INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR INFORMATION PROCESSING

Open Working Conference on

"Education, Training and Life Long Learning for IT Professionals"

Organised by IFIP Working Group 3.4 in collaboration with Special Interest Group 3.8

Venue: Dublin City University, Ireland
Dates: 9th to 13th July 2007

http://www.businessandlaw.vu.edu.au/ifip34/

Call for Paper and Workshop Proposals

What is an IFIP working conference?

This working conference on "Education, Training and Life Long Learning for IT Professionals" is organised by IFIP Technical Committee 3 (Education) through its Working Group 3.4 (Professional and Vocational Education in Information Technology) and its Special Interest Group 3.8 (Life Long Learning) in a tradition of working conferences. The conference is designed to allow in-depth treatment of the conference themes, in-depth discussions, but also informal exchange of ideas and experiences. Conference activities will encourage the establishment of new professional and personal relationships. Also, intensive work with experts in the field will provide stimulating experiences.

Conference themes

This IFIP Working Conference will address aspects related to the following themes that are central to the work of Working Group 3.4 and Special Interest Group 3.8:
1. The integration of IT knowledge and practice with other vocational and professional education,
2. The on-going professional development of IT practitioners,
3. The provision of initial and on-going IT training and education for non-IT professionals to enable them to use and contribute to the development of IT systems,
4. The use of computer-based training methods in the delivery of education of professionals

Plus life long learning aspects relating to the above.

Papers that address issues relating to Continuous Professional Development would be particularly welcome. In this area Working Group 3.4 has a particular interest with regard to approaches and mechanisms that would assist in ensuring that professionals are familiar with current best practice and relevant proven methodologies.

Participation and Context

This is designated as an Open Working conference. Participation can either be as a paper presenter, a workshop organiser, a workshop participant, a conference participant or an invited presenter/participant.

The language of the Working Conference and contributions is English. No (simultaneous) translation facilities are available. However, it is IFIP's tradition to bridge language gaps by inviting delegates to help each other.

This IFIP Working Conference immediately follows the IEEEE-CS supported International Conference on Software Engineering Education and Training (CSEE&T 2007) which is also located at Dublin City University. The CSEE&T conference is concerned primarily with University level undergraduate education and it is the intention that the two conferences will complement one another.

Publication of Conference Papers and Workshops Reports

The norm for IFIP Working Conferences is that the formal publication follows the conference so that it can include inputs from the conference itself. Accepted peer-reviewed and invited conference papers (all of which must have been supported by a conference presentation) along with reports on the workshops held during the conference are scheduled to be published in a post-conference proceedings volume produced by Springer as part of its IFIP series of publications. Contributions will be edited on scientific content and language before publication as necessary. It is planned that unedited versions of papers will be distributed at the conference. The working title for the Springer hard back proceedings book is "Education, Training and Life Long Learning for IT Professionals"

Submission and Review of Conference Papers

As for the co-located CSEE&T conference a two-stage review process will be operated. The first stage is the submission of a paper proposal in the form of an extended abstract which details:

- Paper Title
- Author details: Name(s), Affiliation(s), Contact Address(es)
- Contact details for key contact author. Name, Tel, Fax, E-mail
- Confirmation statement that if the abstract and the final paper are accepted an author will present it at the conference in Dublin
- Relevant conference area(s) as highlighted in this call
- An Extended Abstract. This should be 350 to 450 words in length and provide contextual information and an outline of the final paper.
- Selected supporting references. (5or 6 are expected)

An example first stage submission is given at the end of this call and can also be found via: http://www.businessandlaw.vu.edu.au/ifip34/ (Available from 31 Jan 2007)

Paper proposals should be emailed to the Program Chair, Arthur Tatnall: arthur.tatnall@vu.edu.au
These should be as an attachment in RTF format and should arrive no later than 5 March 2007.
The email should be titled ETLLL Paper submission.

