SG16: Specialist Group on Entertainment Computing

Minutes of the specialist group meeting held on the 16th June 2006
Hotel Bel Age, Hollywood, CA, USA.
Author: Benjamin Salem, last edited Monday 26th June 2006.

List of participants:

Present:

SG Officers:
Ryohei NAKATSU (Prof., Kwansei Gakuin University, Chair)
Matthias RAUTERBERG (Prof., Eindhoven University of Technology, Vice-chair)
Benjamin SALEM (Dr., Kwansei Gakuin University, Secretary)

National Representatives:

The Netherlands	Matthias RAUTERBERG (Prof., Eindhoven University of Technology)
Singapore	Adrian David CHEOK (Prof., National University of Singapore)
Spain	Pedro Gonzalez CALERO (Prof., Complutense University of Madrid)
Portugal	Nueno CORREIRA (Ass. Prof., New University of Lisbon)
United Kingdom	Mark CAVAZZA(Prof., University of Teesside)
Hungary	Barnabas TAKACS (Dr., Hungarian Academy of Science)

WG chairs:

WG16.1 chair:	Marc CAVAZZA (Prof., University of Teesside)
WG16.2 chair:	Ian FRANK (proxy for Prof. Hitoshi MATSUBARA)
WG16.3 chair:	Matthias RAUTERBERG (Prof., Eindhoven University of Technology)

Guests

Bill SWARTOUT (Prof., University of Southern California)
Marco COMBETTO (Microsoft Research)
Naoko TOSA (Prof., Kyoto University)
Stephen NANTKIN (Prof., CNAM)
Gino YU (Assoc. Prof., Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Absent:

National Representatives:

Canada	Sidney FELS (Prof., University of British Columbia)
China	Zhigeng PAN (Prof., Zhejiang University)*
Bulgaria	Galia ANGELOVA (Prof. Bulgaria Academy of Sciences)*
Finland	Ville-Veikko MATTILA (Dr., Nokia Research Centre)
France	Bruno ARNALDI (IRISA-INRIA)
Ireland	Richard REILLY (Lecturer, University College of Dublin)
Italy	Paolo CIANCARINI (Prof., University of Bologna)
Japan	Takehiko KAMAE (Dr., National Institute of Informatics)
Korea	Hyun S. YANG (Prof., KAIST)*
Norway	Geir Egil MYHR (Dr., University of Troms)
Thailand	Natanicha CHORPOTHONG (Dr., Internet Association)
USA-ACM	Donald MARINELLI (Prof., CMU)

Other Representatives
Leonie SHAEFER (EC Liaison Officer) *

WG Chairs
WG16.4 chair: Jaap VAN DEN HERIK (Prof., University of Maastricht)*
WG16.5 chair: Andy SLOANE*

Guest

Lizhuang MA (Prof.)*

*= absence notified

Executive Summary

1- Each attendant introduced themselves
2- Agenda: Proposed agenda was agreed by the SG members
3- ICEC 2008:
   a. Bill Swartout from USC proposed the organisation of ICEC 2008 in the USA.
   b. It was agreed that the SG16 will make a vote on the proposal during our next meeting.
   c. There will be a call for proposals for the organisation of ICEC 2008 in North America to be distributed very soon.
   d. There should be a standing committee for ICEC
4- Last meeting minutes were approved
5- Specialist Group to Technical Committee change of status proposal (SG2TC):
   a. All present agreed on the SG2TC action
   b. Proposal needs heavy editing, in particular the areas of overlapping and scope.
   c. Emphasis should not be focused on games only, digital cinema and other forms of computer entertainment should be included.
   d. SG16 members should submit comments, editing and suggestions about the SG2TC proposal by the end of June 2006 to the SG16 Secretary.
6- ICEC 2006:
   a. Update from Marco COMBETTO regarding the preparation of ICEC2006.
   b. 17 Long papers and 17 Short Papers accepted, 95 papers submitted, 47 Long Papers and 48 Short Papers.
7- ICEC 2007:
   a. Prof. Lishuang MA proposal (as presented by Gino YU) was accepted and so ICEC 2007 will be held in Shanghai, China.
   b. Prof. Zhigeng PAN proposal was withdrawn.
8- Next SG16 meeting:
   a. will be held during ICEC 2006, Friday 22nd September 2006, at the end of the conference, Cambridge, England.
   b. Marc COMBETTO will be local host.
9- Journal on Entertainment Computing:
   a. Springer has been approached and the current offer is for a journal under the LNCS (lecture Notes in Computer Sciences) format.
   b. As this offer is not satisfactory, this is an ongoing issue. It could very well be that when we become a TC this could facilitate the set up of the journal.
   c. This issue will be discussed again during our next meeting.

10- Working Groups:
   a. We have two proposals for new working groups:
      i. Interactive Television and
      ii. Art and Cinema
   b. We need further information notably membership. Due to the time limitation this item will be discussed during our next meeting.
11- End of meeting.

Detailed Minutes

Introductory speech by the chair. I hope we will finish by 7 and then we will go to Japanese restaurant. Anyhow lets start. 1st I think we have some new faces in this SG, first lest make a self introduction.

