY AND TECHNOLOGY
(July 8-10, University of Twente, The Netherlands)



The SPT series is recognized as the leading international conferences series at the intersection of philosophy and technology. The theme of **SPT 2009** (1) is *Converging Technologies, Changing Societies*, and focuses on the increasing convergence of information technology, biotechnology, nanotechnology, and cognitive technologies (also called NBIC technologies), and the implications this convergence has for society. Increasingly, there is convergence between the four mentioned technologies, meaning that there are overlapping applications and synergies between them. Think for example of brain-computer interfaces, lab-on-a-chip technology, developments in regenerative medicine in which nano- and biotechnology converge, human enhancement and cyborg technologies, and ambient intelligence. In this SPT conference, we are interested to explore the philosophical, social and ethical aspects of different kinds of convergences of these technologies.

(1) <http://www.utwente.nl/ceptes/spt2009/>

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3rd INTERNATIONAL MULTI-CONFERENCE ON SOCIETY, CYBERNETICS AND INFORMATICS
(July 10-13, 2009, Orlando, Florida, USA)

The **Multi-Conference on Society, Cybernetics and Informatics** (1) considers the co-adaptation of information and cybernetics, education, socio-economic, and socio-political issues. Three conferences have come together for this event: **The 7th International Conference on Education and Information Systems, Technologies and Applications** (EISTA 2009), **The 5th International Conference on Social and Organizational Informatics and Cybernetics** (SOIC 2009), and **The 7th International Conference on Politics and Information Systems, Technologies and Applications** (PISTA 2009).

(1) <http://www.iiis2009.org/imsci/website/default.asp?vc=17>

Abstract Submission—January 4, 2009

**4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON E-LEARNING
(July 16-17, 2009, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada)**

The International Conference on e-Learning (1) invites researchers, practitioners and academics to present their research findings, work in progress, case studies and conceptual advances in areas of work where education and technology intersect. The conference brings together varied groups of people with different perspectives, experiences and knowledge in one location. It aims to help practitioners find ways of putting research into practice and researchers to gain an understanding of real-world problems, needs and aspirations. This conference is Chaired by **Avi Hyman** (MED, KMDI) at the University of Toronto

(1) <http://www.academic-conferences.org/icel/icel2009/icel09-home.htm>

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Submissions—February 1, 2009

**COGNITIVE SCIENCE SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE
(July 29 – August 1, 2009, the Free University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands)**



Cognitive Science Society is pleased to announce its **31st Annual Conference** (1). The Society brings together researchers from many fields that hold a common goal: understanding the nature of the human mind. The Society promotes scientific exchange among researchers in disciplines comprising the field of Cognitive Science, including Anthropology, Artificial Intelligence, Education, Linguistics, Machine Learning, Neuroscience, Philosophy, and Psychology.

(1) <http://cognitivesciencesociety.org/conference2009/index.html>

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Tutorial Proposals Submissions—January 9, 2009
Paper Proposals Submissions—March 6, 2009

**2009 IEEE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE – SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY FOR HUMANITY
(September 27-29, 2009, Toronto, Canada)**



The **TIC-STH** (1) conference is an international forum for state-of-the-art research across a broad spectrum of the IEEE science and technology fields of interest. The format of the conference is several parallel Symposia focusing on the advanced scientific and technological problems, especially of the interdisciplinary nature.

(1) <http://toronto.ieee.ca/tic-sth2009/>

ABOUT THE KMDiary

The KMDiary Volume 9, Issue #12 (December 2008). 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 Sadie Yancey at syancey@kmdi.utoronto.ca. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is January 19, 2009. To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Diary, go to: <http://mail.kmdi.utoronto.ca/mailman/listinfo/kmdiary>.

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