

KMDiary Volume 9: Issue #2—February 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



As this especially cold and snowy February draws to a close, we are beginning to enjoy the longer days which inevitably lead to spring and conference season. But for now there's a lot to do closer to home. The university's Festival of the Arts starts this Monday, **Ron Baecker** is giving a talk in the OCAD President's Lecture Series on Wednesday, and on Thursday the Institute launches its Spring Seminar Series – *Design Research: Views from Across the Disciplines*. The first seminar will be led by our colleague **Nick Woolridge** from Biomedical Communications. As with the seminars led by **Liam Bannon** (University of Limerick) and **John Willinsky** (Stanford University) (1) last term, a paper will be posted prior to each seminar. We especially encourage faculty and graduate students to engage in these sessions where we'll consider such questions as: Are there 'designerly ways of knowing' (2); ways distinct from recognised scientific and other scholarly ways of knowing? Or is design a discipline? Details on the series can be found on the KMDI website. I also draw your attention to the Chalmers Design Seminar on March 19th to be given by Professor **John Gero** [See *Announcements*].

Congratulations to our longtime colleague, former KMDI Visiting Professor and friend, **Bill Buxton**, currently at Microsoft Research who will receive the *Lifetime Achievement Award* – the most prestigious SIGCHI award – at the CHI 2008 Conference in Florence in April. Congratulations also to **Ron Deibert** who has been awarded the *Netexplorateur Grand Prix Award* for the Psiphon project which is enabling safe internet access for citizens in countries where censorship is in place (For more on both these awards see *The Virtual Water Cooler*).

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Special thanks to **Louis Suarez-Potts** for this month's photo. Louis, the lead of OpenOffice.org (3) makes his home in Toronto and is a member of the broader KMDI community. The photo was taken by Márcia Midori at last year's fisl 8.0, the Free and Open Source Software event held each year in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Brazil, along with much of the rest of the world is increasingly moving to free software, a migration in this case due solely to community engagement.

Stay warm!

Gale Moore
Director

- (1) <http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/events/>
- (2) <http://www.springer.com/engineering/mechanical+eng/book/978-1-84628-300-0>
- (3) <http://www.openoffice.org/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RON BAECKER TO SPEAK AT OCAD PRESIDENT'S LECTURE SERIES EVENT

March 5, 2008: 6:30pm

OCAD Auditorium



In his talk, "*Towards the Design of Electronic Cognitive Prostheses*", **Ron Baecker** (KMDI, CS) will discuss how technological systems can function as cognitive prostheses (1). For example, existing cell phone and PDA software helps manage and access addresses, phone numbers, and appointments, but has only limited and rigid functionality. The goal of his research project is to envision, prototype, design, construct, and evaluate more powerful and flexible electronic cognitive aids. These should help people, including individuals who are aging and who have cognitive impairments, carry out activities of daily living; remember and use names, faces, and appointments; find objects of importance, such as glasses, wallets, and keys; understand and remember procedural instructions, such as taking medications; reminisce about meaningful aspects of their lives; and communicate with distant loved ones.

- (1) http://apache.ocad.ca/events_calendar/eventdetail.php?id=150

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UofT LAUNCHES eBook STUDY

How and why are eBooks being used? How should they be designed as an evolving knowledge medium?

The **University of Toronto Libraries** and **Redesign Research** are exploring the user experience of eBooks in the context of library e-Resources, in a multi-phase study through May 2008 (1). Peter Jones, Faculty of Pharmacy visiting scientist and active in the KMDI community, has organized this study for UTL with grant-in-aid support from 3 major publishers of eBooks—Springer, Elsevier, Taylor and Francis. All members of the UofT community, including faculty, students, researchers, and staff who have access to the Library resources are invited to participate in a survey and to

participate in contextual inquiry/cognitive walkthrough sessions in exploration of eBook content use in scholarly work.

The purpose of the survey and the overall research project is to help UTL improve the design and access to e-resources, and eBooks in particular. As well, useful comments about improved eBook interface and content design will be passed on to the publishers, as part of the analysis and reporting to follow each phase of the study. A significant representative sample of undergraduate students is currently participating in the survey and interviews. The study is in need of broader researcher coverage, and participation from KMDI associates, graduate students and researchers is encouraged and would be appreciated. For more information about the study, see or join the evolving wiki site (1).

The online survey, which will take approximately 5-7 minutes to complete, is available through March 10 at (2).

If you would be willing to participate in a follow-up interactive (usability) interview in March, or in the participatory design workshops to be coordinated in April, please contact Peter Jones of Redesign Research directly (3).

