



ACM SIGITE Newsletter, Vol.3 No. 1

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SIGITE Chair's Note, Han Reichgelt

A number of events that are worth reporting on have taken place since I last reported to you in the November SIGITE Bulletin.

First, Dr. Joseph Mani has agreed to join the SIGITE Executive Committee as the International Representative. Dr. Mani is a member of the Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Information Technology in the Modern College of Business and Science in Sultanate of Oman. He can be reached as drjosephmani@mcbs.edu.om I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Dr. Mani and to encourage the international SIGITE members to contact Dr. Mani with any concerns they would like to bring to the attention of the executive committee.

Second, in the November newsletter I reported on the IT Exit Exam initiative. We have made considerable progress on this initiative. In particular, we have decided that initially we will create an IT Core Exam, which will consist of some 100 questions and which will cover only the core of the IT Model Curriculum. We have also been able to identify around 60 questions from the various IS Exit Exams that might be relevant to the IT Core Exam, and a number of volunteers are currently reviewing these questions. The plan is to have an initial beta version of the IT Core Exam ready by the end of March. However, we are still looking for volunteers to review and set questions, especially in the areas of Human Computer Interaction (HCI), Information Assurance and Security (IAS), Platform Technologies (PT) and System Administration (SA). If you are interested in working on this initiative, please contact me. My email address is han@georgiasouthern.edu

Finally, for a number of reasons, we have modified the paper submission and review process for our conference in Minneapolis in October. In particular, we will no longer insist that authors first submit an abstract, and we are encouraging authors to simply submit a full paper. Also, we would like to complete the entire reviewing process before the summer break. As a result, we have moved the submission date forward to March 31. This is about two months from now, and it is therefore probably time for authors to start thinking about their submissions now!

Han Reichgelt
Chair, SIGITE

Editor's Note, Rob Friedman

About this edition – Perhaps it's serendipity, but I'd like to think that the commonality among the titles to the three papers offered in this edition of the SIGITE Newsletter – *Using* – is an indication of this group's focus on the user as the primary concern of IT. Whether the user is a group of faculty seeking validation for its pre-accreditation assessment techniques (Rigby and Dark), students and faculty searching for fast and reliable mechanisms to aid research (Cold), or learners generally, finding that, no matter what the goal, two heads are better than one (Preston), this issue's contributors offer sound, reasoned and reasonable approaches to furthering the processes and goals of IT education by making the most of the technology available to us.

About SIGITE 2005 – Despite difficulties with a paper program more easily handled by those practiced in reading back to front and right to left, the October 2005 SIGITE conference in Newark, NJ, turned out quite nicely. Paper and poster presenters from around the globe had an audience of more than 150 registrants. Graduate students attended and delivered their work. Al Biles entertained nearly 100 people who ventured to NJIT for the Dean's reception. About 30 people benefited from the Wednesday Workshops at the hotel and on NJIT's campus. The keynote speaker, Paul Tinnirello of AM Best, Co., spurred many of us to think more intently about some of the differences between the lives of our students, when their ours, and when they join the workforce in organizations such as his: how best can we prepare them? Everyone ate well, and everyone got out of Newark safely ☺

Note from the SIGITE 2006 Conference Chairs

Greetings SIGITE Members:

The SIGITE 2006 Conference is approaching! This year the conference will be held in the heart of downtown Minneapolis, MN, Thursday, October 19th through Saturday, October 21st. We are also planning a set of exciting workshops for Wednesday, October 18th. The conference will be in the Crown Plaza Hotel, which is connected to the downtown shopping and entertainment areas through the skyway system.

The conference will include sessions based on the theme of the conference *IT Education – The Engine for Innovation* and will also include tracks on topics of special interest (i.e. the current status of women in IT and IT education) and also sessions provided by exhibitors and conference contributors. We hope to have a nationally known keynote speaker intimately familiar with IT education and the current direction of the IT industry. SafariU will be providing a session on interactively developing a textbook over the web. Capella Next Generation Learning will be demonstrating new ideas for the online course room. Trissential, a locally based but nationally known consulting firm, will be providing a session on the current state of Systems Design in the industry.

You of course are the creators and key participants of this conference! We encourage your participation through submission of papers, presentation of papers and workshops and through poster presentations. We also encourage your attendance in a conference that has always been a high point for sharing experience, ideas and innovation in IT education. Please visit the SIGITE website <http://www.sigite.org/content/index.maml> regularly for updates on conference dates and information. We anticipate posting the call for papers and workshops towards the end of February. We are looking forward to seeing you in Minneapolis in October.

Jack Krichen, Conference Chair jkrichen@capella.edu

Keith Morneau, Conference Co-Chair Keith.Morneau@faculty.capella.edu

Faculty Position Announcements

The Department of Information Technology at Southern Polytechnic State University (SPSU) invites applications for one tenure-track position at Assistant Professor level and one full-time position at lecturer level. While all areas of Information Technology expertise will be considered, the department has special interest in computer networks, information security, and Web technologies.

