

# Newsletter of the Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges

June 2002

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Ingrid Russell*

*CCSC President*

The CCSC election results are now in. We had approximately 200 ballots, which is a very good response. Many thanks to all who voted. The bylaws amendment to change the name of the organization to "The Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges" passed. This is an exciting time for CCSC, with the organization getting national recognition. We believe that CCSC is positioning itself as the premier regionally-focused computing education organization that seeks to support, via its conferences and journal, the sharing of ideas and experiences of undergraduate faculty. The name change will help us in this regard.

Paul Myers was elected to the position of President-Elect, Bill Myers was re-elected to the position of Treasurer, Liz Adams was elected to the position of Eastern representative, Myles McNally was elected to the position of Midwest representative.

The election for a Central Plains representative resulted in a tie between Dean Sanders and Bob Neufeld. An email run off will be held. Congratulations to the new electees and many thanks to all who ran for election this year.

As we approach the end of the year, I want to thank the many CCSC members for their active involvement and their volunteering to work on CCSC committees and projects. I ask all of you to continue to be active within CCSC, as this makes our organization better. A lot was accomplished this year and much of this could not have been done without the commitment of the membership and the hard work of board members. Thanks again to all of you. Three main goals were set for this year: strengthening our regional conferences, improving the communication between the national organization and the regions, and evaluating our operations in various areas. To that end, several things were accomplished.

In regard to strengthening our regional conferences, our relationship with SIGCSE has grown and for the first time, this year all eight CCSC conferences enjoyed the in-cooperation status with SIGCSE. Also for the first time, this year's CCSC journal appeared in ACM's digital library. We look forward to this continued cooperation, which benefits both organizations. To that end, we have also increased student participation at several of our conferences through sponsorships of several student activities. The International Computing Sciences Honor Society continued its support of student activities at all regions. Microsoft funded all regional programming contests. We continued to improve on the quality of the papers. Through our new national vendor program, eight book and software vendors

have committed to be national vendors this year. Due to this program, conferences have seen an increase in vendor presence. Not only will such sponsorships help support some of the conference activities, but the increased earnings that CCSC has seen as a result this year will allow CCSC to continue to keep its membership fees low and continue to run cost effective regional conferences.

The second goal was to improve on the communication between the regions and national. In this area, we worked on establishing some uniform structure and key regional positions to facilitate effective communication between national and its regions. Several resources and documents have also been created to guide regional conferences and are now available to regions through CCSC's newly revamped website. The new website has also helped us have more presence on the web. In addition, it allowed for better dissemination of information and activities being done by the national board by making available on the site several documents, including issues of our newsletter and the accompanying president's message. This has helped us in making members aware of all board activities.

The third goal was to evaluate our operating procedures in various areas. The goal was to reduce the workload and involve more volunteers as well as to simplify the operations. To that end, we have accomplished much, including the establishment of a new position, that of a database administrator, to develop, implement, and maintain a database to support Consortium needs. We will be doing a test run of the new database this summer with four of the five Fall regional conferences using the new database to enter their registration information. Not only will this new database provide support for regional conferences by giving them access to needed data, it is our hope that this will facilitate local registration and more regional access to regional data.

Work continues on two major projects this summer. The audit committee is working on finalizing an audit procedure for next year. The bylaws and operating procedures committee has completed a draft copy of an operating policies document for board approval and will continue work this summer on revisions of the bylaws.

Finally, CCSC is working on the possibility of a new conference in the Mid South area. The conference is being planned for the Spring of 2003 in Memphis, TN, and we look forward to working with the organizing committee. The CCSC website will have more information on the plans for the conference as they become available.

I wish you all a wonderful and relaxing summer.

*Ingrid Russell*  
CCSC President

## CORPORATE SPONSORS

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Prentice Hall  
Scott/Jones Publishing.  
Holt Software Associates  
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## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

The Calls for Participation for Consortium sponsored conferences are available at  
<http://www.ccsc.org/regions/regions.htm>

### *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.

### *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.

Registration material will be available on the conference website 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](mailto:roth@cps.gonzaga.edu)

Further details on all aspect of the conference can be found on the conference web site [www.nic.edu/ccsc](http://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 **Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, Colorado, October 18-19, 2002.**

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.