The authors of acceptable abstracts that are deemed to be in line with the themes of the conference will be invited to submit a full paper (feedback will be given, as appropriate). Some submissions that do not meet fully the criteria for acceptance (example - an idea at an early stage, inadequate results to validate an idea etc.) may be accepted and scheduled under "Short papers".

Author(s) may wish, in their submission, to indicate that their paper should only be considered for the 'Short papers' stream.

Final full papers can be up to 10 pages in length. Short papers should be no more than 4 pages in length. Both classes of paper are to be formatted to the standards specified by Springer for IFIP publications (http://www.springer.com). The papers must not have been published elsewhere nor must they be concurrently submitted for publication elsewhere. Final papers will be reviewed to ensure that they meet appropriate academic standards, that they are in line with the submitted abstract, and that any feedback relating to the abstract has been appropriately actioned. If there are any outstanding problems further feedback will be provided and authors will be expected to amend their papers prior to the conference. If such problems are not addressed the paper will not be included in the post-conference proceedings.

Submission and Review of Workshop Proposals

The conference has been planned so that it can accommodate a number of full-day or half-day interactive workshops (four full-day, or eight half-day, or a mixture). The workshops will enable groups of like-minded participants to exchange experiences and viewpoints in a sharply focused manner. It is NOT intended that these will be mini conferences. Workshop organisers are responsible

for authoring a call for participation and for advertising their workshops in appropriate places to attract attendees. They are also responsible for producing an appropriate post- workshop report for inclusion in the conference proceedings.

The proposal for a workshop (in not more than 3 pages) should include the following:
- Workshop title, aim, and objectives
- Proposer's name, affiliation and a brief bio
- Confirmation statement that if the workshop is accepted the proposer will attend the conference in Dublin to run their workshop.
- Relevant conference area(s) as highlighted in this call
- Preferred duration: Full or half day
- Names, affiliations and brief bio of 1 to 3 people who will assist the proposer in the conduct of the workshop
- Expected number of participants and how the workshop will be advertised
- Pre requisites, if any, needed from participants to attend the workshop and how such will be treated
- Workshop activities and format
- How the success of the workshop will judged

Workshop organizers may wish to include details of their strategy for encouraging attendance such as requesting short position papers that could form part of an extended post workshop report.

An example workshop proposal is given at the end of this call and can also be found via:
http://www.businessandlaw.vu.edu.au/ifip34/ (Available from 31 Jan 2007)

Workshop proposals should be emailed to the Workshop Chair, Helen Edwards:
helen.edwards@sunderland.ac.uk
These should be as an attachment in RTF format and should arrive no later than 5 March 2007.
The email should be titled ETLLL Workshop submission.

Important Dates

Paper and workshop proposals   5 March 2007
Acceptance/rejection plus advice   23 March 2007
Author confirmation of attendance   2 April 2007
Reservation of on-campus accommodation 9 April 2007
Formatted full and short papers   7 May 2007
Early bird registration closes   28 May 2007
Conference   9 to 13 July 2007
Workshop Reports   6 August 2007

International Co-ordinating Committee

J. Barrie Thompson (Conference Chair) School of Computing and Technology, University of Sunderland, Sunderland, UK.
Arthur Tatnall (Program Chair)   Victoria Graduate School of Business, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia.
Mike Kendall   Principal Advisor, Learning and ICT, NIAS Chair, East Midlands Broadband Consortium, United Kingdom.
Bill Davey   School of Business Information Technology, RMIT University, Melbourne Australia.
Helen M. Edwards (Workshops Chair)   School of Computing and Technology, University of Sunderland, Sunderland, UK

Contacts

Details about the programme, conference fee, accomodation, travel, tourist information will be made available via the conference web site http://www.businessandlaw.vu.edu.au/ifip34/

Further information can be obtained from J. Barrie Thompson (Conference Chair):
barrie.thompson@sunderland.ac.uk or Arthur Tatnall (Program Chair): arthur.tatnall@vu.edu.au

