IFIP TC 14 – Entertainment Computing

Minutes of the meeting held Friday 26th September 2008,
Entertainment technology Centre, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Author: Benjamin SALEM, TC14 Secretary

Present:

Officers:
Chair: Ryohei NAKATSU
Vice-Chair: Matthias RAUTERBERG
Secretary: Benjamin SALEM
Industrial Liaison: Claudio PINHANEZ

National Representatives:
Australia: Steve HANSEN
China: Zhigeng PAN represented by Hyun YANG
France: Stephane NATKIN
Japan: Ryohei NAKATSU
Korea: Hyun YANG
Netherlands: Matthias RAUTERBERG
USA-ACM: Donald MARINELLI

Absent Excused:
Bulgaria: Galia ANGELOVA
Czechia: David OBDRZALEK
USA-IEE: Nahum GERSHON

WG Officers:
WG14.1 chair: Marc CAVAZZA represented by Anon NIHJON
WG14.4 chair: Jaap VAN DEN HERIK absent excused
WG14.7 chair: Naoko TOSA

Guests:
Keiji YAMADA, NEC, Japan
Steve WATSON, Elsevier, The Netherlands
Cecile LE PRADO, ICEC 2009 organiser, France
Andre MELZER, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg
Steven DOW, GeorgiaTech, US
Gino YU, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, HK

Meeting agenda:

1. acceptance of minutes of previous meeting
2. Brief report on ICEC 2008 - Pittsburgh
3. Current preparations for ICEC 2009 - Paris
4. Preparation for ICEC 2010 (Asia candidates)
    1. procedure for the selection of candidates and successful bids of ICEC hosts.
5. WG report of activities
6. Journal on Entertainment computing
7. AOB

Note from the TC secretary:
Due to time constrains the meeting agenda had to be modified to fit to the time available.

Minutes:

1. Opening and welcoming address by the TC14 chair, welcoming of new member representing Australia.
   - Short presentation by Steve HANSEN on University of Western Sydney and Australia.
   - Short introduction by Steven DOW and Anton NIJHOLT
   - Short statement by Andre MELZER presenting U of L and thanking TC for invitation.
   - Short introduction by Claudio PINHANEZ, invitation by TC chair to investigate Brazilian membership of the TC.
   - Short introduction by Steve WATSON, from Elsevier, responsible for a portfolio of journals, here to launch the journal on entertainment computing.
   - Statement from TC chair, presenting Stephane NATKIN as France representative.

2. ICEC 2008.Statement by Don MARINELLI
   - Thanks to Shirley SALDAMARCO and Rebecca LOMBARDI for they efforts and contributions to the organisation of ICEC 2008.
   - Thanks to TC14 for their presence and inviting us for diner afterwards.
   - Unfortunately there are too many conferences in the area of Entertainment Computing. We had to spend a lot of money on the conference organisation.
   - Shirley SALDAMARCO: Proceedings will be mailed to all entitled participants, additionally here is a general breakdown of the conference:
     - Travel & accomodation for guest speakers: US$26K
     - Receptions for 3 evenings: US$35K
     - Facilities rental + AV + transports: US$25K
     - Misc.: US$1.5K
     - Printing: US$500
     - Estimated total costs: ~US$88K
     - At the moment I do not have information on registration payments.
   - TC chair: Will there be an IFIP payment?
   - TC Secretary: This will have to be addressed later, when all information is available.
   - Gino YU: How does ICEC 2008 compares with other ICEC 2003 (also held in Pittsburgh)?
   - Don MARINELLI: It was a cheaper event than now, especially we have included our students and we had 50 papers submitted and 42 accepted. There are too many conferences in this field.
   - TC Secretary: Thanks ETC CMU team for the organisation of ICEC 2008.
   - TC chair: This was a great event, we need to carry on and make the conferences even more successful
   - Gino YU: one idea would be to make this conference more unique.
   - This was followed by a discussion about various conferences and opportunities (TC Secretary, Don MARINELLI, Stephane NATKIN, Claudio PINHANEZ, Naoko TOSA).
   - TC Chair: ICEC is a conference on gaming and in this area we should aim to be the top conference. As an event it is becoming a major conference, but as an academic conference, there are some issues regarding the number of submissions and the number of participants, right now it is not so big. Obviously one of the detrimental factors for this conference was the sudden departure of Charles PALMER (conference organisation chair).
   - Andre MELZER: I would like to add a comment: This is the 1st time I get no feedback on my paper submission in due time, I thought of withdrawing the paper and then I received belatedly an email from Shirley SALDAMARCO.
   - TC Secretary: Yes indeed, we were facing a worst case scenario during the organisation of the conference.
   - Andre MELZER: Are we learning something out of this and will there be plan B for next conferences?
   - Don MARINELLI: well during the preparation of the conference we were on the edge, and when the key person disappears, it makes a big problem, furthermore there was no one that we could call upon to cover up at short notice. So in effect there was a period with no organising chair for the conference. Furthermore the ETC is an education place not a research centre so it was difficult to find reviewers. Ben SALEM was crucial and helped a lot.
   - This was followed by a discussion on the number of paper submissions and the quality of the submissions. Also discussed was the format of the proceedings, shall it be paperback book, and/or CD (Steve HANSEN, Stephane NATKIN, Steve WATSON).

