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Welcome again to the SIGITE Newsletter. This is the second issue for which I have been responsible. Looking back, it has been quite clear that the organization has been making great strides: membership increases, an expanding SIGITE/RIIT conference, and the beginnings of a revised IT model curriculum.

In October 2013, a very successful SIGITE/RIIT conference was run in Orlando, Florida. Expertly chaired by Dave Armitage, the conference had beautiful weather, excellent papers, and helped further cement the importance of the RIIT component of the conference.

This issue is mainly focused on the upcoming SIGITE/RIIT conference October 15-18 in Atlanta, Georgia. Conference co-chairs Amber Settle and Terry Steinbach have added some exciting innovations to this year’s conference, and I would encourage you to read further inside about their plans ... and of course all our readers are encouraged to register to review, enter a submission, and/or attend this year’s SIGITE/RIIT.

Finally, now that I have returned from sabbatical we should have a December 2014 issue of the newsletter. If you have news or stories that you would like to see appear in the next issue of this newsletter, be sure to contact me at the email listed below.

Randy Connolly
Mount Royal University, Calgary
DR. ROB FRIEDMAN
SIGITE CHAIR
MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Dear Members

While most of us are looking forward to getting together in Atlanta come October, some of us have been looking backward, too, specifically at the IT2008 curriculum report. The ACM Education Board assembled a group of stakeholders from around the world to revisit that report and determine whether or not it would benefit from revision. Several well-known SIGITE members were part of the ACM Review Task Group for Information Technology; you may recall the panel session in Orlando where Bill Paterson (Mt. Royal), Ed Sobiesk (USMA) and Mark Stockman (U of Cincinnati) led an informative and robust discussion on this topic. The team got back together, distributed a survey to ten thousand IT professionals and academics, and returned a report to the ACM Education Board recommending “a moderate revision of the [2008] document, keeping the structure and the majority of the content of the original IT2008 report.”

John Impagliazzo is assembling an international team of 12 stakeholders from the IT, CS, and IS communities to address “new contemporary topics [that] have emerged such as cloud computing and cybersecurity.” Survey respondents identified security and information assurance, communication, innovation, service orientation, networking, programming, systems integration, integrity and data mining as areas of importance. “New and future technologies” identified include brainwave communication, augmented reality and predictive systems.

I’m confident that the group of 12 will have made significant progress before the October conference in Atlanta, and we’ll learn about that activity and next steps toward IT2016 – yes, it does take a long time to turn these big ships. Shortly before we meet, I’ll be representing SIGITE at the SIG Board meeting and presenting our viability report. SIG’s are deemed viable when, among other things, they run conferences that turn a small (or large) profit, provide information and services to their constituencies (such as this newsletter), and come up with novel ways to increase membership. To that end, I ask that you keep your membership active, and if it lapses before you register for SIGITE/RIIT 2014, that you support your SIG by renewing rather than applying that small membership fee to cover the non-member registration fee.

Dr. Rob Friedman
University of Washington, Tacoma
SIGITE
EXECUTIVE

CHAIR

Rob Friedman
University of Washington, Tacoma

SECRETARY

Rick Homkes
Purdue University

VICE CHAIR

Mihaela Sabin
University of New Hampshire

PAST CHAIR

Mark Stockman
University of Cincinnati
The Atlanta metropolitan area is home to around six million people. Atlanta boasts one of the busiest airports in Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Among the companies headquartered in Atlanta are The Coca-Cola Company, the Home Depot, Delta Air Lines, AT&T Mobility, UPS and Newell-Rubbermaid.

Atlanta is also a hub for media, including CNN and TNT, and the Weather Channel, and, thanks to generous tax incentives to digital content producers, has attracted a growing number of television and movie productions, as well as a rapidly expanding computer gaming industry.

The Atlanta Metro Area has also become a major hub for Health Information Technology companies, and it is styling itself as the “HIT Capital of the World”. The Atlanta Metro Chamber of Commerce has also made Mobility one of the central elements in its economic development plans.

The conference hotel is the Marriott Hotel in the uptown Buckhead district of Atlanta (http://www.marriottbuckhead.com/) on Lenox Road in the center of the Buckhead district. It is within walking distance of MARTA Lenox Station and can therefore be reached easily via the MARTA light railway from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transport Authority, http://itsmarta.com/).

Buckhead (http://www.buckhead.net/) is one of the more upscale areas of Atlanta and has a large number of bars and restaurants, many within a short distance of the conference hotel.
Southern Polytechnic State University will host the 15th annual conference on Information Technology Education and 3rd Annual Research in IT Conference in the Buckhead neighborhood which is a few miles north of downtown Atlanta, Georgia.

Something new this year! We’ve added an opportunity to present your work in progress.

In addition to papers, panels, workshops and posters, Lightning Talks – 10 minutes to present your work and obtain feedback – will be scheduled. A one page summary of the accepted lightning talks will be published in the conference proceedings. See you in October!

Amber Settle & Terry Steinbach
Conference Co-Chairs SIGITE/RIIT 2014

Dates to remember
June 8
Paper, panel, workshop, lightning talk, and poster submissions due.
July 15
Acceptance/rejection notification & reviewer feedback.
August 15
Final versions due.