



# IACAP Newsletter

The Newsletter for the **International Association for Computing and Philosophy**

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IACAP Editors

Ron Barnette, Luciano Floridi

IACAP Executive Committee

Luciano Floridi (President), Marvin Croy (Vice-President), Ron Barnette (Information Secretary), Robert Cavalier (President Ex-Officio) Susan Stuart (Regional Director of European CAP, E-CAP), Charles Ess (Organizational Secretary), Soraj Hongladarom (Director of Asian-Pacific CAP, AP-CAP), Selmer Bringsjord (Regional Director of North-America CAP, NA-CAP).

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Welcome to *IACAP*, the electronic Newsletter for the International Association for Computing and Philosophy ([www.ia-cap.org](http://www.ia-cap.org)).

In this issue of *IACAP Newsletter*:

- President's Message
- News about members' publications and projects
- Upcoming conferences and calls for presentation
- Members in the news

Please send all relevant announcements that you wish to have included in future issues of *IACAP Newsletter* to Ron Barnette, at [rbarnett@valdosta.edu](mailto:rbarnett@valdosta.edu). Note that we reserve the right to edit all materials received. Back issues of the *IACAP Newsletter* are available at the IACAP Website: [www.ia-cap.org](http://www.ia-cap.org)

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## President's Message

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Dear Members of IACAP,

Welcome to the first issue of our Newsletter for 2007. As usual, there is plenty of good news about which to report.

The organization of the regional conferences is proceeding successfully. They all promise to be of very high quality, with large participation, excellent papers and a variety of new topics. I would highly recommend to all our members, and especially those from the Asian-Pacific area, to pay particular attention to the third AP-CAP conference, whose call for papers is included in this issue. Please also note the extended deadline for NA-CAP 2007.

The conferences are a great opportunity to remind all members that we have two IACAP Awards for which applications are open: the newly renamed *Covey Award* and the *Goldberg Graduate Award*. They are available for faculty and graduate students and carry a significant professional recognition and honor. As IACAP members plan presentations for their IACAP conferences, please review these Awards and take advantage of these opportunities, which are designed to assist the professional growth and recognition of IACAP members. For further information on how to apply, please check the association website ([www.ia-cap.org](http://www.ia-cap.org)).

IACAP is moving ahead with the planned development of mutual relations and exchanges with other relevant research and teaching institutions and organizations. Both SIGART, the ACM Special Interest Group on Artificial Intelligence (<http://sigart.acm.org/>), and SIGCAS, the ACM Special Interest Group on Computers and Society (<http://www.acm.org/sigs/sigcas/>) have expressed great interest in coordinating possible initiatives with IACAP.

In this issue you will find news about other relevant conferences and call for papers, members' publications and achievements. Please help us to build our community by sharing information about your work. Do not let understatement and shyness be an obstacle. We wish to know about what you are doing. Just write a note to Ron Barnette, at [rbarnett@valdosta.edu](mailto:rbarnett@valdosta.edu). Ron should also be thanked for his efforts in collecting more information about the history of the association and its earlier meetings. The website has been updated with the new data.

I hope you will take a moment to consider the opportunity of a financial support of the Association. We rely on volunteers, but some expenses are inevitable and IACAP needs your help. You will find a Membership Fee Invoice at the end of the Newsletter. Remember that only members can nominate and be nominated as candidates for IACAP offices and be nominated for the Covey Award. There is also a 10% discount at all CAP conferences, including E-CAP 2007 and NA-CAP 2007. The PayPal system makes membership payments extremely simple (<http://www.ia-cap.org/membership.php>).

Finally, I would like to thank all the members who worked to improve the Constitution. The new version is now online and we all trust it will serve our community reliably and effectively.

See you at the conferences!

