

KMDiary Volume 8: Issue #1—January 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



Welcome to the first issue of the KMDiary for 2007. Suddenly, the new month is almost gone. We have struggled to go to press as each day has brought new events for early February that we didn't want you to miss. As you'll see this is one of our longer issues.

We've had a number of visitors this month. On Jan.16th I was delighted to welcome **Professor József Györkös** (pictured above) from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Maribor in Slovenia. Professor Györkös was here as an external examiner for the (successful) thesis defense of **Simonida Simonovic** a doctoral student of **David Wolfe**'s(POL SCI, KMDI). I have been working with Simonida, **Barbara Swartzentruber**, a Senior Policy Analyst and others in the Ministry of Government Services for the past several months on a broadband initiative for the province. On December 8th an academic workshop was held at Massey College with fifty faculty, graduate students and policy officers from across the province participating. The goal of the workshop was to identify critical themes and a *Call for Proposals* has now been issued for a series of Working Papers that the province is commissioning.[see *Announcements*]

On Jan. 19 we hosted a reception for *Virtualtech 2* –a French delegation including scholars, business people and government officials who were visiting Toronto and Montreal. Unfortunately, there was little lead time in organizing this event to engage the membership, or to organise demos, but we will continue to be in touch with both the French Economic Commission and the French Consultate. Special thanks to **Dominique Scheffel-Dunand** (YorkU, KMDI) for working hard to

make this happen, and to **Sara Johns** (KMDI) who discovered the diplomatic special event permit that allowed our guests to bring a selection of French wines to the reception!

Project Open Source |Open Access continues in high gear with a number of events in February and engagement with a number of new groups being formed across campus. Intrigued by a group called The Digital Layer, or the Educational Technology Posse? Check out the project website for details on this growing network and its events (1). This 2 ½ year project ends on May 1st, and there are even more events (if that's possible) planned in the final quarter. We applied for new funding for a project called *Open Scholarship* in the December AIF round. The new proposal, which has broad support at the decanal level across all 3 campuses, puts more emphasis on the changing nature of scholarship across the academy with the turn to the digital, but retains our broader interest in what we've called the phenomenon of openness. We anticipate that the results for this round will be announced in March. If anyone would like a copy of the new proposal please write to **Charles Finley**, the Executive Director of Project OS|OA or to me.

I hope to see you at one or more of the February events. In the meantime, stay warm.

Gale Moore

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline for proposal extended to Feb. 11th

TOWARD A BROADBAND RESEARCH INITIATIVE FOR ONTARIO



The Ministry of Government Services (MGS) is providing leadership for a series of conversations with key stakeholders to support the development of a shared research and development agenda for broadband in Ontario (1). KMDI is partnering with MGS to work on various parts of this initiative. Check out the web

site for full details on the Call and other plans.

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

CHAD GAFFIELD, NEW SSHR PRESIDENT VISITS UofT

As part of Dr. Chad Gaffield's visit to the University of Toronto on February 8, 2007, a Town Hall will be held in the Debates Room at Hart House. The Town Hall will focus on the strategy and direction of the Council. The January/February issue of *InnovationCANADA.ca* (1) has an insightful piece by Dr. Gaffield. KMDI'ers who have worked for many years to promote a philosophy of human-centredness and struggled to secure funding for trans-disciplinary research

collaborations that were either not well understood, or 'fell through the cracks' of the funding agencies, will be heartened to hear this commitment to human centredness:

The new strategies for advancing knowledge also reflect increased recognition of the human dimensions of topics once considered to be the province of technology and "hard" science—the world of machines and molecules. More and more, we emphasize the need to put people in the picture. If research is going to enhance our quality of life and prosperity in a competitive global environment, the human sciences must play a central role in Canada's science and technology policies. That is why SSHRC also collaborates with NSERC, CIHR, and the CFI to support innovative research that is attuned to both the insights of scholars and the needs of Canadian society.

