

Newsletter of the Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges

March 2002

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ingrid Russell
CCSC President

In my message in the December newsletter, I told you that the national board has been discussing the removal of the term “small” from the organization’s name while keeping the initials the same. This was a proposal that was initiated by the membership to better reflect who we are. The national board sought feedback from the membership and based on this feedback and after much consideration, the board is now recommending the name change. In particular, the recommendation is to change the name of the organization to “Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges” which keeps the same initials, CCSC. Now we are passing this back to the membership for a final vote. You should be receiving this in the ballots.

This proposed change in name is not intended to impact our mission and goals, but rather to better reflect who we are and what our mission is. The goal of the consortium remains the same, namely that of supporting quality, cost-effective regional conferences and activities aimed at faculty from teaching-oriented colleges. The change being proposed is aimed at finding a name which better reflects this.

I ask you to support the proposed name change, but most importantly I urge you to vote on this question.

Turning to other matters, this spring we have elections for the offices of President-elect, Treasurer, and regional representatives for Central Plains, Midwest, and Eastern regions. We have a great slate of candidates and I am confident that any of them would be a good choice. I ask you to participate in this election and cast your votes.

The spring board meeting at SIGCSE was a productive meeting packed with several items for discussion. A copy of the meeting minutes is available at CCSC’s website.

One of the priorities this year has been to reevaluate some of our operations and procedures to ensure better services for our members. The board has continued its work in this area in an effort to simplify our operations and redistribute some of the duties to reduce workload on some of the positions, while at the same time involving other members in the consortium. To that end, the board approved the establishment of a new position of database administrator, appointed by the board to develop, implement and maintain a database to support Consortium needs. This should reduce workload on the membership secretary. The

board appointed Brent Wilson to this position and we all look forward to working with Brent to ensure a smooth transition.

Two areas of concentration now are the audit procedure and an operating policies and procedures document. This is the first year CCSC has had a formal audit procedure. However, we do have quite a bit of work to do in this area to ensure that all our procedures are audited. A concern is that while 99% of incoming funds are handled by the membership secretary, we do not have a process in place to relate the membership and registration data with the financial data. This is a concern, as it does not enable the audit committee to actually complete its function. The board is working with the audit committee to ensure that there are procedures in place to be followed in an auditable operation. Thanks to Susan Dean for leading this project. The second area of concentration over the next couple of months is the compilation of an operating policies and procedures document which should provide a more effective structure than word-of-mouth passed from experienced members to new ones. We are grateful to Scott McElfresh for agreeing to lead these efforts.

Three spring CCSC conferences are coming up in April, all with very good and interesting programs. I wish you all a good rest of this academic year and hope you plan to attend one of the upcoming spring conferences.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

John G. Meinke
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We have a special treat this year in that there will be issues of the *Journal* in March, April, and May. The programs for all three conferences were packed enough that it was impossible to combine conference proceedings. This is good news for the membership in that it brings more on computing in the teaching post-secondary institutions to you. I hope that you find this issue of the Central Plains Conference proceedings as rich as I did.

It’s also not at all too early to plan to participate in a Fall 2002 conference. Check out the *Calls for Participation* below, and keep abreast of further information via the Consortium web site, <http://www.ccsc.org>. The calls for our Spring 2003 conferences will be coming out soon as well — use the upcoming months planning to share what you are doing with computing with colleagues at a regional conference near you.

I periodically receive inquiries regarding the refereeing process for the various conferences. Each conference has its own procedures, as well as its own rejection rates. However, for promotion and tenure purposes I can assure you that our conferences are refereed, and that papers presented at the regional conferences and appearing in the *Journal* are evidence of scholarship in the field.

NATIONAL VENDORS

The Consortium is proud to have the following National Vendors supporting the Consortium

Metrowerks
McGraw-Hill Higher Education
Microsoft
National Computational Science Institute (NCSI)
Prentice Hall
Scott/Jones Publishing

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

April 12-13, 2002

The **13th Annual Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges: South Central Conference**, sponsored by the Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges in cooperation with the ACM Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE), will be hosted by Texas Lutheran University in **Seguin, Texas, April 12-13, 2002**. Conference theme: Y2K + 2.

This conference is a useful, low-cost, regional forum for the exchange of ideas among computer-oriented educators. It provides opportunities for participants to discuss innovations and practices in areas such as pedagogy, curriculum issues, application of new technology, and trends in computer education as seen primarily in undergraduate computer science, computer information systems and information technology programs.

Additional conference information is available at: http://www.tlu.edu/Academics/Departments/Math_Computer/CCSC.html, E-Mail: bmusgraves@txlutheran.edu for further information. Please indicate if you would like to serve as a referee, session moderator, or would like to host a future conference.