- (1) <http://ebookstudy.wetpaint.com/>
- (2) http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=a6NQk6hKNbWVEkYZWGzIFw_3d_3d
- (3) peter@redesignresearch.com

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Registration deadline March 1st

DIGITAL ONTARIO
March 5th & 6th
University of Guelph



The Snowden Program in Communication for Social and Environmental Change at the University of Guelph in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (MGCS) is organizing a special symposium entitled *Digital Ontario* (1) as part of MGCS' strategic research initiative on broadband access and digital divide issues entitled *Toward a Broadband Research Agenda for Ontario*. The initiative involves community and business leaders, academics and ICT industry representatives, and the findings from the activities undertaken to date are posted on the Knowledge Media Design Institute's website (2). The first workshop in the series was held in Dec. 2007 and produced by KMDI. See (3) for further details on this week's *Digital Ontario* event. The symposium is free but you are asked to register.

- (1) <http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/documentshomepage/Digital%20Ontario.pdf>
- (2) <http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/broadband>
- (3) http://www.uoguelph.ca/snowden/digital_ontario.html

2008 CALL FOR RESEARCH PAPERS***Toward a Broadband Research Agenda for Ontario***

The Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services (MGCS) has announced a second call for papers with a new list of topical questions including 1) How can broadband support a greener Ontario? 2) What strategies are required to address socio-economic barriers to broadband access? 3) What are the key considerations for offering public sector services through mobile devices? 4) What are the key elements and best practices for the development of a broadband infrastructure atlas for Ontario? Final papers from the first call in January 2007 are available at (1). Complete details on the 2008 Call are on the website at (2).

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

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

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CHALMERS DESIGN SEMINAR SERIES FEATURES PROF. JOHN S. GERO

March 19, 2008, 4:10pm

MB128, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering



For many, computers and creativity are incompatible. This talk (1) by **John S. Gero** presents the results of research on computational models of creative designing processes. The talk then introduces the notion of “situatedness” as an approach to drive first-person based computational creativity. It then describes and presents results from: situated design by analogy, design using social creativity. The talk concludes with a model of creativity.

(1) <http://www.mie.utoronto.ca/seminars/cdss/>

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Proposal Submission—April 16, 2008

BUL FUNDING PROGRAM – CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Bell University Laboratories at **UofT** is soliciting proposals (1) for new exploratory or mission-oriented projects, as well as seed projects from researchers at UofT and the affiliated hospitals. Exploratory or mission-oriented research projects may be one or more years in duration with an annual budget of \$30K to \$120K. Multiyear project funding is provided on an annual basis, based on an approved annual report. **Exploratory or mission-oriented** research project submissions require an internal Bell champion. Researchers in need of assistance locating a Bell champion should forward a one-page (max) proposal synopsis to the BUL office as soon as possible and no later than **March 14, 2008**. **Seed projects** are expected to have a 12 month duration, show potential to grow into a larger project, and have a budget of \$20K to \$30K. Seed projects do not require a champion, but there should be an indication of interest from Bell. Please contact our office or send a short synopsis as soon as possible and no later than **March 14, 2008**.

(1) <http://www.bul.utoronto.ca/fund.htm>

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Professor Yan Xiao
Mar 12, 4:30pm-6pm
Pharmacy Building
144 College St. Room PA250 aka "The Pod"



The Human Factors Interest Group welcomes UofT Industrial Engineering alumnus Professor Yan Xiao who directs Human Factors & Technology Research at the University of Maryland. Yan has been conducting research related to performance and patient safety since 1994. Among his contributions are theories of collaborative work, design of effective auditory alarms in healthcare and innovative designs of mobile telemedicine systems. Additional details and abstract of the talk on the HFIG web site (1).

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

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Mar 31, 4:30-6pm
HFIG Industry Panel
Location TBA



Continuing the annual tradition, HFIG is pleased to present this year's Human Factors industry panel (1) where experienced industry representatives share their work experience and advice for undergraduate and graduate students about to enter the workforce. The HFIG 2008 Industry Panel will host **Leonardo Ruppenthal** (Bell), **Olivier St-Cyr** (IBM), **Keith Niall** (DRDC), and **Geoff Fernie** (Rehabilitation Engineering, Prof. U of T). Four panelists will give a 10 minute presentation on Human Factors related activities and their work. These presentations will be followed by a panel discussion.

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

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CFI LEADING EDGE AND NEW INITIATIVE FUNDS



The Canada Foundation for Innovation has launched a new \$400M national competition. It comprises two application streams: the Leading Edge Fund (LEF) – for proposals that build on previous CFI investment; and the New Initiatives Fund (NIF) – for new proposals that have not previously been funded through a national CFI competition (1).

(1) <http://www.innovation.ca/programs/index.cfm?websiteid=521>

THE VIRTUAL WATER COOLER: AROUND THE COMMUNITY

BILL BUXTON GIVEN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Bill Buxton, a principal researcher at Microsoft and former KMDI Visiting Professor will be presented with the **Lifetime Achievement Award** (1) – the most prestigious SIGCHI award – at the CHI 2008 Conference in Florence in April. Congratulations to Bill on this remarkable achievement. Bill will be in Toronto to give two



talks in the spring. Watch the KMDigest for details.