(1) <http://www.innovationcanada.ca/26/en/articles/sshrc.html>

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NET NEUTRALITY: A PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNET (February 6, 2007, 7:00 p.m., Ottawa Public Library Auditorium, 120 Metcalfe Street)

On February 6, 2007, **Andrew Clement** (KMDI, FIS), along with **Michael Geist** and **Ren Bucholz** will be part of a panel discussion (1) moderated by **Pippa Lawson** on **Net Neutrality**. In Canada, the federal government is considering major changes to telecommunications regulation and its commitment to network neutrality is uncertain. There needs to be public debate before more decisions are made. Politicians will also be invited to attend this panel discussion, and it is hoped that with a good turnout, policy-makers will understand the importance of network neutrality for Canadians, and that the separation of telecommunications companies from content providers is in the interest of all Internet users

Source: LibrarianActivist.org, Jan. 9, 2007

(1) <http://www.librarianactivist.org/2007/01/09/net-neutrality-panel-discussion/>

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NEXT MEETING OF THE OJS OPEN ACCESS WORKING GROUP - OPEN MEETING FOR THE UofT COMMUNITY

Thursday, February 15th

12 to 2pm

Location: Knowledge Innovation & Technology Lab (KITL)

3rd Floor next to Education Commons, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education

Part 1: Launching an Open Access Undergraduate Research Journal.

The Journal of Undergraduate Life Sciences, will be publishing its first issue this spring. JULS is a student led and faculty sponsored and double blind peer reviewed journal dedicated to showcasing students' research achievements, encouraging interdisciplinary intellectual exploration and furthering broader interest in the life sciences.

Speaker: *Alex Cheng, JULS Editor in Chief*

Part 2: Enhancing technical Support for Journal publishing

The library is embarking on a project to provide better technical support for electronic journal production. Come hear an outline of this project and provide input.

Speaker: *Rea Devakos, Coordinator, Scholarly Communication Initiatives, U of T Library*

This event is co-produced and sponsored by KMDI's Project Open Source | Open Access, University of Toronto Libraries and OISE/UT.

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INNOVATIONS IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING OF LANGUAGES USING NEW TECHNOLOGIES

(February 16, 2007 – 10:00-12:00, Robarts Library Room 4049, University of Toronto)

Project OS|OA is one of the sponsors of this event (1), which features two presentations on new technologies aimed at enhancing research and teaching of less-commonly-taught languages. Both speakers, Edward Garrett and David Germano, have been involved in the development of innovative, open-source software projects that focus on language teaching and linguistic research.

(1) <http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/languages/innovations-in-research-and-teaching>

THE VIRTUAL WATER COOLER: AROUND THE COMMUNITY



As mentioned in last month's issue **Ron Baecker** (CS, KMDI) was re-appointed as the **Bell University Laboratories Chair in Human-Computer Interaction** for a second five-year term.

During this period, Ron plans to focus on a broad research program with three key objectives: to design, develop, and evaluate prototype cognitive prostheses to aid human cognition;

to demonstrate health benefits that such prostheses afford to those with cognitive impairments; and to pursue more speculative and ambitious goals for such technology, viewing them not just as prosthetic or compensatory devices but also as rehabilitative or restorative devices to enhance cognition, and even as preventative or treatment devices able to slow the rate at which cognitive impairments develop. We look forward to the results of Ron's research and will keep the community updated on his progress.



Congratulations to **Kelly Rankin** (KMDI ePresence Business Manager) who is the recipient of a **2006 Peter F. Bronfman Woodsworth Leadership Scholarship**. The award is presented to acknowledge Kelly's outstanding academic achievement and contribution to the University and to the community. Scholarship recipients and other award winners are being honoured at The Woodsworth College 2007 Annual Awards Dinner, sponsored by the Alumni Association of Woodsworth College on January 24, 2007.



A warm welcome is extended to **Virginia Lee Strain** (1), the new student representative on the **Project OS|OA Executive Committee**, chaired by **Gale Moore** (SOC, KMDI). Virginia is a PhD candidate in the Department of English, and her dissertation research examines legal, religious, and philosophical topics in the early modern literary works of Shakespeare, Donne, and Bacon. As a student representative on the Committee, Virginia is especially interested in helping to raise awareness about OA within the Humanities.

(1) <http://www.vlstrain.net>



Web 2.0, Enterprise 2.0, Open Source 2.0. All the latest expectations for major revs of a good chunk of the information technology world seem to be heavily based on excitement about the possibilities for new forms of social networking and collaboration. Take a look at the **podcast** (1) of **Barry Wellman** (SOC, KMDI), who speaks with **Bryan Kirschner** of **Microsoft** about the new era of social network analysis.