International Federation of Information Processing

IFIP	http://www.ifip.org
IFIP WG3.4	http://www.businessandlaw.vu.edu.au/ifip34/
IFIP SIG3.8	http://www.ifip.or.at/bulletin/bulltcs/tc3_aim.htm#sig38

Acknowledgements

Example Proposal for a Paper for ETLLL 2007

Paper Title: Globalisation and the IT Professional

Author details:

Name (s)
Affiliation(s)
Mail Address(es)

Contact details for key contact author

Name:
Tel:
Fax:
E-mail:

Confirmation

I confirm that if this abstract and the final paper are accepted I (or one of my co-authors) will present it at the conference in Dublin

Relevant areas as highlighted in the call for papers

On-going professional development of IT practitioners

Extended Abstract

Over the last decade, interest in professionalism within the ICT sector has waxed and waned. For example, during the 1990s the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP), following encouragement from the World Trade Organisation, initiated activities related to defining international standards for professionals in the field of Information Technology. These activities finally led to the release of a document entitled "Harmonization of Professional Standards" (Mitchell et al, 1998). However, despite very positive evaluations regarding its proposals in the early years of this decade (Thompson, 2005) there appears to have been little will, until recently, to advance its acceptance and address some particular deficiencies.

The ongoing problem of poor quality software has been repeatedly highlighted in published studies (e.g. The Royal Academy of Engineering, 2004) and by high profile software-related failures. This situation has acted as a catalyst for particular national computing bodies to address professionalism in proactive manner. In particular, the British Computer Society has undertaken since 2005 an ambitiously managed programme (British Computer Society, 2006) with two key objectives:
1. By increasing professionalism, to improve the ability of business and other organisations to exploit the potential of information technology effectively and consistently.
2. To build an IT profession that is respected and valued by its stakeholders- Government, business leaders, IT employers, IT users and customers – for the contribution that it makes to a more professional approach to the exploitation and application of IT.

The final paper will briefly chart the recent global and national developments relating to professionalism in the ICT sector and will provide a critical appraisal of the likely effectiveness of initiatives such as that currently being undertaken by the British Computer Society. It will also cover new international work that IFIP has initiated following a highly successful workshop which was held as part of the 2006 World Computer Conference (IFIP, 2006). Finally an evaluation will be presented to assesses whether we are approaching a situation where IFIP's definition for professionals, viz.
- Publicly ascribe a code of ethics published within the standard.
- Be aware of and have access to a well-documented current body of knowledge relevant to the domain of practice.
- Have a mastery of the body of knowledge at the baccalaureate level.

- Have a minimum of the equivalent of two years supervised experience before the practitioner operates unsupervised.
- Be familiar with current best practice and relevant proven methodologies.
- Be able to provide evidence of their maintenance of competence.

is acceptable to a global audience.

Selected Sources

British Computer Society, (2006) Professionalism in IT Programme, covered in a series of articles in the May 2006 issue of IT NOW, British Computer Society, Swindon, UK.

IFIP, (2006), "Improving IT Practitioner Skills", A workshop co-located with IFIP 2006 World Computer Conference, Santiago, Chile, 25th August. Presentation materials available at: http://www.ifip.org/projects/IT-Pract-main.htm

Mitchell I., Juliff P., and Turner J. (1998) Harmonization of Professional Standards, International Federation of Information Processing, 1998, at: http://www.ifip.or.at

The Royal Academy of Engineering (2004), The Challenges of Complex IT Projects, Report of a working group from The Royal Academy of Engineering and The British Computer Society, 2004, available from: http://www.bcs.org/upload/pdf/complexity.pdf

Thompson, J. B. (2005), Evaluations of IFIP's Proposed Standards for Professionals. In Proceedings of the 8th IFIP World Conference on Computers in Education, (WCCE 2005), Session P10.3. University of Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa, July 4-7.