Luciano Floridi  
President, IACAP

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## News about Members' Publications and Projects

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**From Charles Ess and Soraj Hongladarom**

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of my co-editor, Soraj Hongladarom (Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand), and our collected authors, I'm very pleased to announce the following publication:

Hongladarom, S. and Ess, C. (eds.). 2007. *Information Technology Ethics: Cultural Perspectives*. Hershey, Pennsylvania: Idea Reference. <<http://www.idea-group.com/reference/details.asp?id=6336>>

Chapters from some of the most prominent scholars and philosophers in information ethics, both within and beyond traditionally Western domains, address a wide range of central ethical issues from both theoretical and culture-specific perspectives. Individually and collectively, the chapters will help readers develop a genuinely global approach to the diverse ethical issues created by information and communication technologies (ICTs) and their possible resolutions. The Introduction summarizes the contributions, connects them to the larger literatures in information and computing ethics, and sketches the requirements and characteristics of a possible *global* information and computing ethics – an ethics, we argue, that will be increasingly urgent for all users of ICTs, as more and more citizens of the world (now ca. 1/6th of the world's population) encounter and engage one another cross-culturally. To our knowledge, this is the first anthology to approach information ethics from such a wide range of perspectives – including multiple Asian and African perspectives, as well as those of peoples marginalized in developed countries.

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### **From Tony Beavers**

**Noesis – Philosophical Research Online:** <http://noesis.evansville.edu>

Noesis: Philosophical Research Online, the limited area search engine that was available from 1998 to 2003, is now back online, courtesy of a new experimental, search engine co-op offered by Google. The concept has been revised a bit (see the project's "About" page), but the project remains dedicated to professional philosophy online. With Noesis, users can search the body of catalogued web pages coming from professional associations, university and college departments, faculty websites, online journals and reference works. These can all be searched simultaneously, or users can filter their searches to only one of the domains just mentioned.

One feature of Noesis's cataloguing strategy is that "the shape and texture of Noesis's search space is determined organically by credentialed scholars whose actions directly determine content" (See the "About" page). Once a faculty website has been indexed, for instance, any changes to that site will automatically be reflected in the content accessible through Noesis, provided that Google's crawlers are able to find and index those changes.

Because the Google Co-op is still being developed and tested, Noesis is currently available as a beta release until Google arrives at a finished product. To learn more about the project, visit the website.

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### **From Tom Stone**

**EpistemeLinks:** <http://www.epistemelinks.com/>

Since the last IACAP Newsletter in December 2006, EpistemeLinks website project has continued to grow. In addition to adding and updating links in its massive categorized database, it has added several significant new features.

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## Upcoming Conferences and Calls for Presentation

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### AP-CAP-2007 – Asian Pacific Computing and Philosophy Conference

The Third Asia-Pacific Computing and Philosophy Conference will again take place at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand, November 2-4, 2007. The conference is being held in succession to the successful Second Asia-Pacific Conference in January 2005 ([www.stc.arts.chula.ac.th/CAP/AP-CAP.html](http://www.stc.arts.chula.ac.th/CAP/AP-CAP.html)).

As with the other IACAP conferences, AP-CAP2007 will also deal with all aspects of the "computational turn" that is occurring through the interaction of the disciplines of philosophy and computing. And in continuation from the second conference, papers dealing with 'cultural' aspects of computing and philosophy would be specially emphasized, though papers in other areas will of course be welcome. The conference is interdisciplinary: we invite papers from philosophy, computer science, social science and related disciplines.

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

To be announced.

#### PLENARY PANEL

Intercultural Information Ethics (panellists to be announced)

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- \* Luciano Floridi, Oxford University
- \* Charles Ess, Drury University
- \* Krisana Kitiyadisai, Chulalongkorn University
- \* Jeremy Moss, University of Melbourne
- \* John Weckert, Australian National University
- \* Eddie Valdez, University of Philippines

#### AREAS OF INTEREST

All areas related to the relation between computing and philosophy are welcome, including, but not limited to, the following:

- \* The digital divide and its philosophical ramifications.
- \* The use of computers in the teaching of philosophy.
- \* The use of computers as research tools in philosophy.
- \* The philosophical aspects of artificial intelligence.