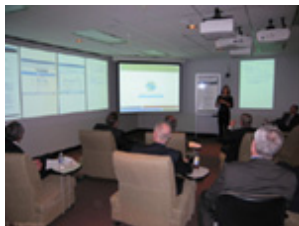
(1) <http://port25.technet.com/archive/2006/12/15/barry.aspx>



On January 21, 2007, **Nina Czegledy** (KMDI Senior Fellow) gave a keynote address on *Space and the Arts* at the **6th Canadian Student Summit on Aerospace** (1). Held at **Ryerson University** (2), the two-day conference was introduced by Geoff Languedoc, Executive Director, **Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute** and Anne Saar, Conference Committee Chair. Interdisciplinary speakers ranged from academics to corporate representatives presenting on a wide variety of related topics.

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

(2) <http://www.ryerson.ca>



The study of collaboration – people, practices and technology, has been a core area of specialisation in KMDI since the days of the Ontario Telepresence Project and media space research. Now thanks to **Laurie Harrison** and her team at OISE/UT we have an opportunity to explore, in use, an array of new technologies housed in the KITL – the Knowledge Innovation and Technology Lab (1). Last week, **Gale Moore** (KMDI, SOC) hosted a meeting of business and technical executives involved in the area of broadband. In the photo on the left, **Vanessa Peters** (OISE/UT, KMDI) demonstrates The Polyvision Thunder System®. A number of students in KMD1002S this term will be studying various aspects of the room as part of a course assignment.

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

KMDI GRADUATE FELLOW: ADAM FISER

We continue our profiling of the new KMDI Student Fellows. The KMDI Graduate Fellowship Program recognizes exceptional senior PhD students conducting research in the field of knowledge media design (1). This month we feature Adam Fiser.

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



KMDI Graduate Fellow **Adam Fiser** is a Ph.D. candidate in the **Faculty of Information Studies** (1). Adam's research program explores political, social, and organizational aspects of knowledge media design in the context of remote indigenous communities. In 2004 he entered into a series of collaborative research projects with members of **K-Net** (2), a community network of 60 First Nations and related points of presence in northwestern Ontario. Through these projects he has studied a cross-section of K-Net's ICT infrastructure, from cases of carriage and human resource development, to experiments in content/services design. Adam has also stepped back from collaborative research to study the policy programs and partnerships that enabled K-Net's version of ICT infrastructure to emerge, and he has learned about some of the strengths and vulnerabilities of this community network model by engaging K-Net's management, staff, and various stakeholders. Adam's involvement with K-Net has also given him opportunities to meet with stakeholders from community networks across Canada and internationally to learn about the similarities and differences of their designs.

Adam's dissertation research draws from his collaborative work and independent research to analyze how K-Net took shape under the federal policy programs of the former Liberal government's Connecting Canadians (CC) Agenda, and compare this with its current situation in a less certain policy and partnership environment. K-Net is a foremost example of what was accomplished under the CC Agenda (1995 to 2004). Since 1995 it has been included in almost every major CC Agenda program across federal departments such as Industry Canada, Health Canada, and Human Resources and Social Development Canada. Under the CC Agenda this organization was shaped to meet the constraints of experimental programs and an absence of base funding. Adam's dissertation research seeks to understand how K-Net's management and key stakeholder alliances are re-organizing K-Net during its critical transition beyond the CC Agenda. What opportunities are there for K-Net's sustainability in an uncertain policy and partnership environment?

Adam has been involved in KMD-related work, in addition to his dissertation research. In July 2006 he joined the **Community Wireless Research Project** (3) as a graduate student researcher responsible for CWIRP's aboriginal case study (K-Net: Lac Seul), in which his responsibilities include data collection, liaising with community and government partners, and presenting data to stakeholders. In Spring 2006, he was a research consultant for Princess Margaret Hospital's Patient Education Prescriptions project (PEPTalk) (4) and worked as a project manager and co-designer of a health informatics application for remote aboriginal communities in Northwestern Ontario. Since September 2004, Adam has also been a graduate student researcher for the **Canadian Research**

Alliance for Community Innovation and Networking where he is responsible for CRACIN's K-Net aboriginal case study (Keewaytinook Okimakanak).

Adam has been an elected graduate student representative on the Knowledge Media Design Institute Steering Committee since 2005.

