Preface

Computers, networks, and other forms of technology are now pervasive in our information-based society. However, most users still function as passive consumers of technology. To evolve into a true knowledge society, it is critical that we transform computer-based human activities to engage users in the active process of creating, connecting, and collaborating together.

The C5 conference is for researchers, technology developers, educators, and technology users who are concerned about developing and enabling human-oriented creation, connection, and collaboration processes. C5 is an international forum for presenting ongoing work as well as new work currently under development and for discussing future needs and directions in creative computing and multimedia authoring environments. The program of paper presentations includes not only technical papers but also practitioner/experience reports. In addition, interactive workshop programs and field trips to schools are also included on the third day of the conference.

The C5 2007 conference is the fifth outcome of the series of C5, each of which has been held in January 2003, 2004, and 2005 in Kyoto, Japan, and 2006 in Berkeley, California. We called for papers concerned with the following topics: (1) development and applications of collaboration tools and environments; (2) user collaboration utilizing 3D, multimedia, and animation objects; (3) technologies for creating educational environments; (4) Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL) and Technology-Enabled Learning (TEL); (5) Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW), distributed work, and virtual teaming; (6) hybrid technology activities, such as scientific experiments, instrumentation, robots, and game playing; (7) development of applications/content for nontraditional learning environments, e.g., mentoring, peer-to-peer, “teacherless” environments (in developing countries), e.g., $100 laptop; and (8) applications and tools for education from K-12 through higher education. 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 two keynote talks by Marc Stiegler and Kristina Hooper Woolsey, a panel entitled “Who Can Afford Wonderful Ideas? On the Infrastructure of ICT in Developing Countries,” and two interactive workshop sessions.

The C5 2007 conference is organized by Hewlett-Packard Company, Kyoto University The 21st Century Center of Excellence Program: Informatics Research Center for Development of Knowledge Society Infrastructure, 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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