April 19-20, 2002

CCSCNE 2002, The Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges sponsored **Seventh Annual Northeastern Conference** in cooperation with The Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group in Computer Science Education, hosted by **Worcester State College in Worcester, MA, April 19-20, 2002**.

Statement of Purpose

The CCSCNE brings together faculty, staff, and students from academic institutions throughout the Northeast for exchange of ideas and information concerning undergraduate computing curricula.

This conference provides an affordable regional forum for the exchange of information and ideas pertaining to the concerns of computing and computing curricula in a smaller academic environment. It will begin with an opening address by a keynote speaker on Friday at 1:00 p.m., include a Friday evening banquet and speaker, a Saturday luncheon, and conclude Saturday at 2:00 p.m. In addition to parallel paper sessions, the program will include pre-conference workshops, a pre-conference programming contest, tutorials, panels, student posters, a best paper award, and vendor displays.

Conference Chair: Karl R. Wurst, Worcester State College, (508) 929-8728.

World Wide Web: <http://www.ccsne.org/2002/>

September 27-28, 2002

The Ninth Annual **CCSC Midwestern Conference** sponsored by the Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges will be held at **Indiana Wesleyan University on September 27 and 28, 2002**. The University is located approximately 50 minutes north of Indianapolis, Indiana. The theme of the conference year is Building Connections: Scholarship & Teaching in Small Colleges.

Conference Highlights include a keynote address, paper tracks, tutorials and workshops, and a special student research track. There will also be a conference banquet and luncheon, birds of a feather sessions, and vendor exhibits.

This conference is sponsored by the Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges (CCSC) for the Midwest region that includes eastern Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, western Pennsylvania and northern Kentucky. CCSC is a non-profit organization focused on promoting quality computer-oriented curricula as well as effective use of computing in smaller institutions of higher learning which are typically non-research in orientation.

The Consortium supports activities which assist faculty in making appropriate judgments concerning computing resources and educational applications of computer technology. Because departments in smaller colleges and universities are usually small and not highly specialized, the Consortium also encourages the sharing of expertise, effective curricula, and efficient technological applications.

The Consortium is concerned with the advancement of major programs in both Computer Science and Computer Information Systems, and with the use of computers in the Liberal Arts and Sciences. The conference program reflects the Consortium's goals and accommodates the limited resources for travel associated with member institutions.

Paper, Panel, Tutorial and Workshop contributions are solicited on all topics in computing at small colleges, including but not

limited to the topics below. Papers will be refereed and published in the *Journal for Computing in Small Colleges*.

Submission Guidelines

IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for Paper Submissions – **March 18, 2002**

Deadline for Panel, Tutorial, and Workshop Submissions – **April 15, 2002**

Late Deadline for Student Submissions – **September 7, 2002**

Notification of paper, panel and tutorial acceptance – **May 10, 2002**

Deadline for final drafts & presenters' preregistration fees – **June 13, 2002**

PAPERS

Please submit 4 hard copies of the complete paper (up to 15 pages, double spaced, with 300 word maximum abstract) for blind review. Please make sure that your name and that of your institution does not appear in the paper or the abstract. Include cover letter with full paper title, name, address, and phone number of contact author. Send to: Robert Beasley, Dept. of Mathematics & Computing, Franklin College, 501 E. Monroe St., Franklin, IN 46131, rbeasley@franklincollege.edu ,

PANELS, TUTORIALS, AND WORKSHOPS

Panels and tutorials are presented in a 60-90 minute format. pre- and post-conference workshops in a 2-3 hour format. Please submit an extended abstract (2 pages hard copy), equipment requirements, and the list of participants to: Ann E. Fleury, Computer Science Program, Dunham Hall, Aurora University, 347 S. Gladstone, Aurora, IL 60506, afleury@aurora.edu

STUDENT PAPERS

These may be papers, tutorials, or workshops. Accepted submissions received by the March (papers) or the April (panels, tutorials, workshops) deadlines will be included in the published proceedings. Students wishing to submit late-breaking results may submit by the late deadline, September 7.

We regret that submissions meeting the late deadline cannot be published in the proceedings. Send to: Alyce Brady, Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science, Kalamazoo College, 1200 Academy Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006-3295, abrady@kzoo.edu For further conference information visit the conference web site, <http://www.ccsc.org/midwest/>

October 4-5, 2002

The **Fourth Annual** Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges sponsored **CCSC Northwestern Conference**, to be held at the **Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, Washington, October 4-5, 2002**.