- \* Computer ethics.
- \* Computer aesthetics and digital arts
- \* Computers and cultures.

Philosophical investigations of computers and cultural contexts in various dimensions are particularly encouraged for this conference.

#### CONFERENCE VENUE

The conference will be held at Novotel Siam Square, which is close to the campus of Chulalongkorn University.

#### ACCOMMODATION

Conference Hotel  
Novotel Hotel, Siam Square  
Siam Square Soi 6  
BANGKOK 10330  
THAILAND  
Tel : +66-2-255-6888  
Fax : +66-2-255-1824  
E-mail : [hotel@novotelbkk.com](mailto:hotel@novotelbkk.com)

#### SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Please send an extended abstract of not more than 1,000 words to Dr. Soraj Hongladarom. Files in .DOC, .RTF, .TXT, or .PDF formats are acceptable. Deadline for submission: 30 September 2007. Authors will be notified of the committee's decision before October 15th.

PhD and master students are especially encouraged to submit. Student speakers will not have to pay a conference fee.

#### PUBLICATION

Papers presented at the Second Asia-Pacific Conference were successfully placed in a variety of publications, including Computing and Philosophy in Asia (Cambridge Scholars Press) and a number of academic journals. It is foreseen that papers at the Third AP-CAP will be published in the same way.

#### REGISTRATION

Registration fees and procedures will be posted shortly on the conference website, <http://www.stc.arts.chula.ac.th/APCAP2007/>. AP-CAP conferences are organized under the supervision of the International Association for Computing and Philosophy (IACAP). Website: <http://www.ia-cap.org/>.

## CONTACT

Dr. Soraj Hongladarom, Center for Ethics of Science and Technology,  
Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand  
Tel. +66(0)2218-4756; Fax +66(0)2218-4755  
Email: [hsoraj@chula.ac.th](mailto:hsoraj@chula.ac.th)

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### **ECAP-2007 - European Computing and Philosophy Conference**

June 21-23, 2007 - University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands

Program Chair: Philip Brey  
Local organization: Katinka Waelbers, [ECAP07@gw.utwente.nl](mailto:ECAP07@gw.utwente.nl)  
Mail: [ECAP07@gw.utwente.nl](mailto:ECAP07@gw.utwente.nl)

More information: [www.utwente.nl/ecap07](http://www.utwente.nl/ecap07)

IOS Academic Publishers Amsterdam has agreed to publish an edited volume of select papers from the 2007 ECAP conference.

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### **NA-CAP 2007 – North American Computing and Philosophy Conference**

**Please note the extended deadline: March 21st, 2007**

July 26-28, 2007 - Loyola University's Water Tower Campus, Chicago, US

Program Chair: Anthony Beavers

Mail: [fbeavers@gmail.com](mailto:fbeavers@gmail.com)

More information: <http://na-cap.osi.luc.edu>

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### **CEPE 2007 – COMPUTER ETHICS PHILOSOPHICAL ENQUIRY**

CEPE2007 Conference in San Diego, California, USA on July 12-14, 2007. This will be the seventh international conference on computer and information ethics. Papers and panels in all areas of computer and information technology ethics are welcome.

More information: <http://CEPE2007.sandiego.edu>

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## OTHER CALL FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

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“ICT, Transparency and Corporate Responsibility: Social and Ethical Considerations in the Global Economy”, November 7-9, 2007, Universidade Católica Portuguesa (Lisbon, Portugal)  
Abstracts due: March 15, 2007

More information: [www.cmu.edu/transparency2007](http://www.cmu.edu/transparency2007)

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EXPLANATION-AWARE COMPUTING (ExaCt 2007)

CALL FOR PAPERS for the AAAI-07 Workshop on July 22-23, 2007, Vancouver (Canada)

Paper submission deadline: April 2, 2007.