(1) <http://www.sigchi.org/documents/awards/awards-2008.html#buxton>

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RON DEIBERT RECEIVES AWARD

Congratulations to **Ron Deibert**, who has been awarded the **Netexplorateur Grand Prix Award** for the **Psiphon project** (1). The event, sponsored by HEC business school, Microsoft and TBWA took place at a ceremony at the Senate in Paris on February 14-15 and the award was presented by the former Prime Minister of France, Jean-Pierre Raffarin. Psiphon is an Internet censorship evading software project developed by the University of Toronto's **Citizen Lab** (2). Ron will be discussing this work and the work of the Citizen Lab with graduate students in KMD1002 in late March.

Source: News@UofT, Feb. 14/08

(1) <http://www.news.utoronto.ca/bin6/080214-3622.asp>

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

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FL_UI_D PROJECT FEATURED IN WATERSHAPES MAGAZINE

Steve Mann and the FL_UI_D team's work on the Hydraulophone is featured on the cover and lead article of this month's issue of Watershapes magazine (1), the world's leading publication for water-related design and engineering innovations. As well, an earlier, more scholarly report on this research can be found in the *Proceedings of the 13th Annual Association of Computing Machinery* international conference on Multimedia (2).

(1) <http://wearcam.org/watershapes/>

(2) <http://wearcam.org/acmmm2005/>

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON THE CREATIVE ECONOMY (March 17-18, 2008, Ottawa, Canada)

Gale Moore (SOC, KMDI) and **Leslie Chan** (UTSC, KMDI) have had a paper accepted for the **International Forum on the Creative Economy** (1). The paper will examine the role of open access in mobilising new practices in this sector. This forum will include keynote speakers, presentations, lectures, and other activities aimed at examining recent evidence on the arts and cultural sector as an engine of economic growth.

(1) <http://www.conferenceboard.ca/culture/default.htm>

JOHN DANAHY USES INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR LAKEVIEW LANDS PLANNING



Instead of just imagining the wonderful things that could be done with the 500-acre Lakeview Generating Station property in their community, the area's ratepayers have put the vast potential of the property into a stunning vision. This vision uses computer modelling to show the possibility of dropping the Distillery District, the parkland at the forks of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers in Winnipeg, the Chicago Bears football stadium, Exhibition Place and Ontario Place, Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco or the UTM campus onto the Lakeview property. "This could be the poster child for the province's smart growth strategy," says **John Danahy** (FALD, KMDI), who, with the help of many of his students, has helped create the document the Lakeview Ratepayers' Association calls the "Lakeview Legacy Project."

Source: Mississauga News, Feb. 19/08

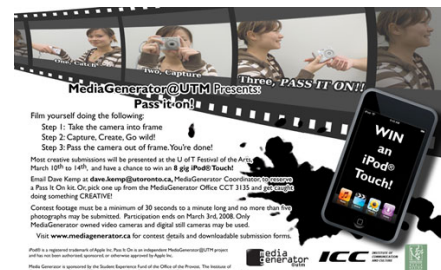
(1) <http://www.mississauga.com/article/11323>

UofT FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS 2008 March 3-20th



The U of T Festival of the Arts 2008 celebrates the diversity and depth of the visual and performing arts on all three campuses. As part of the festivities **MediaGenerator@UTM** presents *Pass it on*, a contest that explores student creativity with two different forms of media: film and photography. The short will be screened March 10th to the 14th on the giant TV in CCT, and there's a chance to win an 8 gig iPod® Touch. **MediaGenerator**, a student-led, faculty supported Student

The U of T Festival of the Arts 2008 celebrates the diversity and depth of the visual and performing arts on all three campuses. As part of the festivities **MediaGenerator@UTM**



Experience Fund initiative is currently co-directed by **Louis Kaplan** (ICC (UTM), KMDI) and **Gale Moore** (KMDI, SOC). If you're on the UTM campus March 10-14th be sure to catch the show.

- (1) <http://www.arts.utoronto.ca/artfest08.htm>
 (2) <http://www.mediagenerator.ca/new/?q=node/93>

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NINA CZEGLEDY INVOLVED IN INTERACCESS' 25th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS



The **IA25: Mapping a Practice of New Media Art** (1) celebrating the 25th anniversary of the InterAccess Electronic Media Arts Centre curated by **Nina Czegledy** (KMDI Senior Fellow) and Angella Mackey opened on January 25, 2008. Nina also organized **Inter(PR)axis: Mapping a Practice of Media Art** (2) a conference linked to the exhibition.