The Northwest Regional Conference of the Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges is designed to promote exchange of information among small college personnel concerned with computer use in the academic environment. It is intended for faculty as well as administrators of academic computer facilities. Because personnel at small colleges often have restricted travel

budgets, the scheduling of the conference is done with consideration toward minimizing costs.

Submission Instructions

Papers (Due date: March 15, 2002)

Authors are asked to submit papers for presentation at the conference. Papers will be refereed and those accepted will appear in the *Journal of Computing in Small Colleges*. Paper submissions should include a title page with abstract, name, address, phone number, and email address. The first page of the paper should start with the title and abstract. Names(s) of author(s) should not appear in the paper itself. Send one copy of the title page and four copies of the paper. Papers should be a maximum of 15 pages double-spaced and the abstract should be limited to 300 words. Papers should be submitted to the Papers Chair: Elaine Weltz, Department of Computer Science, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, Washington 98119, eweltz@spu.edu (for inquiries only)

Panels and Tutorials (Due date: March 29, 2002)

Tutorial and panel discussion submissions should include a 2-page proposal, list of participants, and address, phone number, and e-mail address of contact author. Send proposals to the Panels & Tutorials Chair: Laurie Murphy, CSCE Department, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington 98447, murphylc@plu.edu (for inquiries only)

Student Poster Contest

Undergraduate students are invited to submit an abstract describing their research or project. A faculty sponsor is required. Students will present their work in a poster session and prizes will be awarded. See the conference web-site (www.nic.edu/ccsc) for further details.

Registration material will be available on the conference web-site and will also be mailed in August. If you are not currently on our mailing list but would like to be, contact the Registration Chair, Jerry Roth at roth@cps.gonzaga.edu

Further details on all aspect of the conference can be found on the conference web site www.nic.edu/ccsc.

October 18-19, 2002

The **Eleventh Annual** Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges sponsored **CCSC Rocky Mountain Conference**, to be held at the **Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, Colorado, October 18-19, 2002**.

The Northwest Regional Conference of the Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges is designed to promote exchange of information among small college personnel concerned with computer use in the academic environment. It is intended for faculty as well as administrators of academic computer facilities. Because personnel at small colleges often have restricted travel budgets, the scheduling of the conference is done with consideration toward minimizing costs.

Submission Instructions

Submissions will be blind refereed. Authors of selected papers will be notified and those papers will be published in the *Journal for Computing in Small Colleges* and the *ACM Digital Library*.

Abstract

An abstract must be submitted for papers, tutorials, workshops, and panels by *April 1, 2002* to Dr. Patricia Tucker. Abstracts should be limited to 300 words and should include the title, name of author, address, phone number, and e-mail address. Abstracts are accepted as a commitment to submit a final document as described below. Abstracts may be mailed to Dr. Patricia Tucker (address below) or e-mailed to tuckerp@mscd.edu.

Papers (Due date: April 1, 2002)

Paper submissions should include a title page with author's name, address, phone number, and e-mail address and the title and abstract of the paper. The first page of the paper should start with the title and abstract. Name(s) of author(s) should not appear in the paper itself. Send one copy of the title page and four copies of the paper. Papers should be a maximum of 15 pages double-spaced and the abstract should be limited to 300 words. Submit by *April 1, 2002* to Dr. Patricia Tucker, Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences, Campus Box 038, Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, CO 80217-3362. Notice of acceptance will be sent by *1 May*. Final draft of paper due *15 June, 2002*.

Panels, Tutorials, and Workshops

Tutorial, panel and workshop submissions should include a two-page proposal, list of participants, and address, phone number, and e-mail of contact author. Submit by *April 1, 2002* to Dr. Aaron Gordon, Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences, Campus Box 038, Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, CO 80217-3362

Suggested Topics: This year's conference theme is Distance Learning emphasizing Web courses. Additional topics may include Emerging Technologies, Education and Curriculum Issues, Computer Use in All Disciplines, Software Development, Legal and Ethical Issues of Technology, Administrative Issues, Networking and Interactive Classrooms, Computing Resources and Support Services.

For further information visit the Rocky Mountain Conference Web Site: www.business.uvsc.edu/rmccsc or the CCSC Web Site: www.ccsc.org

October 18-19, 2002

The ***Eighteenth Annual*** Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges sponsored ***CCSC Eastern Conference***, to be held at **Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, October 18-19, 2002.**

Format for Papers and Presentations

Speakers should plan on a 15 to 20 minute presentation focusing on the impact of computing in an academic setting. These time constraints will be strictly adhered to. This year, electronic

classrooms with personal computers and projection devices will be available to presenters as will overhead and opaque projectors. An area will be available during the breaks for extended demonstrations involving computer programs, simulations, on-line accessing of databases and/or mainframes. As in the past, all papers for this Conference will be blind refereed by three referees. Accepted papers as well as Panel and Workshop abstracts will be published in the *Journal of Computing in Small Colleges*. Authors are encouraged to submit their papers electronically at the conference website:

<http://orgs.bloomu.edu/ccsce02>

Call for Papers

Submit a copy of the paper electronically at conference website - <http://orgs.bloomu.edu/ccsce02> or submit 4 copies of the full paper with a cover sheet specifying name, address, e-mail and phone of contact person to: CCSCE PAPERS, Dr. Amruth Kumar, Ramapo College of New Jersey, 505 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430, Phone: 201 684 7712, FAX: 201 684 7919, E-mail: amruth@ramapo.edu

Deadline for Paper: March 18, 2002

Acceptance Notification: May 27, 2002

Deadline for Final Paper: June 28, 2002

Call for Panels & Workshops

Send detailed proposal for panel or workshop session including topic, overview, participants, and a cover sheet with name, address, and phone of contact person to: CCSCE PANELS/WORKSHOPS, Dr. Jennifer A. Polack-Wahl, Department of Computer Science, 1301 College Ave, Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5358, Phone: 546 654 1318, FAX: 540 654 2445, E-mail: polack@paprika.mwc.edu

Deadline for Panel Proposals: March 18, 2002

Decision by: May 27, 2002

Deadline for Final Abstract: June 28, 2002

Programming Contest

Send Programming team information by May 1, 2002 to:

Dr. Curt Jones, Dept. of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA 17815, Tel: 570 389 4500, FAX: 570 389 3599, E-mail: cjones@bloomu.edu

For Conference Information contact

Dr. Zahira Khan, Department of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA 17815, Tel: 570 389 4582, FAX: 570 389 3599, E-mail: zkhan@bloomu.edu You may mail, fax, or e-mail the following information to obtain registration material in the summer of 2002.

Name, Institution, Address, City, Telephone, E-mail

November 8-9, 2002

The ***Sixteenth Annual*** Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges sponsored ***CCSC Southeastern Conference***, to be held at **Furman University, Greenville, North Carolina, November 8-9, 2002.** The Southeastern Conference is a regional conference sponsored by the

Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges and is designed to promote exchange of information among small college personnel concerned with computer use in the academic environment. It is intended for faculty as well as administrators of academic computer facilities. Because personnel at small colleges often have restricted travel budgets, the scheduling of regional conferences of the CCSC is done with consideration toward minimizing conference costs.

The conference is held in association with SIGCSE, and submitted papers are refereed, with the accepted ones being published in the (ACM recognized, refereed) *Journal of Computing in Small Colleges*.

Conference Theme: "In Support of Computing in Small Colleges".

Some Suggested Topics: Computer Education, Curriculum issues, Course development issues, Course content issues, Computer Use Across the Curriculum, Use of computers in teaching, Lab use of computers, Software development and/or use, Administrative Issues, Budgets, Sharing resources, Faculty support services, Faculty/Staff workshops or seminars, Long-range planning for computing

Submission Guidelines

Submission Deadline: **March 29, 2002**

Papers, student papers, tutorial descriptions, and panel discussion descriptions are welcome. Send four (4) blind (no identifying reference to self or organization) copies of entire paper, or extended abstract of panels or tutorials, hard copy only, to: Dr. Laurie White, Computer Science Department, Mercer University, 1400 Coleman Ave, Macon, GA 31207. Notification of Acceptance: **May 1, 2002**; Deadline for Final Drafts: **June 14, 2002**. Final drafts must be in WordPerfect or clean ASCII format. Pre-registration fees for presenters are also due at that time.

Registration Information: Early Registration (by Oct. 4, 2002): Full registration \$130, Student \$25; On-Site Registration: Full registration \$140, Student \$25. The registration fee includes the conference banquet on Friday evening, the luncheon on Saturday, admission to all sessions, and one copy of the conference proceedings. Full registration also includes a one year membership in the Consortium. Student registration does not include CCSC membership or proceedings. There will be additional fees for workshops.

Related Web Sites: The Consortium: <http://www.ccsc.org>; The SE Region: <http://cs.furman.edu/ccscse/>; The Conference: <http://cs.furman.edu/ccscse2002/>; Programing Contest: <http://www.ccsc.org/contests/southeastern/>

Student Paper Competition: Encourage your students to submit papers! Student papers must have original content. Presentations will be given on Friday afternoon, with awards at the Saturday luncheon. For more information, please visit the conference web site.

Student Programming Contest: For more information, please

visit the contest web site.

Student Web Design Contest: The web design contest is sponsored in part by a grant from Upsilon Pi Epsilon. For more information, please visit the conference web site.