More information: [exact2007.workshop.hm/](http://exact2007.workshop.hm/)

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### **3rd International IFIP Summer School in co-operation with FIDIS network of excellence "The Future of Identity in the Information Society" August 2007**

The increasing diversity of Information Communication Technologies and their equally diverse range of uses in personal, professional and official capacities raise challenging questions of identity in a variety of contexts. Each communication exchange contains an identifier which may, or may not, be intended by the parties involved. What constitutes an identity, how do new technologies affect identity, how do we manage identities in a globally networked information society?

The theme of this Summer School will be on Identity Management in relation to current and future technologies in a variety of contexts. IFIP takes a holistic approach to technology. FIDIS supports interdisciplinary exchange. So participants' contributions combining technical, social, ethical or legal perspectives are welcome. Topics of interest include:

Identity management, security, profiling and customer relation management, advanced identity documents, ID related crime, RFID, tracking technologies, biometrics, privacy, anonymity and pseudonymity, surveillance, data retention, knowledge management, impact on social exclusion/digital divide/cultural issues ... etc.

All the sessions will start with an introduction by an invited speaker, followed by parallel workshops in the morning and afternoon. The workshops will consist of short presentations based on the contributions that have been submitted by the participants, followed by active discussion. The aim of the Summer School is to encourage a stimulating discourse between all participants – be they new researchers or experienced academics. Contributions will be selected based on an extended abstract review by the Summer School Programme Committee. Accepted papers will apply an interdisciplinary view or support it and will be published on the Summer School web site before the event. Selected papers will be published in proceedings after the

Summer School.

Summer School Website: <http://www.cs.kau.se/IFIP-summerschool/>

Submission address for extended abstracts (2-4 pages): [IFIPsummerschool@kau.se](mailto:IFIPsummerschool@kau.se)

Submission Deadline: 15. March 2007

Notification of Acceptance: 30. April 2007

Final paper (up to 10 pages): 30. May 2007

Programme Committee Co-Chairs:

Penny Duquenoy (Middlesex University/UK, IFIP WG 9.2 chair)

Simone Fischer-Hübner (Karlstad University/Sweden)

Albin Zuccato (TeliaSonera/Sweden, IFIP WG 9.6/11.7 vice chair)

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**1st Workshop on Ontologies and Information Systems for the Semantic Web (ONISW 2007)**

Workshop Homepage: <http://www.ischool.drexel.edu/faculty/hhan/onisw2007/>

Call for papers

The emergence of the World Wide Web made massive amounts of data available. Data exists in many scattered electronic data sources (e-sources) over the Web. Even though some of the data is in well-organized data sources, interoperability and integration with data from other sources, semantic coordination and conflict resolution are required for its full exploitation. Semantic Web enabled applications can potentially produce better results for semantic integration, interoperability and search. In particular, ontologies are widely regarded as the best solution to global information integration and semantic interoperability.

It is crucial question whether ontologies which are regarded as best choice regarding semantic interoperability and data integration can replace information models. Whereas ontologies work quite well as virtual schemata in mediation systems, they may perform poorly as information models and on the user interface level. On the theoretical side, there is a lack of understanding of the effective relation and interplay of ontological and epistemological features in information models and systems. Furthermore there are still open questions concerning good scientific practice in developing ontologies. On the practical side, there is still a lack of good practice of how to integrate existing information systems into ontology driven applications. Few experiences exist with creating good new data structures from ontologies directly for interoperation in complex and diverse application environments.

The main objective of the workshop is to bring together researchers in information management interested in the relation between ontology and information models, to present results and to discuss theoretical aspects and good practice. Among the issues are:

What is the difference and relation between information models and ontologies? Which criteria must ontologies match in order to provide a sound basis for an information system? How interact and relate the ways of knowing and what can be known with the form of knowledge in information systems. Are there systematic kinds information elements associated with information management processes which are not of ontological nature? What is the epistemological impact on ontologies?