- (1) <http://www.interaccess.org>
 (2) http://apache.ocad.ca/events_calendar/eventdetail.php?id=420

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VINO VINODRAI APPOINTED INDUSTRY PROFESSOR AT MCMASTER

Congratulations to **Vino Vinodrai**, formerly of Bell University Laboratories, who has been appointed Industry Professor for a two-year term in the Walter G. Booth School of Engineering Practice at McMaster University (1).

- (1) <http://msep.mcmaster.ca/>

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GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMY WORK IN 'CONCERT' TO STUDY AND DRIVE GROWTH IN DIGITAL MEDIA SECTOR

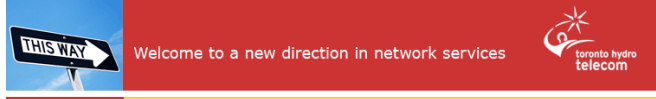
Toronto Region Research Alliance (TRRA) and **CONCERT** (Consortium on New Media, Creative and Entertainment R&D) (1) convened a roundtable discussion group in November 2007 with representatives of in the Toronto Region. During the roundtable, approximately 40 attendees from the digital media sector-university and college researchers, companies and high-tech suppliers to new media-identified issues and impediments to further growth in the sector and began to isolate new opportunities. The roundtable identified two areas for exploration in pilots: business/finance and human resources. The CONCERT working group arising out of the roundtable will now move to plan and develop the pilot research and pilot sites in these two areas of focus. **Gale Moore** is a member of the business/finance group. **KMDI** is the UofT partner in CONCERT.

Source: Toronto Region Research Alliance, Winter 2008 e-News

- (1) <http://kmdi.utoronto.ca/research/CONCERT.aspx>

OTHER NEWS

FOR SALE: TORONTO HYDRO TELECOM



Toronto Hydro Corp, the city-owned electrical power distribution company, recently announced it is looking for a buyer for its

telecom unit. Toronto Hydro Corp. said it intends to “solicit expressions of interest from third parties” for a “possible sale” of Toronto Hydro Telecom. Officials at the parent company emphasized this does not mean for sure that the telecom subsidiary will be sold to the private sector.

Source: ITWorldCanada, Jan. 25, 2008

U WATERLOO RESIDENCE TO BECOME MEDIA INCUBATOR



A former residence at the University of Waterloo is being transformed into a live-in incubator for collaborative new media projects developed by entrepreneurial students. The new residence project, coined **VeloCity**, will unite creative, technologically savvy students under one roof to work on the

future of mobile communications, web and new media. VeloCity will be housed in an old residence that will be renovated over the summer to become a collaborative space with meeting rooms, a device lab, network infrastructure (including connection to the ORION network), multimedia and gaming equipment, and WiFi for 70 lucky residents.

Source: Orion Research and Education News, Jan/08

OCAD AND ABEL PARTNER TO VIDEOCONFERENCE PORTFOLIO REVIEWS

The Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD) teamed up with the Advanced Broadband Enabled Learning (ABEL) program to perform remote portfolio reviews with high school students in York Region. Grade 12 art students at Newmarket High School and Richmond Green High School discussed their portfolios with OCAD faculty members during two videoconference sessions earlier this fall, facilitated by the ABEL team and beamed out over ORION.

Source: Orion Research and Education News, Jan/08

OPEN SOURCE POISED FOR SURGE IN EDUCATION

Open source software will nearly double in the education space over the next four years. From its present level of \$286.2 million, the market--including software, services, and maintenance--will reach \$489.9 million by 2012, according to a report released today by market analyst Datamonitor,

which proclaimed that “open source software has the ability to change the face of the education industry.”

Source: The Journal, Jan/08

<http://www.thejournal.com/articles/21900>

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IMMERSIVE EDUCATION INITIATIVE ANNOUNCES EDUCATION GRID AND PLATFORM ECOSYSTEME



During the 2008 Boston Digital Media Summit, the **Immersive Education Initiative** (1) announced the **Education Grid** and corresponding **Platform Ecosystem**. Based upon open source technologies and open standards, the Education Grid and Platform Ecosystem will provide educators with a comprehensive end-to-end infrastructure for a new generation of virtual world learning environments, interactive learning games, and simulations. The first three platforms in the ecosystem were introduced at the Summit: Second Life, Sun Microsystems Laboratory's Project Wonderland, and Croquet. These platforms will be enhanced to utilize the server-side Education Grid that will deliver a rich library of learning objects, digital media assets, learning games and services from which a wide variety of Immersive Education experiences can be assembled.

Source: Media Grid News, Jan. 22/08

http://mediagrid.org/news/2008-01_Summit_Outcomes.html

(1) <http://immersiveducation.org/>

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GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE STUDY FOCUSES ON ICT INDUSTRY



How will the continued growth of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) impact climate change? How could ICTs enable the transition to a low-carbon economy? The °Climate Group and **Global e-Sustainability Initiative** are collaborating on a global study (1) to evaluate the ICT sector's role in climate change. The work will begin in November 2007 and will report in March 2008.

