



INSTITUTE FOR PEOPLE-CENTRED COMPUTATION

DECEMBER 2008 CHARRETTE

9th, 10th, 11th DECEMBER, BRISTOL

Venue to be confirmed

According to Wikipedia:

*'... the word **charrette** refers to any collaborative session in which a group of designers drafts a solution to a design problem. They often take place in multiple sessions in which the group divides into sub-groups. Each sub-group then presents its work to the full group as material for future dialogue. Such charrettes serve as a way of quickly generating a design solution while integrating the aptitudes and interests of a diverse group of people.'*

We are now coming to the end of the EPSRC Network funding and the AHRC / EPSRC 2nd tranche of funding under the Design for the 21st Century Initiative. The aim of our planned December charrette is to draw together all those main players from the UK, Europe and overseas, who have contributed greatly to our activities. This is also an open meeting however where all are welcome. The intention is to identify and define our current collective state-of-the-art in terms of people-centred computation for design and decision-making through a mix of software demonstrators, posters, oral presentations, expert comment, break-out sessions and round table discussion. In this manner we intend to apply the finishing touches to an already impressive body of work from the Network and D21C funding to better satisfy the overall objectives of these research oriented activities i.e:

- *To establish a completely integrated, initial framework for people-centred computational environments that support conceptual design and early stage decision-making across multiple, diverse disciplines;*
- *To develop a detailed definition of research requirements and agenda that will ensure short to medium term benefits through interim development whilst ultimately leading to the eventual realisation of generic commercial systems.*

The agenda for the charrette will be developed over the coming months. It is intended that the event will commence with an opening reception with food and refreshments on the evening of Tuesday, 9th December during which an introductory presentation will take place.

Further talks on the Wednesday morning will better define where we are at the moment through reports upon the findings of the AHRC / EPSRC project and associated meetings plus a number of software demonstrators of related user-centred design systems. A 'Big Design Problem' will be introduced which will provide a focal activity around which we can test the current assumptions re system requirement whilst, hopefully, generating further insights.

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Visiting speakers will be invited to comment on the current proposed structure and this, plus associated round-table discussion will provide the major themes for a series of break out sessions on the Thursday. Reports from these sessions plus further general discussion will then focus upon contributing to and consolidating the two major objectives.

ALL WELCOME! PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN ATTENDING!

A small registration fee will be payable to contribute to overall cost.

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