How to construct ontologies from information models for semantic interoperability, how to create and manage mapping specifications for mediators, data transformation systems, Web service wrappers via ontologies. What are the characteristic cases of heterogeneity and how can they be managed generically. Languages and tools for mapping and transformation algorithm generators.

How can we effectively enable domain experts to specify the semantics of their information systems in order to exploit Semantic Web technology? How can we visualize the ontology and mapping information in a user-friendly way?

How to make effective information models, i.e. database schemata, data entry forms, Web service interfaces, simplified query interfaces, from ontologies? Ontologies can help to describe in objective terms the loss of information and reasoning capabilities due to necessary simplifications in information structures. What are the problems, mechanisms, rules, so that semantic interoperability is preserved?

How to utilize ontologies and conceptual modelling for data management, integration and interoperability in Semantic web applications, in particular in e-science, life sciences, e-business and cultural applications. What are architectures and models of good practice? Are there domain-overarching global core ontologies? What are their characteristics?

We invite researchers and practitioners to submit theoretical, technical and practical research contributions that address directly or indirectly the above issues. Particularly welcome are application from e-science, e-business, life sciences, and cultural applications.

The workshop foresees a technical discussion on the relation of ontologies and conceptual modeling. The authors of the best papers will be invited to submit an extended and revised version of their work for publication in the Applied Ontology journal.

Topics of Interest include, but are not limited to:

Ontology and epistemology in information systems

Ontologies and conceptual modeling

Ontology learning

Semantic interoperability

Ontology-based schema mapping/matching and integration

Mapping tools and languages

Mapping and ontology visualization

User friendly semantic system integration tools.

Ontology-based data transformation and data migration tools.  
Domain specific heterogeneity analysis between data structures and ontologies  
Ontology-based query mediation  
Conceptual modeling for the Semantic Web  
Querying the Semantic Web  
Ontology-driven application system and Web service design  
Conceptual and logical models for Web data sources and applications  
Ontology design and maintenance for conceptual model integration  
Reverse engineering of ontologies from conceptual models  
Ontology harmonization and merging: Methods and tools.  
Core ontologies and global models, applications and limitations  
Ontology-enabled interoperability in e-science, life sciences, e-business, and culture  
Lessons learnt and experience from large-scale integration projects.  
Global ontologies and Local as View (LAV) integration methods, problems and practice  
Architectures and good practice of ontology-based integrated application environments  
Applications of above topics to e-science, e-business, and life sciences  
The volume will be published by Springer as part of its LNCS series.

#### Submission Procedure

Authors are invited to submit original papers via email to Hyoil Han (hhan@ischool.drexel.edu) as a PDF file.

Since the workshop papers will be published by Springer-Verlag in the LNCS series, authors must submit manuscripts using the LNCS style. See [www.springer.de/comp/lncs/authors.html](http://www.springer.de/comp/lncs/authors.html) for style files and details. The suggested number of pages is 10. Manuscripts not submitted in the LNCS style will not be reviewed and thus automatically rejected. (The final camera-ready version must not exceed 10 pages.)

#### IMPORTANT DATES (Deadlines)

April 20, 2007 Full Papers  
June 5, 2007 Notification  
July 6, 2007 Camera Ready Papers

#### PROGRAM CHAIRS

Mathias Brochhausen Institute of Formal Ontology (IFOMIS), Saarbrücken, Germany.  
(mathias.brochhausen AT ifomis.uni-saarland.de)

Martin Doerr Institute of Computer Science, Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH)

(martin AT ics.forth.gr)

Hyoil Han Drexel University, USA  
(hhan AT ischool.drexel.edu)

## PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Yuan An, University of Toronto, Canada

Grigoris Antoniou, University of Crete, Greece

Boualem Benatallah, University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney, Australia

Mathias Brochhausen, European Center of Ontological Research (ECOR), Institute of Formal Ontology (IFOMIS), Saarbrücken, Germany