(1) http://www.theclimategroup.org/about_us/our_work_programmes/ict/

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HANDS: The eTEN PROJECT OF THE YEAR FOR 2007



Professionals in eGovernment, e-Inclusion and eHealth on the ePractice.eu portal have elected **HANDS** (1) as the **eTEN project of the year 2007**. HANDS (Helping Answers Decision Service) is an online communication service offered by Public Bodies to their citizens and other users. The service is based on advanced Natural Language Processing techniques. Thanks to the use of NLP-based applications, cities can reduce the barriers of

online communication between citizens and the Public Administration. With NLP-based applications, citizens can type in questions in their own language and in everyday speech on Public Bodies web sites, and they will obtain relevant answers in their language, with all necessary documentation! eTEN (2) is a European Community programme providing funds to help make e-services available throughout the European Union.

- (1) <http://www.hands-online.org/>
 (2) http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/eten/index_en.htm

RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: 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 (2), 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/Home?Language=EN>
 (2) <http://www.ccl-cca.ca/CCL/Reports/Journal/CallforSubmissions.htm>

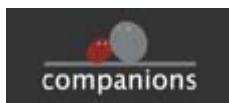
REPORT ON US BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY

EDUCASE has published a report (1) on the state of broadband in the US and providing a comparison with other countries. It states that “the US is in desperate need of 100 Mbps “big broadband”... But these 100Mbps connections are coming slowly; in the meantime, countries like Japan already have them. To avoid falling further behind, the report calls for a national broadband policy to be passed this year, one that includes \$100 billion for a fiber-to-the-home infrastructure that will connect every household and business in the country.”

Source: ARS Technica Newsdesk, Jan. 31/08

- (1) <http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/EPO0801.pdf>

COMPANIONS RESEARCH DISCUSSION PAPER



A discussion paper (1) that summarizes a forum on Artificial Companions in Society is now available. This paper is part of a larger project called COMPANION (2), which aims to change the way we think about the relationships of people to computers and the Internet by developing a virtual conversational

'Companion'. The research brings together experts in a range of cutting edge technologies including dialogue management, speech recognition and synthesis, embodied conversational agents, and human-computer interaction.

(1) <http://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/research/publications/FD14.pdf>

(2) <http://www.companions-project.org/>

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NEW REPORT ON PEER REVIEW IN SCHOLARLY JOURNALS



The **Publishing Research Consortium** has just published a report (1) on an international study of over 3,000 senior authors, reviewers and editors on peer review. The study shows that researchers want to improve, not change, the system of peer review for journal articles. They believe that it helps to improve scientific communications and increases the overall quality of published papers. Alternatives such as 'open peer review' were not popular; however, some were interested in post-publication review. Researchers did, however, strongly prefer double-blind review to the currently prevalent single-blind system, seeing this as a way to improve both objectivity and fairness. A majority of reviewers and editors also said it would be desirable to be able to review authors' data as part of peer review. While of the majority of respondents saw peer review as an effective filter for research, some did not think it was effective at detecting plagiarism, fraud or misconduct.

(1) <http://www.publishingresearch.org.uk/PeerReview.htm>

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DRIVER STUDIES NOW AVAILABLE IN OPEN ACCESS



The **DRIVER studies** are now all available in open access (1). The DRIVER responds to the vision that any form of scientific-content resource, including scientific/technical reports, research articles, experimental or observational data, rich media and other digital objects should be freely accessible through simple Internet-based infrastructures. The production of the studies was coordinated by SURF, the collaborative organisation for higher education and research aimed at breakthrough innovations in ICT in the Netherlands, in close association with Amsterdam University Press and a number of DRIVER partners.

(1) <http://www.driver-support.eu/en/studies.html>

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NEW ONLINE COMMUNITY FROM O'REILLY MEDIA

Rich Internet applications (RIAs) are shaping the Web today. Love them or hate them, if you're working on the Web, you'll want to understand them. And a new online website announced this week, **InsideRIA.com** (1) is the premiere community site for all things RIA, created specifically for

web developers, architects, programmers, designers, or anyone else who makes the Web their business.

Source: O'Reilly Media, Feb. 1/08

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

COOL TOOLS

YAHOO LAUNCHES LIVE VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE



Yahoo dropped on Thursday night a new service on the world: **Yahoo Live** (1). Conceptually it's very much like uStream and other live video-streaming products. Anyone can set up a video channel and embed the player (though, oddly, not the text chat that goes with it) on their own page. One of the really cool features of Yahoo Live is its multi-camera viewing panel. In addition to the video feed you tune in to, four other video channels--of other people watching the same stream you are -- appear below the main video. You can jump to those channels quickly, and change the lineup of the secondary video channels by selecting names from the main video's chat window.