- (1) <http://www.fis.utoronto.ca>
- (2) <http://www.knet.ca>
- (3) <http://www.cwirp.ca/index.php>
- (4) <http://www.peptalk.ca>
- (5) <http://www.cracin.ca>

PROJECT OS|OA

ARTICLE PUBLISHED ON OS SOFTWARE FOR PROMOTION OF PRINTED MEDIA IN DEVELOPING SOCIETIES

Student **Wojciech Gryc** (UTSC) has published an article (1) about the **Project OS|OA Student Experience Program** project, "Open Source Software for Promotion of Printed Media in Developing Societies" (2). Fellow student **Émanuèle Lapierre-Fortin** (UTSC) worked on the project with Wojciech, and **Leslie Chan** (UTSC, KMDI) provided supervision (3). Gryc writes of both the challenges and successes of the project, and about the changes taking place in the youth group **Five Minutes to Midnight** (3), which also provided funding for the project.

- (1) <http://icommons.org/2007/01/15/youth-on-human-rights-youth-for-open-source/>
- (2) http://open.utoronto.ca/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=137&Itemid=191
- (3) <http://www.i2r.org/fmm/>

BETA WEBSITE LAUNCHED FOR INTERNATIONAL FREE AND OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOUNDATION



The International Free and Open Source Software Foundation now has a website (1). iFOSSF's mission is to accelerate the development and usage of Information and Communication Technologies with Free and Open Source Software worldwide for sustained economic and social development, especially for the socially disadvantaged.

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

MELLON FOUNDATION AWARDS WINNERS IN EDUCATION AND ACCESS

In December 2006, the **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** announced the first winners in its planned annual **Mellon Awards for Technology Collaboration** (1), granting 10 recipients cash prizes of \$50,000 to \$100,000. The awards recognize contributions to open source software that benefit

higher education and nonprofit organizations. Canada was represented in the list of winners by the **University of British Columbia's Public Knowledge Project** (2) which supports open scholarly communications through open source tools, and was awarded in particular for its work in developing countries.

Source: NewsForge, Dec. 18, 2006

(1) <http://rit.mellon.org/awards/matcpresrelease.pdf/>

(2) <http://pkp.sfu.ca/>

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OPEN UNIVERSITY CREATES OPENLEARN

In response to the rise in learning institutions making materials available online, Open University has created **OpenLearn** (1), a site that offers entire course materials to its users. OpenLearn encourages the sharing and remixing of course materials; moreover, the availability and range of community tools it offers, including discussion forums, Web-based videoconferencing, and instant messaging, creates a network of support for its users.

(1) <http://openlearn.open.ac.uk/>

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FRANCE PLANS OPEN SOURCE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

As reported in Techworld last month (1), the French government will make Paris a centre of excellence for open-source software development. The French Minister of the Economy, Finance and Industry, Thierry Breton, said the goal of the centre will be to develop a healthy and profitable open-source software industry. Open Source is creating a new economic and technological model for the software industry and the centre will bring together academics and entrepreneurs to position France as a centre of innovation within the European Union.

Source: Techworld, Dec. 6, 2006

(1) <http://www.techworld.com/opsys/news/index.cfm?NewsID=7508>

OTHER NEWS

WATERLOO AND OTTAWA-GATINEAU NAMED AS INTELLIGENT COMMUNITIES

Two Canadian communities – Waterloo and Ottawa-Gatineau – have been named among the Top Seven Intelligent Communities in the world by the New York-based **Intelligent Community Forum** (1). The Top Seven communities represent the cream of the cream – as they were shortlisted from the ICF's earlier Smart21 list **Source:** ITWorld Canada, Jan. 17, 2006

(1) <http://www.intelligentcommunity.org/index.cfm>

REAL-TIME 3D RENDERING MODEL OF THE CITY OF ROME

The **University of Virginia's Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities** (1) is developing a real-time 3D rendering model of the City of Rome in AD400, for use in the classroom and for research in the institute's new 3D theater. The model employs IBM's Cell Broadband Engine (Cell/ B.E.), a technology that speeds up compute-intensive applications such as image processing, simulations, and gaming.

Source: Campus Technology, Jan. 10, 2007

(1) <http://www.iath.virginia.edu/>

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VIRTUAL MIND GAMES REVIVE CONTROVERSIAL EXPERIMENT

Infamous experiments almost 50 years ago discovered that ordinary people—under orders from an authority figure—would deliver apparently lethal electrical shocks to complete strangers. The disturbing findings both shed light on the limits of human behavior and the mind but also ignited an ethical controversy that has made it impossible nowadays to further explore this area directly. Now scientists are conducting these experiments against computer-generated virtual people, where no real people appear to get hurt. The hope is to better understand why people commit horrific acts against their fellows, such as torture or genocide, while potentially overcoming the ethical concerns against the original experiments. To view the full article, go to the LiveScience website (1).

