Students' Competition (Evaluation)

Call for Papers

This category looks forward to motivate the participation of students and teachers in HCI into the students' formation, the generation of academic materials and gaining experience into our community. The Evaluation Track has a completely practical perspective: the participants face an evaluation of a computing system in order to apply their theoretical knowledge related to evaluation methodologies on HCI. The first edition of the Students' Evaluation Competition took place during IHC 2006, the second in 2008 and the third one in 2010. Involving both undergraduate and graduate students from different institutions in Brazil, its positive results encourage its fourth edition of this competition, this time to be celebrated during IHC+CLIHC 2011.

Theme

The Evaluation Track is an invitation to consider the conference's main theme "*From personal computers to folk computing*" in a discussion on how HCI could promote or increase social development in each country. Within this context, a question that could be discussed into the conference's reach is how technology could help people, especially those among the poorest, to fulfil their formation educational objectives.

We propose an evaluation of **virtual learning environments**, computing systems developed to support the Distance Education model (DE) and to provide wide access to formal and informal education to a greater audiences. Also, it is expected that the competition's participants consider the use of such systems by a wide variety of users' profiles, especially young people, adults and seniors, as they are always motivated to learn.

About Support Systems to DE

The main characteristic that differentiates DE from presence education is the physical separation between the professor and the students. The contact among them is mediated by some resources by which the professor, although absent, is present by a communication channel. All through its development, DE has used several technologies as a channel to share the experiences and exchange of knowledge amidst professors and students. The use of communication resources on the Internet has resulted in a differentiator, opening new interaction possibilities among the participants in a course. With traditional media, as mail, there was barely a communication way between professor and students. The emergence of support systems for DE and its communication tools would open new possibilities to facilitate the discussion process, experience exchange and the sharing of ideas within a group.

These days, there are teaching institutions worldwide which uses those support systems to encourage both DE as a presence and semi presence teaching models. Those institutions offer courses to students looking for a formation, which does not exist in their localities, or

to those whom does not have the possibilities to attend classrooms on fixed schedules. Reasons could be distance problems or the unavailability to coincide work and family life. For that audience, DE is the opportunity to access new knowledge. The social impact of this educational modality is, therefore, not only the potential to make viable formal or informal education, by means of professional training; an open and continuing education; an education for all citizens.

Rules

Every team must select one system from those listed below:

- Amadeus
- Moodle
- REDU

These three systems are available at:
http://www.cin.ufpe.br/~ihc_clihc2011/competicao.php

Teams can also evaluate the DE system adopted by their superior educational institution. In this case, teams must be in touch with their system administrator in order to have full access to their functionalities.

On a general mode, a DE support system allows:

1. The administration of several contents (texts, audio, video, images, etc) by the different users types (students, professors, monitors, groups, etc);
2. Communication among all participants;
3. The development, delivery and monitoring of activities;
4. The administration of users.

Considering the aspects that allows DE to be accessed by the general population, every team should prioritise the evaluation of the items 1), 2) and 3) on their selected system.

All teams have the liberty to select **the method(s)** which would be used to evaluate the system. After the evaluation, every team should generate a **document** with no more than 10 pages stating the following:

- Name of the evaluation method(s) utilised;
- Justification on the selection of those method(s);
- Description of the process of evaluation;
- Results of the evaluation
    - Found problems: description, (local) interface image and justification;
    - Localisation of the selected system: modification that would have to be made in order to be adapted into the culture of the team's culture;
    - Conclusion: conclusions and another observations

- Opinion of the team about the capabilities of the selected method(s) to find out related problems in the use of the selected system by different users' profiles on the development of task in an educational process.

Submissions: all submissions should be made anonymous with no more than 10 pages in the ACM SIGCHI format of publications (http://www.sigchi.org/chipubform/). Authors must send their submissions through the EasyChair system (http://www.easychair.org/) in a PDF format. All submissions must be written in English.

Participation Instructions

In order to participate in this competition, every team should fulfil four stages:

1. Fulfilment of the evaluation;
2. Submission of the report of the evaluation;
3. Oral presentation during the competition, System Evaluation Track, that would take place during IHC+CLIHC 2011.

There are two levels of participation: undergraduate and graduate teams. The following describe the formation of teams in each level, as well as the stages of the competition.

Teams Formation

Teams could be of one of the following types:

- Undergraduate: at least 3 students with no more of 5 undergraduate students.
- Graduate: at least 2 students with no more of 4 graduate students.

Every team must have at least a professor associated to a superior educational institution. Undergraduate and graduated students will not be allowed on the same team.

Important Dates
- Deadline for the submission of reports: 10.06.2011
- Finalists notification to present during IHC+CLIHC 2011: 18.07.2011

Evaluation criteria of the submitted reports

Every project will be evaluated by reviewers with a proved experience in HCI and in evaluation of interactive systems. The evaluation criteria to be used will be:

- Legibility, organisation and presentation of the text of the report of evaluation;
- Clear definition and scope of the evaluation;
- Adaptation of the method(s) selected on the process for the described evaluation and the proposed objectives;
- Quality of the results found during the evaluation for the established objectives;

- Consideration of technical aspects involved on the evaluation (in case the method(s) used by the team involved users' participation or external personnel to the team);
- Quality of the critical analytical abilities of the method to reveal potential problems on the use of the system by the involved users in an educational process;
- Relevance of the work to both the academic community as the industry.

Selection and presentation during ICH+CLIHC 2011

Three finalist would be selected in each of the two levels (undergraduate and graduate) for an oral presentation, followed by a question and answer session by the audience, during the event, to take place at the city of Porto de Galinhas, Pernambuco, Brazil, during the 25th to the 28th of October, 2011. It would be compulsory the presence of all finalists teams on the day of the presentation at IHC+CLIHC 2011.

Awards

Every selected finalist team would receive a Certificate of Recognition (1st, 2nd, or 3rd place on its level). Teams have to make their oral presentations in order to earn their certificate.

Selected teams registration extension

Selected teams would receive a registration extension for one member.

Submissions' Confidentiality

The finalist's reports would be kept confidential until the beginning of the event. Non-selected teams' reports could, after authorisation of the professor, be divulgated in a website of the CEIHC.

Contact

In case of questions or doubts about the instructions for participation, please keep in touch with the competition organisers: Janne Y. Y. Oeiras Lachi (janneoeiras@ufgd.edu.br) and or Mario Alberto Moreno Rocha (sirpeto@gmail.com).