The Assistant Professor Position: The Assistant Professor will teach undergraduate and graduate courses in Information Technology, conduct research in IT-related areas, and advise students. The position is a 9-month, tenure-track appointment, and the salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. Applicants must hold a PhD in Information Technology, Computer Science, or in a closely related field, have substantial research potential, and demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and professional service.

The Full-Time Lecturer Position: The Lecturer will teach undergraduate courses in Information Technology, engage in service activities, and advise students. The position is a 9-month, renewable appointment, and the salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience. Applicants should hold a Master Degree in Information Technology, Computer Science, or in a closely related field, and demonstrate a strong commitment to excellence in teaching and professional service.

Screening of applications begins February 1, 2006, and continues until the positions are filled. Both positions will start in mid-August, 2006. A complete application consists of a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, a brief statement

of teaching philosophy and research interests (the research interest statement is optional for lecturer applicants), and a copy of graduate transcripts. Applicants should also provide a list of at least three professional references with contact information. Please send your application to the following address:

Dr. Andy Ju An Wang, Chair
Department of Information Technology
School of Computing and Software Engineering
Southern Polytechnic State University
1100 South Marietta Parkway
Marietta, GA 30060

Southern Polytechnic State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Calls For Papers

[Journal of IT Education](#) Call for Papers *for a special series on the ACM IT 2005 Curriculum Model*
In cooperation with ACM's Special Interest Group on IT Education, [SIGITE](#), the [Journal of Information Technology Education](#) is pleased to announce a special issue devoted to the [IT 2005 model curriculum](#).
Submissions Deadline: Submissions are accepted from January 1 through June 30, 2006 on a rolling basis.

Suggested topics:

The special issue will be dedicated to the consideration of the IT 2005 model curriculum. Sample topics might include, but are not limited to the following:

- comparisons of IT 2005 with other model curricula
- case studies of actual implementation of the IT 2005 model curriculum
- relationships between IT and other computing discipline
- evaluations of the IT 2005 model curriculum or any of its courses against recognized standards or through empirical means

A very limited number of shorter, editorial pieces are also being sought.

Authors who wish to receive rapid feedback upon a particular potential topic are encouraged to email the issue's [special editor](#) at any time. **Editor for the Special Issue:** [Linda Knight, DePaul University USA](#) (lknight@cti.depaul.edu)

Submission guidelines:

1. Potential authors are encouraged to review articles published on the [JITE website](#) to become familiar with appropriate organization, writing style and reference handling for this journal.
2. Submissions for this special issue must follow [JITE submission guidelines](#) for formatting.

All manuscripts for the special issue must be submitted through the [JITE submission site](#). When submitting, be sure to check the box labeled "IT 2005 Model Curriculum" to ensure that your paper can be properly tracked. Manuscripts of all lengths will be considered.

Review process and timeframe:

The review process will follow JITE's traditional rolling review, rapid response process. All papers will be read by the issue's special editor immediately upon receipt to insure that the topic and quality are appropriate for the issue. Papers that are suitable for the special issue will be sent to a panel of referees for blind review. Authors should expect to receive results of the review process, along with an editorial decision within six weeks of submission. Since JITE accepts few papers on the first round, most papers that are published require one or more rounds of revision. Accepted papers will be published on our site at the end of each individual's paper's revision process, beginning in February 1, 2006. The special issue, published on the web as papers are completed, will appear in its entirety in print in January 2007.

JITE views reviewers and editors as mentors. Whether or not the Editor accepts the paper for publication, the Editor provides authors with constructive, helpful suggestions to aid in their development and placement of the paper. For the readership, the Editor assures that JITE publishes only submissions that are of value: original, well organized, well written, and well thought out.

About the journal:

JITE, one of the top ranked IT education journals, has as its goal the improvement of IT education around the world. JITE is published by the [Informing Science Institute](#) in print by subscription. Its articles also appear online free of charge where they can be read and cited by colleagues around the world. This arrangement provides authors with the widest possible readership while ensuring that their papers are fully recognized.

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About the IT 2005 Model Curriculum:

The Special Interest Group on Information Technology Education ([SIGITE](#)) of the Association for Computing Machinery, ACM, has developed this model curriculum. Their [report](#) defines the IT body of knowledge, identifies expected learning outcomes, and provides specific course descriptions for an undergraduate bachelor's degree in Information Technology. This curriculum is designed to parallel and compliment those in other computing disciplines, including computer science, information systems, software engineering, and computer engineering. The work on the IT model curriculum dates back to informal faculty discussions among IT school faculty in 2001.

Acknowledgements:

JITE thanks SIGITE chair [Han Reichgelt](#) of [Georgia Southern University's College of Information Technology](#), for his sponsorship of this special issue.

SIGITE Newsletter: *It's not too early* to consider contributing an article to the next edition of the SIGITE Newsletter, to be published in June 2006. We welcome research articles, case studies, industry and academic observations and literature reviews related to information technology education. Prospective authors should send articles to the editor (friedman@njit.edu) no later than April 15, 2006. Position announcements, notice of professional advancement and other news items relevant to SIGITE members' interests are welcome.