Crisitan Cocos, IFOMIS, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany

Ernesto Compatangelo, University of Aberdeen, England

Panos Constantopoulos, Athens University of Economics and Business, Greece

Martin Doerr, Institute of Computer Science, Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH)

Ramez Elmasri, University of Texas at Arlington, USA

Nicola Guarino, Laboratory for Applied Ontology (LOA), Trento, Italy

Hyoil Han, Drexel University, USA

Werner Kuhn, Institute for Geoinformatics, University Muenster, Germany

Ingvar Johansson, IFOMIS, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany

Sang-Koo Lee, Seoul National University, Korea

Dimitris Plexousakis, University of Crete, Greece

Barry Smith, State University of New York at Buffalo, USA, and IFOMIS, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany

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## **ER 2007 affiliated workshop on Philosophical Foundations of Conceptual Modeling**

Auckland, New Zealand

Date: to be announced.

Conceptual modeling is an activity that creates technology independent models for later use in software development, maintenance, and reuse. It is a key activity in modern computing. Despite that key role it is not a frequent subject of study in computing. The theory of conceptual modeling still is weakly developed and in particular its philosophical foundations are only rarely discussed. The overall aim of this workshop is to more clearly understand (1) which philosophical foundations need to be considered for conceptual modeling and (2) which are the implications of these foundations.

The workshop aims at discussing these philosophical foundations by considering issues of conceptual modeling such as the following:

- Analogies, metaphors, models, theories
- Models of computation
- Human-computer interaction
- Socio-technical systems
- Gaming, new media, semantic web
- Abstraction, knowledge, information
- Concepts

The workshop furthermore aims at discussing the contributions to conceptual modeling that could be made by branches of philosophy such as the following ones:

- Ontology, epistemology, ethics
- Philosophy of technology
- Constructivism, pragmatism, realism,
- Cognitive science, philosophy of mind

The workshop proceedings will be published in a Springer LNCS volume that includes all ER 2007 workshops. Submissions need to be in formatted accordingly. Please follow the guidelines for LNCS paper authors available via <http://www.springer.com>. Each submission is going to be reviewed by three referees. We ask for submitting papers of at most 10 pages in length that have not been published yet and are not submitted elsewhere.

Workshop key dates

Paper submission: April 29, 2007

Author notification: June 06, 2007

Camera ready paper: July 06, 2007

The intended workshop format is:

- Keynote speech (John Mylopoulos)
- Paper sessions
- General discussion

The workshop's Web site is <http://infosys.massey.ac.nz/~rkaschek/PhiCoMo/index.html>

The registration is done via the respective ER conference facilities. For each accepted paper one of its authors has to register and actually attend the workshop. The workshop proceedings will be co-edited by Roland Kaschek, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand ([R.H.Kaschek@massey.ac.nz](mailto:R.H.Kaschek@massey.ac.nz)) and N.N. The program committee includes:

Jan Dietz, Delft, The Netherlands

Luciano Floridi, Oxford, UK

Nicola Guarino, Trento, Italy

Wolfgang Hesse, Marburg, Germany

Stijn Hoppenbrouwers, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Koichi Hori, Tokyo, Japan (to be confirmed)

Klaus P. Jantke, Ilmenau, Germany

Thomas Kühne, Darmstadt, Germany

Kalle Lyytinen, Cleveland, Ohio

Heinrich Mayr, Klagenfurt, Austria

Erik Proper, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Eyas El-Qawasmeh, Irbid, Jordan

Thomas Roth-Berghofer, Kaiserslautern, Germany

Bernhard Rumpe, Braunschweig, Germany

Reinhard Schütte, Koblenz, Germany (to be confirmed)

Vladimir Shekhovtsov, Kharkiv, Ukraine  
Keng Siau, Lincoln, Nebraska  
Yuzuru Tanaka, Hokkaido, Japan  
Denny Vrandecic, Karlsruhe, Germany  
Carson Woo, Vancouver, British Columbia

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## NA-CAP 2006 Report by the Regional Director

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The 2006 North American Computing and Philosophy conference was held in August at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. The conference was hosted by Selmer Bringsjord (Chair of the Cognitive Science Department) with generous support from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. The program chair was Patrick Grim. This was Patrick's second consecutive year as NA-CAP program chair, and his contributions are much appreciated.