- TC chair: I would like to thank Don MARINELLI and the ICEC 2008 team for the organisation of a successful event. Followed by a round of applause from all meeting participants.

3. TC chair: Statement about TC14 activities:
   - Our TC is considered one of the most active TC, there are so many conferences sponsored by TC 14.
   - In one sense we are contributing financially to IFIP. So lets make ICEC 2009 a big success.

4. Stephane NATKIN Statements about ICEC 2009
   - ICEC 2009 should be at the beginning of september 2009. To allow people to have holidays in Paris around the time of the conference.
   - Slide presentation about ICEC 2009
   - TC Chair Thanks for presentation
   - I am now in the process of refine the budget for the conference and securing sponsorships.
   - Followed by discussion about submission deadlines and how to fit these with conference of similar topic calendars.
   - Steve WATSON: How tied are ICEC proceedings to Spinger. Elsevier is launching an online journal as proceedings it is called "procedia", it will be accessible to conference participants.
   - Followed by discussion on publication of ICEC proceedings (TC chair, Stephane NATKIN, TC secretary, Gino YU).
   - Followed by discussion about conference dates, decision made for the dates around 1st week of September.
   - ICEC 2009 website needs to be ready ASAP.

5. TC chair raise next point of meeting :ICEC 2010 Organisation.
   - As per our rotating tradition, ICEC 2010 should be held in an Asia/Pacific country.
   - TC chair ask for any expression of interest to host ICEC 2010
     ○ TC Chair: National University of Singapore, Singapore is interested in hosting ICEC 2010.
     ○ Naoko TOSA: Kyoto University, Japan is interested in hosting ICEC 2010
     ○ Hyun YANG: Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Korea is strongly interested in hosting ICEC 2010, as I have repeatedly stated so in the previous meetings of TC 14
   - Followed by discussion about the various expressions of interest.
   - Followed by consensus as to the venue of ICEC 2010, i.e. Korea to be hosted by Hyun YANG of KAIST with Ben SALEM as organisation chair.

6. TC chair raise next point of meeting: Journal of Entertainment Computing.
   - Statement by Steve WATSON:
     ○ We have the journal website, with a page on the editors, the submissions and general information all ready.
     ○ We need an editorial board for the journal.
     ○ Each of the journal issues should be around 80pp
     ○ Most papers for the 1st issue will be invited papers
     ○ We will work on a promotional plan with Elsevier resources.
   - TC vice-Chair: We should have special issues related to the topics covered by each WG of this TC.
   - TC chair: This is a long term objective.

Due to time limits, the meeting is finished with participants asked to join the evening event.