Source: WebWare, Feb. 7/08

(1) <http://live.yahoo.com/>

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TWINE: TIE IT ALL TOGETHER



Twine (1) is a new service that intelligently helps you share, organize and find information with people you trust. In an excerpt from the *New York Times*, it is stated that Twine "can scan almost any electronic document for the names of people, places, businesses and many other entities that its algorithms recognize. Then it does something unusual: it automatically tags or marks all of these items in orange and transfers them to an index on the right side of the screen. This index grows with every document you view, as the program adds subjects that it can recognize or infer from their context. Customers have individual accounts on Twine's Web site, where they save URLs or other information. They can make their collections, or "twines," private, share them in groups with other members having common interests like politics or fashion, or even make the twines public."

Source: NYTimes, Feb. 3/08

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

OPEN TELEVISION NETWORK



The **Open Television Network** (1) is available to content owners who want to sell their shows to viewers and for viewers who want the option of controlling their own programming. It is built on a new technology called klickTab. klickTab is the technology that makes the Open Television Network possible.

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

\$200 COMPUTER GOES MASS MARKET



Buying Linux and learning how to use it are easier than ever, thanks to the open-source operating system's expanding presence in affordable computers and mainstream retail outlets. In quick succession, the number of mass-market, sub-\$200 desktops has tripled--from one to three--in less than three months. At the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas earlier this month, small form-factor PC maker Shuttle debuted its \$199 KPC. The catch? It's not preloaded with Windows, but an operating system based on Linux. Then last week, Mirus and Linspire collaborated on the Mirus Linux PC, which is now for sale at Sears.com. It's \$299 (although an included \$100 rebate brings it to \$199), and is preloaded with Freespire 2.0, an Ubuntu-based Linux distribution.

Source: ZDNet News, Jan. 24/08

http://news.zdnet.com/2100-9584_22-6227419.html?tag=nl.e539

WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA

1st INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON GLOBAL INFORMATION GOVERNANCE (March 13-14, 2008, Pisa, Italy)



ISGIG 2008 (1) will host high-level keynotes from government, technical and business thought leaders, targeted case-studies and the presentation of applied research on these topics as conducted by the key stakeholder groups. The symposium will attract industry and business leaders, executive and government heads in an attempt to unravel complex issues of crossover business in addressing and resolving data protection, crossborder security and privacy. The second day of conference will include a realistic case study using Second Life as the case in which these same issues of security and privacy are put to the test. Thanks to colleague **Dr. Gabriel (Gabby) Silberman**, Senior Vice President and Head, CA Labs, for bringing this symposium to our attention.

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


21st HUMAN FACTORS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYMPOSIUM (March 17-20, 2008, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

The **Human Factors in Telecommunication (HFT) Symposium** (1), established in 1961 has become the classic event in the field. The previous 20 HFT symposiums were held in Europe and America, and for the first time this meeting will be held in Asia. The theme for this year is “User Experience of ICTs”. The event will cover end-user centric perspectives of topics related to the research, development, deployment, use, maintenance and impacts of fixed and mobile Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), services and applications.

(1) <http://www.hft2008.org/index.html>

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AHRC PRIMARY SOURCES ON COPYRIGHT HISTORY PROJECT: CONFERENCE (March 19-20, 2008, London, UK)

 Primary Sources on Copyright (1450-1900) This two day conference is the culmination of a research project involving the creation of a digital resource concerning the history of copyright in five key jurisdictions; France, Germany, Italy, the UK and the US, for the period before 1900.

(1) <http://www.copyrighthistory.org/news/article.php?section=26&article=584>

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CANADIAN GREEN IT FORUM (April 9-10, 2008, Toronto, Canada)



The **IDC You, Me & Green IT Forum** (1) is designed to help IT and business executives answer key questions about how to effectively decrease ICTs’ carbon footprint. The Green IT Forum features end-user case studies that provide attendees with practical information about how to operationalize Green IT. Sponsor partners, along with IDC analysts and end user speakers, will provide a vision of Green IT that makes clear the operational opportunities and challenges being faced in the marketplace.

(1) http://www.idc.com/getdoc.jsp?containerId=IDC_P16849

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Call for Papers—February 29, 2008

ITU SYMPOSIA ON ICTs and CLIMATE CHANGE (April 15-26, 2008, Kyoto, Japan; June 17-18, London, UK)



As part of a major new initiative on the overall topic of ICTs and climate change, the International Telecommunications Union is organizing two

Symposia on ICTs and Climate Change (2). The first will be held in Kyoto, Japan from April 15-16, and the second in London, UK, from June 17-18. Initial proposals developed in Kyoto will be finalized in London. These symposia will bring together key specialists in the field, from top decision-makers to engineers, designers, planners, government officials, regulators, standards experts and others.