"Robot Ethics" served as the conference theme, and multiple presentations addressed this topic. The Herbert A. Simon Keynote Address ("Philosophy of Computer Science: What is it? How to Teach it") was given by William Rapaport, and Eric Dietrick provided The Douglas Engelbart Keynote Address ("After the Humans are Gone"). Other special presentations were provided by Peter Ludlow ("The Virtual Journalist who Knew too Much, or, Sex, Lies, and Avatars") and Meredith Finkelstein and Cindy Jeffers ("Heddatron"). Other special events included a tour of the Cognitive Science Robotics Lab and a Trip to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center to see the Philadelphia Orchestra.

The conference schedule was diverse and lively and included a student track (arranged by Matt Butcher). As well as Robot Ethics, the program ranged over topics in Distance Learning, Information Ethics, Simulations and Computational Modeling, Electronic Scholarly and Teaching Resources, Computational Logic and Linguistics, Incrementalism, and Social, Cultural, and Metaphysical Issues.

All sessions are available for viewing at:

<http://www.cogsci.rpi.edu/conferences/cap/schedule.php>.

Thanks to all who contributed to making this conference a great success!

NA-CAP 2007 will take place at Loyola University, US, with Tony Beavers as program Direct. For more information see <http://na-cap.osi.luc.edu/>

Marvin Croy  
Vice President IACAP  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

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## Members in the News

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Susan Stuart's iPod Kant lectures are quite a hot item! Here's what *the Times Higher Education Supplement*, a national UK paper, reported recently:

### **Kant get no satisfaction, try iTunes new No 1**

**Olga Wojtas**

**Published: 15 December 2006**

Forget classic Beatles songs, Take That's comeback hit and the Party Shuffle playlist. The latest chart-topper on the digital music download website iTunes is a series of lectures on Kant's epistemology by a senior lecturer at Glasgow University. Susan Stuart is bewildered by her star status, which has won her fan mail from students across the globe and requests for notes and handouts. "I don't understand it. It's bizarre as far as I'm concerned," she said. It was only last year that Dr Stuart began to record her lectures with a lapel mike for the benefit of students with disabilities in her senior honours class. Joe Maguire, a computer science MSc student, put them on a web page as a podcast for local use, but he recently suggested putting the lecture series in the iTunes education section. Dr Stuart instantly soared to first place, overtaking podcasts from academics at the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard and Edinburgh universities. Although she dropped out of the top slot after more than a week, she has remained in the top three. The number of students taking Glasgow's course on Kant has more than trebled despite Dr Stuart's warning that it would be tough. But she finds that the students need less help now that they can go over the podcasts as often as they want. Earlier this year, Dr Stuart won a teaching excellence award from Glasgow for her innovative teaching. Some of her tactics included using an electronic voting system in logic lectures and teaching students to structure essays by setting up web pages. "I'm giving lectures with same passion and excitement I give every year: more, because I'm finding out more about Kant."

The podcasts can be accessed at <http://podlearn.arts.gla.ac.uk/kant/index.html>

And read this piece in *Education Guardian*:

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/higher/news/story/0,,1972016,00.html>

Well done, Susan!

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Luciano Floridi was elected Fellow of [St Cross College](#), Oxford University, area editor (philosophy of computing and information) of the new editorial board of [Synthese](#), and associate editor (philosophy of information) of [The Information Society](#).

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## IACAP Membership Fees

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### IACAP – Why join?

The Executive Committee of the Association recently approved a change in its membership rules. IACAP will implement a system of membership dues, to be managed through the Association's bank account at Drury University (Springfield, Missouri, USA). Further details are available in this issue of the Newsletter and on the web site (<http://www.ia-cap.org>). Since this is a significant evolution in the history of the Association, allow me to spend a few words to explain why we hope you will join the association.