Rocky Mountain Conference Web Site:  
[www.business.uvsc.edu/rmccsc](http://www.business.uvsc.edu/rmccsc)

### *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.**

#### 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](mailto: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".

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/>

April 25-26, 2003

The Consortium for Computing in Small Colleges sponsored ***Eighth Annual Northeastern Conference*** in cooperation with The Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group in Computer Science Education, hosted by **Rhode Island State College in Providence, RI, April 25-26, 2003.**

#### **Statement of Purpose**

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 plenary speaker on Friday at 1:00 p.m., include a Friday evening banquet, a Saturday morning speaker, a Saturday luncheon, and conclude Saturday around 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:** [confchair@ccscne.org](mailto:confchair@ccscne.org), Frank Ford, Providence College, (401)865-2635, Rod Rodrigues, Rhode Island College (401) 456-9672

#### **Submission Instructions**

##### **Papers**

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*. See the conference web site for further details. Direct all questions to: [papers@ccscne.org](mailto:papers@ccscne.org), Karl Wurst, (508) 929-8728, Lawrence D'Antonio (201) 684-7714, Hemant Pendharkor (508) 929-8969

##### **Suggested Topics**

Computer science education: curriculum issues, course development issues, course content issues, Advanced topics in the computer science curriculum including object-oriented programming and design, networking, parallel processing, etc., Using information technology in the classroom, Innovative approaches to teaching first year computing, Grants and the small college, Computing courses for non-majors, Ethics and computing, Student research, Affiliated fields such as Computer Engineering and Information Systems

##### **Undergraduate Student Posters**

Undergraduate students are invited to submit an abstract describing their research or project. A faculty sponsor is required. Accepted abstracts will appear in the *Journal of Computing in Small Colleges* and students will present their work in a poster session. Prizes will be awarded. See the conference web site for further details. Direct all questions to: [posters@ccscne.org](mailto:posters@ccscne.org), Michael Gousie (508) 286-3969

##### **Panels, Tutorials, Workshops**

**Panels:** please submit a detailed proposal (1-2 pages) including a description of the topic, a list of panelists, brief (2-3 line) biographies of the panelists, the panel format and, if feasible, position statements of the panelists.

**Tutorials/Workshops:** please submit a detailed proposal including a description (1 page) of the topic and its suitability, and a description (1 page) of the presenter's background on that topic.

All workshops are pre-conference. See the conference web site for further details. Direct all questions to:

[panels@ccscne.org](mailto:panels@ccscne.org), [tutorials@ccscne.org](mailto:tutorials@ccscne.org), [workshops@ccscne.org](mailto:workshops@ccscne.org), Roger Simons (401) 456-9865, Laurie King (508) 793-2248

##### **Vendors**

Vendors are invited to purchase display table(s) at the conference. Direct all inquiries to: [vendors@ccscne.org](mailto:vendors@ccscne.org), Ingrid Russel (860) 768-4191, Paul Chiasson, (508) 929-8560

##### **Programming Contest**

A Computer Programming Contest for 3-person college teams will be held on Friday morning, April 19th. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. The registration fee of \$90 includes conference registration for the team members. A faculty sponsor is required and is encouraged to register and attend the conference. The computer lab will be available at 8:00 a.m. for teams to familiarize themselves with the equipment. The contest languages will be C, C++ and Java. Teams may use any or all of the languages and all programs will be doable in all languages. Rules will be similar to the ACM International Programming All judging will be done objectively using sets of data meant to test all cases. Contest rules. At 9:00, there will be a briefing on the contest rules and the computer system. At 9:30, the contest problems will be distributed. The contest will run continually until 12:30. Winners will be announced at the banquet. See the conference web site for further details. Direct all questions to: [pgmcontest@ccscne.org](mailto:pgmcontest@ccscne.org), Tim Huang (802) 443-2431

**World Wide Web:** <http://www.ccscne.org/2003/>

