Preface

Computers and networks now touch the lives of us all, from the youngest to the eldest members of the information society. The way we use them today, as passive consumers of human-based computer activities, must undergo radical improvement if we are to evolve into a true knowledge society. Effectively supporting active creation, connection and collaboration among all members of the knowledge society will be essential for future computer-based human activities.

C5 (Conference on Creating, Connecting and Collaborating through Computing) is for researchers, developers and computer users who are concerned about these issues. It is an international forum for presenting ongoing work and discussing future needs and directions in the areas of creative and collaborative computing and multimedia authoring environments—for work, play and learning. We welcome equally the submission of technical papers and practitioner/experience reports.

The C5 2006 conference is the fourth outcome of the series of C5, each of which has been held in January 2003, 2004 and 2005 in Kyoto, Japan. We called for papers concerned with the following topics: (1) Development and applications of wide area collaboration environment, (2) User collaboration utilizing 3D, multimedia, and animation objects, (3) Technologies for creating educational environments, (4) Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL), (5) Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW), virtual teaming, distributed work, and e-collaboration, (6) Hybrid technology activities, such as scientific experiments, instrumentation, robots, and game playing. This year 52 papers were submitted for proposal and the 36 good quality papers were accepted for publication. Authors come from not only Asia and North America, but also Europe and Oceania, and interest fields of participants range from computer science to practical education. We were also able to include an opening remark by Makoto Nagao and Alan Kay, two keynote talks by Bob Stein and Diana G. Oblinger, a panel session entitled “Open source approaches to collaborative software,” a demo and panel session and a BOF session.

The C5 2006 conference is organized by Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society, University of California, Berkeley, Hewlett-Packard Company, Kyoto University 21st Century Center of Excellence (COE) Program: Development of Knowledge Society Infrastructure, National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) and Viewpoints Research Institute. We would also like to express our appreciation to all committee members and reviewers for their great contributions to realize this conference.

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