(1) http://www.livescience.com/humanbiology/061220_cyberexperiment.html

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NASA AND GOOGLE SIGN AGREEMENT TO MAKE DATA MORE ACCESSIBLE

Google (1) and **NASA** have signed an agreement to bring previously inaccessible information, including imagery of the Moon and Mars, as well as data on the International Space Station, available to anyone with an Internet connection.

Source: The New Scientist, Dec. 18, 2006

(1) <http://moon.google.com/>

(2) <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/home/index.html>

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PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERNATIONAL STUDY FOR USABILITY AND USER RESEARCH PRACTITIONERS

You are invited to answer a questionnaire (1) for HCI practitioners and researchers who have been conducting laboratory or field studies. It is intended to gather data about the purposes, challenges and opinions of field and lab methods internationally. The questionnaire contains a maximum of 21

questions and will likely take 15 minutes of your time. Researchers hope to make a summary available for the whole HCI community once results are analyzed.

(1) <http://digiumenterprise.com/answer/?sid=79380&chk=H4DT65FF>

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12-MONTH FACULTY POSITION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON'S DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

The **University of Washington** seeks a new faculty member to join its cutting-edge **Master of Communication in Digital Media** program (1). The position open is for an assistant professor or associate professor. This is a full-time non-tenure track position, with a twelve-month service period. Candidates should have an MA or PhD in a related field.

(1) <http://www.com.washington.edu/Program/MCDMPosition.pdf>

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"HUMAN TRIALS" PERFORMANCE AT UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO ART GALLERY (February 15, 2007, 5:30 p.m., Buffalo Art Gallery – Center for Arts, North Campus)

"**Human Trials**" – a virtual reality drama will be performed in the University at Buffalo Art Gallery in February (1). This is a networked, virtual, participatory drama with human actors, intelligent agents and smart sets. It explores the intersection of virtual reality and embodied performance through an event designed both as an immersive experience for one participant, and as a non-immersive production for a live audience.

(1) <http://www.ccr.buffalo.edu/anstey/VDRAMA/HUMAN/index.html>

RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

TRANSACTIONS ON ACCESSIBLE COMPUTING

ACM is pleased to announce a new quarterly, peer-reviewed, archival journal: Transactions on Accessible Computing (1). TACCESS publishes refereed articles addressing issues of computing as it impacts the lives of people with disabilities, providing a technical forum for disseminating innovative research that covers applications of computing and information technologies to provide assistive systems to persons with disabilities or investigations of computing technologies and their use by persons with disabilities.

(1) <http://www.is.umbc.edu/taccess/index.html>

OUR CULTURAL COMMONWEALTH



Our Cultural Commonwealth: The final report of the American Learned Societies Commission on Cyberinfrastructure for the Humanities and Social Sciences (1) details the need for a comprehensive online infrastructure for the humanities and social sciences, the design of which should be informed by experts from those disciplines.

(1) <http://www.acls.org/cyberinfrastructure/>

JOURNAL OF MIXED METHODS RESEARCH



The first issue of the Journal of Mixed Methods Research (1) – an innovative, quarterly, international publication that focuses on empirical, methodological, and theoretical articles about mixed methods research across the social, behavioral, health, and human sciences – has now been published.

(1) <http://www.sagepub.co.uk/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal201775>

HANDBOOK OF HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS

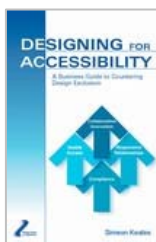


Don Norman has written a review (1) of the third edition of the Handbook of Human Factors and Ergonomics (2). Winner of the Institute of Industrial Engineers Joint Publishers Book-of-the-Year Award, this thoroughly revised Third Edition of Gavriel Salvendy's seminal work compiles the research of 109 of the world's top thinkers and practitioners in one volume. All new chapters feature theoretically based and practically oriented material-supported by numerous case studies, examples, figures, and tables-to be useful to both practitioners and researchers.

(1) http://www.jnd.org/recommended_readings.html#000627

(2) <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/bookhome/112467581/>

DESIGNING FOR ACCESSIBILITY: A BUSINESS GUIDE TO COUNTERING DESIGN EXCLUSION



Designing for Accessibility (1), published by Erlbaum and Associates, provides insightful case studies to illustrate the corporate benefits for designing accessibility. It serves as a means to demystify what is involved in designing inclusive products for all users. The author, Dr. Simon Keates highlights numerous examples for designers, such as creating a tool for Web browsing for older adults, as well as digital television access.

