

Newsletter of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges

June 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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On August first the presidency of CCSC shifts into the care of Susan Dean. Looking back on my year at the helm and at the previous year as president-elect, I see a lot of growth in the Consortium. The membership has just ratified major changes to the bylaws, marking the end of several years of work by a very dedicated group. One of the changes will make me the last Past President, Myles McNally the first-ever Vice President, and Susan the first CCSC President to serve two consecutive years in that office. Certain Board officers will be appointed rather than elected and will serve at the pleasure of the Board. This simplifies the election process, provides an avenue for cost-savings related to Board expenses, and places the responsibility for Consortium operations squarely on the shoulders of a few officers and the Regional Representatives. Most modifications are narrower in scope; these are particularly significant.

Through the many efforts of Kris Powers and Brent Wilson, and with input from the Database Committee, the membership database has been put in order. Ernie Ferguson and others have tested use of the SIGCSE/ITiCSE paper submission system and deemed it satisfactory for use by all our conferences. Online conference registration and payment are on the near-horizon. A new region, Mid-South, has successfully navigated its way through its first year. Will there be more new regions? The Board is looking actively and carefully at criteria for making that decision. The National Partners Program took off under Ernie Ferguson's strong hand. He provided great vision for that program and has successfully brought major partners to the support of CCSC.

Before closing, I want to speak to an issue near and dear to my heart. I spent many years teaching computing in middle/junior and high school and as an I.T. Director in a PK-12 school. Now, like so many of us, my Computer Science programs are fighting the continued downturn in enrollments. At SIGCSE '06, many of us heard Chris Stephenson and Robert Cutler, respectively the Executive Director and Chairperson of Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), articulate for all of us the efforts their ACM group is making to repair our damaged CS "pipeline." CSTA is aggressively seeking specifics about every state's certification standards (if, indeed, there are any!) and to change the media's perceptions of computing as declining and unattractive. The Bureau of Labor Statistics' 2006 *Occupational Outlook Handbook* clearly indicates that ALL computing occupations are expected to be in far higher demand than the average for the next 8-10 years. CSTA is working hard to get this message to the public, to turn

around the thinking of students, parents, counselors, and teachers back to a favorable view of our field. CSTA also sanctions two types of workshops for secondary high school computer science teachers. JETT (Java Engagement for Teacher Training) and TECS (Teacher Enrichment in Computer Science) provide pedagogically sound training. JETT is specifically targeted at the AP CS course. TECS addresses topics from the *ACM K-12 Model Curriculum*. The CCSC Board has resolved to cooperate with CSTA in their efforts and to accept pre-college computing teachers as full members of CCSC. All regional conferences are urged to cooperate as fully as possible with CSTA. Members can consider hosting regular JETT and TECS workshops, which not only support pre-college teachers but also help repair the pipeline of future students while advertising our college-level programs. My own department heard about JETT and TECS in early March and has both types of workshops on the calendar for early August. Our first registration arrived less than 24 hours after the announcement flyer hit the schools. This type of training is not only useful but needed and welcome. I cannot urge all CCSC members strongly enough to support the important collaboration of CSTA and CCSC.

This has been a year of major stabilization in CCSC. I owe much to Rob Bryant, who is always ready to provide guidance and assistance at a moment's notice. Susan Dean, too, has helped by sharing freely her intimate knowledge of Consortium operations. John Meinke – always a good friend – has been my sounding board. And I cannot forget the excellent cadre of Regional Representatives whom the membership sent to the Board, nor Kris, Brent, Bill Myers, Will Mitchell, and Ernie Ferguson, all of whom do so much for our organization. My thanks to everyone on the Board for their support and encouragement, and to the membership for working so hard to make our organization strong. John Howland leaves the Board, yielding the position of South Central Rep to John Fernandez. Congratulations to John and to George Hauser, David Naugler, and John Meinke on their election or re-election to the Board. At the time of this writing, there is some question of who will represent the Southeast Region. If Kevin Treu does not continue in that position, know that he will be greatly missed on the Board.