(1) <http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/worksem/climatechange/call.html>

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WIRELESS WORLD RESEARCH FORUM
(April 22-24, 2008, Ottawa, Canada)



Hosted by Research in Motion, the **Wireless World Research Forum** (1) identifies and promotes research areas and technical trends for 4th Generation mobile and wireless systems. The forum currently has more than 140 members from industry and academia including past sponsoring members: Alcatel Lucent, China Mobile, Ericsson, France Telecom, Huawei, Intel, LG Electronics, Motorola, NEC, Nokia, Nokia Siemens Networks, Nortel Networks, Samsung and Vodafone.

(1) <http://www.wireless-world-research.org/?id=92>

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WORKSHOP ON SECURITY AND PRIVACY ISSUES IN MOBILE PHONE USE
(May 19, 2008, Sydney, Australia)

The mobile phone has become the most widely deployed computing platform in the world. Analysts predict some 2.6 billion mobile phones in regular use by 2009, with the sales of smartphones representing the fastest growing market. For many people, the mobile phone is the first computer they encounter, and certainly they only computer they carry with them most of their waking moments. This workshop (1) aims at bringing together researchers interested in exploring security and privacy issues in mobile phone usage -- not only on a platform level, but on both the physical and social network level as well.

(1) <http://www.vs.inf.ethz.ch/events/spmu08/>

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Poster Submissions—March 17, 2008

MINDS AND SOCIETIES SUMMER INSTITUTE: CALL FOR POSTERS
(June 28-July 8, 2008, Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Canada)



A call for posters (1) has been announced for the **Minds and Societies Summer Institute** (2) which will be held from June 28th to July 8th, 2008. The topic will be *social cognition*, to be understood in its psychological and community aspects. It will bring together at UQAM researchers with international recognition. The

Institute aims at learning and sharing ideas as well as promoting networking for future research and cooperation.

- (1) <http://www.er.uqam.ca/nobel/eteisc/ocs/custom/cfp-socialCognition.pdf>
 (1) <http://www.er.uqam.ca/nobel/eteisc/ocs/index.php/eteisc/SS2008>

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Call for Papers—February 29, 2008

**SYMPOSIUM ON USABLE PRIVACY AND SECURITY
 (July 23-25, 2008, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA)**



The **2008 Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS)** (1) will bring together an interdisciplinary group of researchers and practitioners in human computer interaction, security, and privacy. The program will feature technical papers, a poster session, panels and invited talks, discussion sessions, and in-depth sessions (workshops and tutorials). This year SOUPS will feature two workshops:

Workshop on Usable IT Security Management (USM '08) and The Symposium on Accessible Privacy and Security (SOAPS '08).

- (1) <http://cups.cs.cmu.edu/soups/2008/cfp.html>

CONFERENCES

**CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY STANDARDS COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCE
 (April 7-9, 2008, Toronto, Canada)**



Infoway's **Standards Collaborative Spring 2008 Partnership Conference**

(1) will take place at the Marriott Toronto Downtown Eaton Centre. The Partnership will be hosting a series of presentations of local, regional and pan-Canadian standards-based projects at, or going into, implementation, as well as hosting the Standards Collaborative Welcome Reception & InfoFair, highlighting the latest innovations in standards-based products and services from the private and public sectors.

- (1) http://sl.infoway-inforoute.ca/content/disppage.asp?cw_page=event_partner_spring08_e

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**INNOVATION 2008: THE REAL AND THE IDEAL
 (April 14-15, 2008, Breckenridge, CO, USA)**



Innovation 2008 (1) is the second of five annual conferences organized to capture the collective will and intelligence of leaders who can set the pace for innovation in education. Innovation 2008 will bring together researchers, educators, and government and business leaders to formulate a vision for the future of education. The conference aims at a realistic appraisal of the present

state of education and an assessment of what current realities indicate for the future, coupled with constructive and well-informed speculation about how change can be better managed to serve the need of students, educators, parents, industry, and society as a whole. In other words, the conference seeks to reconcile the real and the ideal.

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

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9th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL GOVERNMENT RESEARCH

(May 18-21, 2008, Montreal, Canada)



The 9th annual **dg.o** international conference (1) is a forum for presentation and discussion of interdisciplinary digital government research and practice and its applications in diverse domains. The conference theme “Partnerships for Public Innovation” focuses on information-intensive innovations in the public sector that involve linkages among government, universities, NGOs, and businesses. This theme emphasizes the importance of sharing practical issues, policy perspectives, research insights, and expert advice, in order to reach higher levels of performance in diverse public enterprises.