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

COOL TOOLS

SHARE VISUAL CONCEPTS ONLINE WITH CONCEPTSHARE



ConceptShare (1) is a new Web-based tool that allows users to create interactive workspaces where they can effectively and visually communicate their concepts, ideas and intentions. It's easy to invite people into a workspace. Invite team members, managers, clients, and consultants to add and reply to comments, chat and markup designs.

Source: ITWorld Canada, Nov. 30, 2006

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

CAMPCASTER: A FREE AND OPEN SOURCE AUTOMATION SYSTEM FOR RADIO STATIONS

A new generation of broadcasters has joined the world's airwaves after the launch of open-source software which allows people to run a radio station from a single computer for free. **Campcaster** (1) takes a regular PC and turns it into a tool for managing every aspect of a radio station broadcast.

Source: BBC News, Technology, Jan. 11, 2007.

(1) http://www.campware.org/en/camp/campcaster_news/

GOOGLE MOVES INTO VIRTUAL WORLDS

By combining satellite maps and 3-D software, **Google Earth** is turning into a virtual online playground. Last year, the company released, for free, a popular 3-D modeling program it bought called **SketchUp** (1). This allows developers to build 3-D layers on top of Google Earth. There's even a website Google provides called 3-D Warehouse, where you can demonstrate what you've built in SketchUp. With this new venture, Google joins the 'metaverse' with the likes of online worlds like Second Life and There.com. The difference, however, is that we can populate a virtual version of planet Earth, rather than the made-from-scratch metaverses like those in the online games.

Source: CNN Money, Dec. 14, 2006

(1) http://www.sketchup.com/?utm_campaign=en&utm_source=en-ha-ww-google&utm_medium=ha&utm_term=sketch%20up

IBM UNVEILS SOCIAL NETWORKING TOOLS FOR BUSINESS



IBM (1) recently unveiled what it called the first social software offerings appropriate for business. The announcement focused particularly on three offerings: **IBM Lotus Connections**, a collection of integrated blogging, social networking and other tools due to ship in the second quarter; **Quickr**, a new content sharing and management software that will also be rolled out in the second quarter. Quickr Personal Edition will enable businesses to securely store and swap content much like the way consumers swap songs and videos; and, **Lotus Sametime 7.51**, this latest release of IBM's enterprise instant messaging and Web conferencing application is due sometime in April. New features include point-to-point video, tabbed chat, and integration with Microsoft Office and Outlook.

Source: ITWorld Canada, Jan. 23, 2007.

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

WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS/SYMPOSIA

OPEN STANDARDS INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM AT YALE LAW SCHOOL (February 3, 2007, Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut)



Information and Communication Technology (ICT) standards are increasingly serving as a locus of political and economic controversy. During this groundbreaking symposium (1) a distinguished international group of technologists, policymakers, entrepreneurs, executives, lawyers, computer scientists, and activists will map out the terrain of open standards issues in four panels: Technology; Economics; Politics; and Law.

(1) <http://research.yale.edu/isp/eventsisis.html>

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Submission Deadline—March 1, 2007

WORKSHOP ON THE FAMILY AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (May 24, 2007, Northumbria University, Newcastle, UK)

New communication technologies are increasingly being used in family and social contexts to support and extend relationships. Yet the social aspects of these communication technologies and impact upon family life are often overlooked by researchers and designers keen to create task-based products. This workshop (1) will focus on issues of context, purpose and benefit to see if we can build up a richer, more detailed account of real technology usage and impact upon family life.

(1) <http://www.usabilitynews.com/news/article3592.asp>

Abstract Deadline—January 31, 2007

**SEFUN INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
(June 6-7, 2007, Helsinki, Finland)**



The **SeFun research seminar** (1) aims at creating a relaxed academic atmosphere for discussion on topics around design semiotics. The emphasis of the dialogues will be put on design communication, which is approached by different methods within the many areas of design research. The **SeFun project** (Semiotic Product Functions) (2) examines how industrial design products communicate with users in various contexts. Product communication is conceived as interaction between products and users.

(1) <http://www2.uiah.fi/sefun/designsemioticsinuse.html>

(2) <http://www2.uiah.fi/sefun/>

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Panel Submissions—February 1, 2006

**PANEL PROPOSED AT AOIR: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES OF WEB 2.0
(October 17-20, 2007, Vancouver, BC)**

Michael Zimmer (PhD candidate, New York University) (1) is proposing a panel on "Critical Perspectives on Web 2.0" at **AOIR 2007** (2) (see below). This panel will work to remove the blinders of the unintended consequences of Web 2.0's (playful) blurring of boundaries and critically explore the social, political, and ethical dimensions of Web 2.0. E-mail Michael by **February 1, 2007** for panel submissions.