Thank you all for a great year. I look forward to watching the continued growth of CCSC and of our field in the years ahead.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board meeting minutes are available at the Consortium Web site (<http://ccsc.org/board/minutes/index.htm>).

NATIONAL PARTNERS PROGRAM

The Consortium is very happy to have the following as National Partners. If you have the opportunity please thank them for their support of computing in teaching institutions. As a National Partner they are invited to participate in our regional conferences. Visit with their representatives there.

IBM

National Computations Science Institute, NCSI

Microsoft Corporation

O'Reilly

ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN!

Congratulations to the winners of the recent CCSC elections. They are:

President Elect: Myles McNally

Publications Chair: John Meinke

SE Rep: Bhagyavati

NW Rep: George Hauser

SC Rep: John Fernandez

Mid South Rep: David Naugler

The referendum on the proposed changes to the Bylaws also passed. The terms of newly elected members begin on August 1, 2006.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

The Calls for Participation for Consortium sponsored conferences are available at

<http://www.ccsc.org/regions/regions.htm>

June 26-28, 2006

ITiCSE 2006, the 11th Annual Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education, will be held **June 26-28 in Bologna, Italy**. For more information, visit the conference web site at:

<http://www.iticse06.cs.unibo.it/cfp.html>

September 29-30, 2006

The **Thirteenth Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges sponsored **CCSC: Midwestern Conference** to be held at **DePauw University, Greencastle, IN, September 29-30, 2006**. Conference chair will be **Gloria Townshend of DePauw University**. For further information, visit the conference web site at:

<http://www.ccsc.org/midwest/conference>

October 6-7, 2006

The **Eighth Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges sponsored **CCSC: Northwestern Conference**, located east of the Cascades, is scheduled at **Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Washington October 6-7, 2006**. Additional information will be forthcoming on the Northwestern regional website,

<http://www.ccsc.org/northwest/2006/>

October 20-21, 2006

The **Fifteenth Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges sponsored **CCSC: Rocky Mountain Conference** to be held at **Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO, October 20-21, 2006**. The conference chair is Noel LeJeune, Metropolitan State College of Denver, and the site chair is Aaron Gordon, Fort Lewis College. For further information, visit the conference web site at: <http://ecarey.uvsc.edu/ccsc/>

October 27-28, 2006

The **Twenty-second Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges sponsored **CCSC: Eastern Conference**, will be held at **University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA, October 27-28, 2006**. Conference co-chairs are Karen Anewalt and Jennifer A. Polack-Wahl, University of Mary Washington. For further information, visit the conference web site at: <http://ccsce06.umw.edu>

November 10-11, 2006

The **Twentieth Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges **CCSC: Southeastern Conference** to be held at **Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, November 10-11, 2006**. Becky Tallon and Jon Fouss are site co-chairs. For further information, visit the conference web site at:

<http://cs.furman.edu/ccscse/conference.php?year=20th>

March 7-10, 2007

SIGCSE 2007, the 38th Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education, will be held **March 7-10 in Covington, Kentucky**. Follow the link from the SIGCSE homepage, <http://www.sigcse.org>

April 13-14, 2007

The **Thirteenth Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges sponsored **CCSC: Central Plains Conference**, will be held at **Drury University, Springfield, MO, April 13-14, 2007**. Visit <http://www.ccsc.org/centralplains> for the latest conference information and steering committee.

April 20-21, 2007

The **Twelfth Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges **CCSC: Northeastern Conference** to be held at **Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, April 20-21, 2007**. For information, visit the conference web site at <http://www.ccsene.org/2006/>

April 27-28, 2007

The **Eighteenth Annual** Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges sponsored **CCSC: South Central Conference** to be held at **Midwestern State University, Whjichita Falls, TX, April 27-28, 2007**. For more information, visit the conference web site at: <http://www.sci.tamucc.edu/ccsc/>