(1) <http://www.dgo2008.org/>

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GLOBAL TELECENTRES ALLIANCE CONFERENCE

(May 23-25, 2008, Budaörs, Hungary)



This three-day conference (1) is organized by The Global Telecentre Alliance and The CHIC Central Hungarian Innovation Centre. Day 1 will involve a global discussion of international telecentre managers, leaders, experts, donors and partners about the real and potential role of telecentres in local development, with a particular focus on the network economy and the Bottom of the Pyramid (BOP) movement; day 2 is the First General Assembly of the Global Telecentre Alliance; and day 3 involves country trips to visit telecentres in Hungary.

(1) <http://www.chic.hu/index.php?p=75&conid=75&lang=en>

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Call for Panels—March 31, 2008

INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT FOR WIRELESS COMMUNITY NETWORKS

(May 28-30, 2008, Washington, DC)



Hosted by the world's largest general scientific society, the **American Association for the Advancement of Science**, this year's summit (1) will continue its tradition of featuring wireless leaders, innovators, activists, and community networking

visionaries from around the globe. “With large-scale network implementations demonstrating the viability of open source wireless technologies, and corporate franchise business model faltering, the movement is at a critical juncture in its development” states Sascha Meinrath, Summit Director. “This year's International Summit for Community Wireless Networks will explore issues of global integration and local control over these vital communications media.”

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

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CANADIAN TELECOM SUMMIT
(June 16-18, 2008, Toronto, Canada)

The **2008 Canadian Telecom Summit** (1) is Canada's pre-eminent gathering of the telecommunications industry and those with vested interests in its welfare. Attracting the senior-most professionals from around the globe, The 2008 Canadian Telecom Summit will provide a forum for the broad cross-section of stakeholders to exchange views, share ideas, challenge assumptions and plan for the future.

(1) <http://www.gstconferences.com/home>

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Submissions—March 3, 2008

CREATE 2008
(June 24-25, 2008, London, UK)



CREATE 2008 (1) is a 2-day conference about creating innovative interactions, whether digital consumer products, interactive services or interaction paradigms. A conference where the emphasis is on sharing the wealth of creative ideas we have developed to resolve problems, to create new capabilities, or new functions; where the aim is to spawn further creative designs that can make a difference to people.

(1) <http://www.cs.mdx.ac.uk/research/idc/create2008/>

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9th SAKAI CONFERENCE
(July 1-3, 2008, Paris, France)



Sakai community conferences have emerged as occasions for extended face-to-face interactions between our community of designers, developers, pedagogists, faculty, students, user support specialists, system administrators, educational and collaborative technology managers. Sakai conferences provide a welcoming and informative venue for all those interested in seeing what the Sakai community and software are all about. (1)

(1) <https://sakai.educonference.com/paris/index.php>

**8th ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON COMPUTER HUMAN INTERACTION
(July 6-9, 2008, Seoul, Korea)**

APCHI 2008 To address the challenge for socially blending wider spectrum of users and ubiquitous computing environment, **APCHI 2008** (1) sets “Universal & Ubiquitous” as the conference theme. By sharing and disseminating the experiences of scholars and practitioners from around the Asia-Pacific region and with expertise in HCI-related disciplines, APCHI 2008 is ready to provide not only a prime opportunity for diverse state-of-the-art approaches to general HCI issues, but also a forum where your contributions would make users in the upcoming ubiquitous and pervasive environment happier with higher standards of quality of life.

(1) <http://www.apchi2008.org/ConferenceInformation/Pages/Welcome.aspx>

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Submission of Papers and Tutorials—March 15, 2008

**12th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INFORMATION VISUALIZATION
(July 9-11, 2008, London South Bank University, UK; Tutorial Day: July 8, 2008)**

iV08 IV08 (1) aims to focus on the interdisciplinary methods and affiliated research done among various science disciplines, medicine, engineering, media and commerce. This three day event will focus on the research and developments conjured to meet the roaring demand of today's “Information Transfer” through the medium of computing, accentuating on the linkage that shapes academia and industry with the goal of stimulating views and providing a forum where researchers and practitioners can discuss the latest developments linked to Information Visualisation.

(1) <http://www.graphicslink.co.uk/IV08/>

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**THE 2008 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON E-LEARNING, E-BUSINESS,
ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND E-GOVERNMENT
(July 14-17, 2008, Las Vegas, USA)**



The motivation for this conference (1) is to assemble a spectrum of affiliated research conferences into a coordinated research meeting held in a common place at a common time. The main goal is to provide a forum for exchange of ideas in a number of research areas that interact. The model used to form these annual conferences facilitates communication among researchers in different fields of computer science, computer engineering and applied computing. Both inward research (core areas of computer science and engineering) and outward research (multi-disciplinary, Inter-disciplinary, and applications) will be covered during the conferences.

(1) <http://www.world-academy-of-science.org/sites/worldcomp08/ws/conferences/eee08>

ABOUT THE KMDiary

The KMDiary Volume 9, Issue #2 (February 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 elise@kmdi.utoronto.ca. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is March 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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