IACAP is a member-supported organization, whose activities are based on volunteers' efforts and member dues. By joining the Association, a member will actively support the field, as focused on the interactions between philosophy and computational and informational issues.

Membership is also the simplest and most obvious way of supporting the Association and its initiatives. It is an effective means to channel shared interests and concerns and thus build up a representative community, which can make its voice heard within the broader philosophical and intellectual context, internationally. IACAP is a truly interdisciplinary association, which helps put members from a variety of fields and professions in touch with one another. Finally, IACAP is a thriving and growing association – one that began in the United States but now includes active affiliates (each with its own Regional Director and conference) in Europe (ECAP) and the Asian-Pacific region (AP-CAP). IACAP thus fosters a genuinely global interchange of research, scholarship, and publication on all dimensions of "the computational/informational turn". It is an exchange that encourages not only diversity of disciplines (philosophy, computer science, informatics, legal studies, information studies, etc.) but also of cultures and regions. Especially as an international organization, IACAP is uniquely suited to facilitate and encourage the sorts of global dialogues that become increasingly important as our world becomes ever more interconnected through computing and network technologies.

So membership is the right choice for anyone who wishes to participate and contribute to the life of our community and make sure that CAP-related topics can be systemically highlighted to the relevant audiences throughout the world.

Some further incentives for individuals to join the Association are: the right of nominating and being nominated as candidates for IACAP offices; a 10% discount at all CAP conferences (which largely offsets the low annual subscription rates); and the possibility of being nominated for the Covey Award and the Goldberg Award.

Becoming a member is simple. Anyone (students included) interested in IACAP-related topics, teaching activities and research areas can apply for ordinary or supporting membership. Part-time and fulltime undergraduate and graduate students qualify for the (discounted) student fees. Supporting members differ from ordinary members only insofar as their contribution will be listed on the website.

We hope you will join us. You will find all the necessary information in this Newsletter or by clicking on <http://www.ia-cap.org>.

Luciano Floridi, President

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## Membership Fee Invoice

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Invoice for IACAP Membership

IACAP Membership Dues

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Name and Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Options (check one):

- students = \$ 10
- ordinary members = \$ 30
- supporting members = at least \$ 50.

Please note that

- anyone (students included) interested in IACAP-related topics, teaching activities and research areas can apply for ordinary or supporting membership;
- only part-time and fulltime undergraduate and graduate students can pay the student fees;
- supporting members differ from ordinary members only insofar as their contribution will be listed on the website.

Ordinary and supporting members (but not members paying student fees) will enjoy the following advantages:

- they can vote for, and be elected to IACAP offices;
- they get a 10% discount at all CAP conferences, by showing proof of their regular membership (copy of invoice, printed email etc.) when they register;
- they can be nominated for the Covey Award.

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Methods of payment

All payments must be in US funds.

At a CAP conference

members can pay their dues together with their CAP conference fees and receive a 10% discount in the conference fee.

By PayPal

please visit the website <http://www.ia-cap.org/membership.php>

By Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)

please contact Charles Ess at [cmess@drury.edu](mailto:cmess@drury.edu)  
or tel. (+1)417-873-7230 for necessary account information.

By check

Checks should be made payable to: IACAP / Drury University  
and mailed to: Charles Ess  
Interdisciplinary Studies Center  
Drury University  
900 N. Benton Ave.  
Springfield, Missouri 65802 USA

By credit card (Visa, MasterCard and Discover)

Name on credit card:  
Credit Card Number:  
Expiration Date:

Please return this form with your payment

- by mailing it to  
Charles Ess  
Interdisciplinary Studies Center  
Drury University  
900 N. Benton Ave.  
Springfield, Missouri 65802 USA

or

- by faxing it to (+1) 417-873-7435 (attn: Charles Ess)