The Educators' Symposium brings educators from both academia and industry together to share their ideas, experiences and techniques in teaching agile methods. The objective is to provide a collaborative venue with various activities to facilitate exchanges. The Symposium this year will be a full-day event including a keynote, paper presentations, a workshop, and a panel discussion.

To start the Symposium, we are lucky to have Joshua Kerievsky, the founder of Industrial Logic, to deliver the keynote speech for us. His extensive experience in XP teaching, coaching and writing makes him ideally suited to inspire university professors and industrial trainers to work together to improve the ways in which agile methods are taught.

Follow the keynote will be paper presentations. This year, based on clarity, originality and educational merit, the program committee selected the following five papers for presentation:

- "Extreme Construction: Making Agile Accessible" by Joe Bergin and Fred Grossman. This paper describes a novel active-learning exercise that simulates an agile project. The extreme construction game is both fun and informative.

- "Forming Successful eXtreme Programming Teams" by Shiu Lun Tsang, Alan Gray, Andrew Jackson, and Ioanna Stamouli. This paper describes an empirical study that investigates how team formation influences the levels of buy-in, which affects project success, learning and attitude.

- "The Impact of Agility on a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science" by Carol Wellington, Thomas Briggs, and C. Dudley Girard. This paper describes the introduction and influence of agile methods in a computer science curriculum.

- "Using Agile Management to Share Course Projects Among Multiple Classes" by Michael Wainer. This paper describes an experience in which an agile approach was used to coordinate project activities conducted by students in two classes, software development and user interaction design.

- "Examining the Compatibility of Student Pair Programmers" by Laurie Williams, Lucas Layman, Jason Osborne, and Neha Katira. This paper describes a four-year study of 1350 students in forming compatible pairs based on any one of the factors such as personality type, learning style, skill level, programming self esteem, work ethic, or time management preference.

The afternoon will start with a workshop titled "Teaching Agile -- Agile Teaching: Creating a Holistic Learning Environment" by Fred Grossman, Joe Bergin, and Rinaldo DiGiorgio. The 90-minute workshop will take a holistic approach to courses and curricula to gather advice on effective teaching environments and techniques for agile topics. Participants will identify success factors as well as challenges for effective ways of teaching and learning agile principles and practices.

We will wrap up the symposium by having an interesting and informative panel discussion on "Give It Your Best Shot: Favorite Lectures from Agile Teachers". This panel brings together four experienced teachers of agile methods to present their most effective techniques for teaching one or more agile practices to their class members. The confirmed panelists thus far include Robert Martin of Object Mentor, Gary Pollice of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and Tom Reichlmayr of Rochester Institute of Technology. Participants are expected to learn new, proven techniques that they can modify to fit their teaching styles and incorporate into their own courses.