(1) michael.zimmer@nyu.edu

(2) <http://conferences.aoir.org/index.php?cf=6>

CONFERENCES

**2007 JOINT INFORMATION SYSTEMS COMMITTEE CONFERENCE
(March 13, 2007, Birmingham, UK)**

The mission of the **Joint Information Systems Committee** (1) is to provide world-class leadership in the innovative use of Information and Communications Technology to support education and research. The **JISC 2007 Conference** (2) will reflect the breadth of JISC activities in providing guidance, advice and opportunities for the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in education and research. Delegates will have the opportunity to learn about the full range of JISC's work by participating in seminars, debates, workshops and demonstrations.

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

(2) http://www.jisc.ac.uk/events/2007/03/event_conf_0307.aspx

Registration Deadline—March 23, 2007

**EUROPEAN INFORMATION SOCIETY CONFERENCE 2007
(April 16-18, 2007, Hämeenlinna, Finland)**



The upcoming **EISCO conference** (1) will promote the Digital Local Agenda process in Europe and will highlight its potential contribution to the i2010 strategy. The conference programme will focus on five areas: citizens' eParticipation in local decision-making processes; eCapacity building programmes of administrations to ensure digital cohesion and improved eGovernment performance at local level; broadband infrastructure and the new wireless network solutions; local Government interoperability and eSecurity; and the new generation of municipal services in a multi-channel environment.

(1) <http://www.hameenliitto.fi/eisco2007/index.php>

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**COMPUTER/HUMAN INTERACTION 2007
(April 28-May 3, 2007, San Jose, California)**

Computer/Human Interaction 2007 (1) will be a special event as we celebrate **25 years of CHI**. Join us as we reflect on our amazing accomplishments over the past 25 years while we look forward to those we haven't yet tried to imagine. Join us as we redirect our everyday concerns toward the problems we didn't know would be relevant. Join us as we break down our habitual mindsets to welcome the concepts and ideas of colleagues we never knew we had.

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Technical Submissions—February 19, 2007
Communication Submissions—March 16, 2007

**INTERNATIONAL CROSS-DISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON WEB ACCESSIBILITY
(May 7-8, 2007, Banff, Alberta)**

Co-located with the 16th International World Wide Web Conference, this conference (1) will be a useful vehicle for coalescing the Web Accessibility research community by disseminating high quality research publications while encouraging all levels of researchers, from students through to world renowned researchers, in solving the ongoing issues surrounding Web Accessibility. This will also be the place to discuss and disseminate Web Accessibility research.

(1) <http://www.w4a.info/2007/>

DevTrack Paper Submissions—February 1, 2007
Poster Submissions—February 12, 2007

16th INTERNATIONAL WORLD WIDE WEB CONFERENCE
(May 8-12, 2007, Banff, Alberta)



The **World Wide Web Conference** (1) is the global event that brings together the key innovators, decision-makers, technologists, businesses, and standards bodies shaping the Web. Organized by the **IW3C2** (2) since 1994, the WWW conference is the annual gathering place of the international community to discuss and debate the future evolution of the Web.

- (1) <http://www.www2007.org/>
(2) <http://www.iw3c2.org/>

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Abstract Submission—January 31, 2007

COST 298 CONFERENCE
(May 23-28, 2007, Moscow, Russian Federation)



COST Action 298 (1) supports co-operation among scientists and researchers across Europe regarding Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). This year's conference (2) falls under the theme "The Good, the bad and the unexpected: The user and the future of information and communication technologies". The main objective of the conference is to create new knowledge about users' creativity and facilitate their empowerment in a broadband information society. This knowledge is crucial in order to strengthen the European Research Area. Moreover, this requires an examination of the factors that can both constrain and enhance users' abilities to shape and use ICTs.

- (1) <http://www.cost298.org/>
(2) <http://conference.cost298.org/>

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E-LEARNING AFRICA 2007
(May 28-30, 2007, Nairobi, Kenya)



The **2nd International Conference on ICT for Development, Education and Training** (1) will feature the theme, "Building Infrastructures and Capacities to Reach out to the Whole of Africa", reflecting the significant efforts of African countries to set up their national and regional ICT infrastructures to create access to education, training and services for all. The conference will bring together high-level policy makers, industry leaders, as well as R&D experts and practitioners with their counterparts from Asia, the Americas,

and Europe. Together they will take account of the challenges, achievements, and the strategies forward in discussing inter-African and international cooperation schemes for the Continent.