Chair: thank you very much. This is a brief agenda but there are many issues

1- Agenda has been agreed with item 8 moved to 2

2- Bill SWARTOUT:
The idea will be to host ICEC in the US and I would propose to work on putting together an organising committee and a program committee. Speaking on behalf of USC I think we will be very supportive on hosting and organising this event. I plan to talk to Scott Fisher and get him involved and other people at the university and other intuitions to pursue this matter. My guess is that we will have it on the west coast, very likely in LA.
Chair: Thank you for your proposal. And we will be calling for further proposals. The decision will be made later.
Secretary: we need to get organised and we have a next meeting in September.
SWARTOUT: I need at least a year notice to get things done.
Officers: the idea would be to vote on it during our next meeting at ICEC 2006.
Bill: I would like help from the previous organisers about the logistics and software and other practical and helpful support. There could be a standing committee of previous organisers.
Vice Chair: you could have a look at our SG2TC report for inspiration in appendix
Chair: the issue is either to have the venue selection on that particular date or not.
Secretary and Chair: ok so we have voting on ICEC 2007, but not ICEC 2008.

3- Approval. S made a statement explaining the minutes and there was some discussion. The minutes were approved.

4- Introduction by chair of the SG2TC proposal. Short historical perspective and over all chronology of the SG. We believe that we are successful and we can move forwards.

Chair: Please have a look at it and do decide if you agree and approve the document. If you do so we will submit this to IFIP which has already been informed about our intention. If at the TA and the GA there is approval about this proposal we will then move to a TC.
This means that for the appendix there are some document missing, namely the WG reports.

Chair: I suppose since we are running short on time, that we won't discuss all the details of the proposal, but I would like to get a vote on either we should submit our SG2TC proposal at the GA.

NANTKINS: could you tell us the pro-cons of SG2TC proposal?

TAKACS: I suppose the main problem might be the overlapping with the other TC

Chair: Off course when we proposed the SG at first, there was many TC expressing concerns about overlap with their activities. However as we reported our activities at various IFIP meetings. The attitude of the other TC has changed and they have opened up on the idea of Entertainment Computing. Overlap might be an opportunity for cooperation rather than conflicts.

FRANK: I suggest you rephrase the overlap issue by changing the : we will restrict ourselves but just state what is the core activity.

CALERO: I will support this we should be more positive

CAVAZZA: I suggest some addition to the scopes. Certain things need to be re-arranged. In the scopes, in terms of general re-organisation. For example 1-3 level set-up games.

Secretary: There seems to be a desire to re-phrase the scope.

NANTKINS: There should be less emphasis on games. What about digital cinema and other forms of computer-entertainment.

Chair: I appreciate the positive feedback and interesting comments. But please do provide us with feedback and clear instructions before end of month.

FRANK : There is more in 4.a.2 that needs to be reported.

Vice Chair: Are we approving the SG2TC by the end of the month there should be a FB from the members to update the draft proposal. We will then submit the new versions for all the SG members for final approval. IN the meantime we will submit the draft to IFIP.

Chair We could have the introductions from the gentlemen who have just joined. [COMBETTO, YU]

6- Marco COMBETTO

There will be 17 Long papers and 17 Short Papers, 95 papers were submitted, 47LP, 48SP.
There will be a late deadline (~2July) for breaking results. Thos will not be published in LNCS but in a separate publication with ISBN
Apart from call for the late deadline I would also accept until the next week, a proposal for panels.

7- ICEC 2007 hosting
Prof. Lizhuang Ma (represented by Gino Yu).
Ma poroposal has been accepted and thus ICEC 2007 is to be held in Shanghai.

8- To be held during ICEC 2006 Friday 22nd September at end of conference

9- Journal: Update from VC. Springer has been approached and current offer is for a journal under the LNCS format , afterwards there was a proposal to have a journal within LNCS (so it would be LNCS on Entertainment Computer). However I was not very happy about this proposal. Springer is still interested in launching a journal on EC. The topic is hot but they have troubles evaluating the risks, as launching a new journal is a complex and risky business.

It is still unclear what would happen. Maybe they are waiting for the TC upgrade to ensure that we are an established part of IFIP. So this is an on-going discussion. I hoped we could make more progress but so far it is still pending. What we have as an alternative is a magazine style like ACM magazine on computer entertainment.

CAVAZZA : what about going for an IEEE journal on EC.

What do we actually want a magazine or a journal. The actual objective is to have a scientific academic journal.

Secretary: This is an ongoing issue. That would be further discussed during the next meetings.

Chair: lets continue our discussion at the next meeting.

9.c working group

We have 2 proposals. One on Interactive TV for which we need further information. The second on Art and Cinema.

We propose to have both proposals in the agenda of the next meeting. Furthermore there should be more information and details about the proposed WG including members/potential members.

As for points 9.a and 9.b there isn't sufficient time to address them.

Chair: I therefore close this meeting, and I thank you very much for your participation. I would like to invite your for diner in the nearby Japanese Restaurant.

END OF MEETING.