Outline/Example Workshop Proposal for ETLLL 2007

1.1 Workshop Title
For example: A Really Interesting Workshop on Life Long Learning

1.2. Overall Aim
The aim of the workshop is to provide …….

(a short contextual statement should be provided that makes the aim of the workshop clear).

1.3. Workshop Objectives
The specific objectives for the workshop are:

(a structured list should be provided)

2 Proposer Details:

Name
Affiliation
Mail Address

Contact details:
Tel:
Fax:
E-mail:

Brief Bio: (a short paragraph relevant to the workshop. Additional information can be added at the end of the proposal if wished.)

3. Confirmation
I confirm that if this workshop proposal is accepted I (or a substitute leader arranged by me) will attend the conference in Dublin to lead the workshop

4. Relevant areas as highlighted in the call for papers
For Example: The life long learning needs of IT practitioners

(a short paragraph could be included to substantiate the relevance if such is felt necessary)

5. Preferred Duration (Full-day or half-day)
For example: Ideally a full-day. However, a half day could be accommodated (optionality is allowed)

(a short paragraph could be included to substantiate the preferred duration if such is felt necessary)

6. Assisting Co-organiser(s)
Names, affiliations and brief bios as in section 1 for each person who is will to assist (maximum of three people)

7. Expected number of participants and how the workshop will be advertised

X to Y

(a short paragraph could be included to substantiate the expected number, this could give details of previously organised workshops or workshops of a similar nature)

(Outline of how workshop will be advertised)
For Example:
Participants will be solicited via the following: mailing lists such as etc. etc., mailshots to known centres of expertise, such as etc. etc. and so on

8. Pre requisites, if any, needed from participants to attend the workshop and how such will be treated

(Brief details of what is required from participants)
For example:
The event will be open. Participants will be requested to submit either a short position paper or complete a proforma detailing their relevant experience. However, it will not be necessary for participants to have submitted such to attend the workshop.
All relevant participant submissions will be made available to the attendees and short (very short) presentations will be used to highlight particular aspects.

(selection and treatment of any submissions)
For example:
The selection of those submissions, which will form the basis of short presentations at the start of the workshop, will be based on ensuring that a range of situations and experiences are highlighted. However, the aim is as far as possible to maximise attendance and the range of inputs. To ensure the time in the workshop is spent as effectively as possible, it is intended that participant submissions will be made available on the WWW prior to the workshop. In coming to the workshop the participants will hopefully bring with them a list of key issues that relate to this circulated material.

9. Workshop activities and format

(An outline plan for the workshop should be given. If alternative durations are possible - either a full-day or a half-day then details should be given of each).

For example, for a possible three hour half-day workshop:

Part A (Approximately 30/45 minutes). Recap the objectives of the workshop and present short summaries of selected position papers.
Part B (Approximately 90 minutes plus any break time) Round table discussion group sessions. Each of these will be led by a chair and reporter (identified from those who make submissions to the workshop).
It is envisaged that there will be up to four discussion groups to reflect the different areas and issues highlighted in this proposal (the actual number of groups and the areas discussed will depend on the number of participants and the content of the participant submissions).
Part C (Approximately 30/45 minutes). Feedback to full group: the chair of each activity group is to feedback themes emerging from their group's discussions. This will be followed by a general discussion on issues raised and the identification of common themes.

Following the Workshop it is planned that:
(i) Chairs and reporters produce a report on their discussion group.
(ii) Workshop organisers produce overall report that incorporates:
•   Summaries of issues raided in the position papers
•   The reports of the discussion groups
•   Overall conclusions and recommendations
•   Appendices which contain accepted workshop submissions.

10. How the success of the workshop will judged

(Relevant success factors should be listed, for example the usefulness of the workshop outputs)

11. Additional Information

(Additional information (for example further details of the organisation of previous workshops) can be given so long as the overall proposal does not exceed three pages).