(1) <http://www.elearning-africa.com/>

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Abstract Submission—February 15, 2007

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN ASPECTS OF ADVANCED
MANUFACTURING AGILITY AND HYBRID AUTOMATION
(July 9-12, 2007, Poznan, Poland)**

The 11th **International Conference on Human Aspects of Advanced Manufacturing Agility and Hybrid Automation** (1) will be held jointly with the 4th International Conference on Ergonomics and Safety for Global Business Quality and Productivity. The event promises to be a great an international forum to promote, exchange and disseminate information and research results on integrating people, organization and technology in the context of unpredictable and turbulent business environment.

(1) <http://www.ergonet.net/haamaha2007/>

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Abstract Submission—February 22, 2007

**3rd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL
INFORMATICS AND CYBERNETICS
(July 12-15, 2007, Orlando, Florida)**



Informatics, Cybernetics and Cyber-Technologies (ICCT) are, by definition and by nature, transversal to many disciplines and, as such, are special means for the multi-, inter-, and trans-disciplinary approaches required. This conference (1) will provide a forum for disciplinary and interdisciplinary communications, where researchers (in Social and Natural Sciences, as well as in Engineering), intellectuals, policy/decision makers and Consultants would share the results of their research, studies and thoughts, with regards to societies and private/public organizations in the context of the Information Age.

(1) <http://www.cyber-inf.org/imsci2007/Website/default.asp?vc=11>

Early Registration Deadline –January 27, 2007

Poster Deadline—March 12, 2007

**12th INTERNATIONAL HUMAN-COMPUTER INTERACTION CONFERENCE
(July 22-27, 2007, Beijing, China)**



The **2007 International HCI Conference** (1) will be a venue for the dissemination and exchange of up-to-date scientific information on theoretical, generic and applied areas of HCI. The programme will feature 20 pre-conference half-day and full-day tutorials, an opening session with a keynote address, more than 250 parallel sessions, poster presentations, an exhibition including demonstrations by industrial companies, and a panel session involving important stakeholders from China and Asia, and representatives from major international ICT industries.

(1) https://www.hcii2007.org/index.php?module=users&norm_user_op=signup

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Submissions—March 1, 2007

**MOBILE HCI '07
(September 11-14, 2007, Singapore)**



MobileHCI (1) is a conference that provides practitioners and researchers a common forum to discuss about the challenges, potential solutions and innovations towards effective interaction with mobile systems and services. The conference will cover the analysis, design, evaluation and application of human-computer interaction techniques and approaches for all mobile computing devices, software and services.

(1) <http://www.mobilehci2007.org/>

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Abstracts and Drafts Submission—February 15, 2007

**ITET 2007: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
(September 26-28, 2007, Prague, Czech Republic)**

The mission of the **iTET Joint Working Conference** (1) is to bring knowledge and experience, advanced technology R&D work relating to technology based/assisted learning and training, and contemporary and prospective theories and trends together in a balanced forum.

(1) <http://itet2007.eu/>

Abstract Deadline—February 1, 2007

**AOIR 2007 – INTERNET RESEARCH 8.0: LET'S PLAY
(October 17-20, 2007, Vancouver, BC)**



The Association of Internet Researchers Conference 2007

(1) invites empirical research and theoretical reflection on how human beings seriously play with one another on, via and through internet/s, on local, regional, and global scales. We call for papers that explore the intersection of the serious and the playful, the sacred and the profane, the revolutionary and the mundane, and fantasy and the reality.

(1) <http://conferences.aoir.org/index.php?cf=6>

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Abstract Submission—February 27, 2007

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIETIES OF DESIGN RESEARCH
CONFERENCE
(November 11-15, 2007, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong)**

This is a large, international design research conference (1) with an intensive and high quality programme. Keynote speakers will be invited from other disciplines, such as the social sciences, computing, and business. Multiple paths through the papers will be suggested to help participants find synergies among people and papers. Ample time will be available for informal meeting and discussion.

(1) <http://www.sd.polyu.edu.hk/iasdr/>

ABOUT THE KMDiary

The KMDiary Volume 8, Issue #1 (January 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 February 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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