

**Issue 4 (2008) May**

After a stimulating Spring Council in the beautiful city of Ljubljana, we are pleased to bring you a comprehensive update on the activities of various CEPIS groups. In this issue we also provide you with information on the new European Institute of Innovation and Technology, and an exclusive CEPIS interview with CISCO Systems Networking Academy Manager, Antonio Herrera.

In order to provide you with an opportunity to have your Computer Society's perspective taken into account, we include drafts of the various CEPIS SINs and Task Force position papers discussed at Council, along with the contact information of those who are looking forward to receiving your feedback.

In this issue...[News](#)[Events](#)[Calls for Contributions](#)[Your Suggestions](#)**European Institute of Innovation and Technology approved by Parliament**

Dubbed the European rival to the famous US-based MIT, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology has recently been approved by the European Parliament

[Read More](#)**CEPIS interviews CISCO Systems Networking Academy Manager**

'CEPIS is...a source of highly valued input, advice and reference' said Antonio Herrera, CISCO Systems Networking Academy Manager in a recent interview with CEPIS.

[Read More](#)**NEWS****CEPIS Spring Council**

On 12th April, the CEPIS Spring Council brought together 28 Member Societies for a day of productive discussion in the beautiful city of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Guest speaker, Ljudmila Tozon, Counsellor of the Permanent Representation of Slovenia to the EU for Telecommunications and Information Society, provided an update on the European Union's i2010 strategy, with a preview of the upcoming mid-term review, as well as an overview of the Slovenian Presidency priorities.

Members were encouraged to put forward candidates for the five Executive Committee positions that will become vacant at the Autumn Council. These include: President Elect; Honorary Secretary; Honorary Treasurer and (2) Vice President positions. The Secretariat will shortly issue formal notification of the positions and invitations for nominations for the elections in Autumn. More information on these positions can be found in the Council Minutes.

The following SInS and Working Groups provided updates on their work: [Legal and Security SIn](#), [Education and Research, Professionalism](#), and [Informatics Students and Young Professionals](#). Click on the appropriate link for more detail on the work of these groups.

The Minutes of the Council will be available in the Members Area of the CEPIS website shortly.

European Parliament gives green light for European Institute for Innovation and Technology

On 11th March, the European Parliament adopted a regulation establishing the formation of the much-debated European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT).

Dubbed the European rival to the famous US-based MIT, the EIT aims to advance the Lisbon Agenda by strengthening the European 'knowledge triangle' of research, education and technology-transfer. Itself an innovative model for learning, the EIT will not award diplomas nor will it provide a single campus. Instead it will grant an 'EIT label' to university diplomas and operate by means of virtual networks of 'Knowledge and Innovation Communities' (KICs) comprising students, companies and other stakeholders, known as KICs.

Operating across Europe, the [KICs](#) will be selected by the EIT Governing Board to address the challenges currently facing the EU, such as climate change, renewable energies and the next generation of ICT.

The issue of funding of the EIT remains unresolved. An estimated 2.3 billion Euro will be needed, yet currently only 308 million has been earmarked for the project. The remaining funds are expected to come from industry and EU grants.

Work on the next generation of ICT and other KICs is expected to commence within 18 months. Through transmitting knowledge and skills for the future and taking cutting-edge research to the market, the Institute hopes to bridge the innovation gaps between the EU and its major international competitors.

[Click here for more information](#)

UPGRADE latest edition now available

This edition 'Free Software: Research and Development' describes the latest developments in the Free Software field and how they can shape the future of research and development activities, and even of the so-called new economy itself. [Click here to download this edition.](#)
A list of upcoming editions can be found below:

- Next issue: **'ICT Governance'**
- Vol. IX, issue No. 2: **'Model-Driven Software Development'**
- Vol. IX, issue No. 3: **'Next Generation Technology-Enhanced Learning'**
- Vol. IX, issue No. 4: **'EUCIP'**

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CEPIS interviews CISCO Systems Networking Academy Manager

“CEPIS is a well-know representative of the ICT profession and a source of highly valued input, advice and reference” said Antonio Herrera, CISCO System Networking Academy Manager in a recent interview with CEPIS.

We get his view on the role of CEPIS in the e-Skills Industry Leadership Board, the anticipated skills shortages of IT Professionals, as well as on the value of industry endorsing the standardisation of job profiles such as the EUCIP professional profiles.

[Click here to view the interview.](#)



Legal and Security Special Interest Network

At Council the LSI SIN presented a new paper in response to the Commission's Data Retention Directive. CEPIS previously took a position on this Directive in 2004, however there are renewed concerns about the directive.

The LSI SIN's second paper outlines these concerns, addressing specifically, the lack of a pan-European definition of 'serious crime', the period of retention, the way the data is secured and stored, mutual cooperation between service providers and the authorities, reimbursement of costs incurred by the providers, as well as the proposed deadlines for implementation.

It includes recommendations to address these issues of concern. Members are invited to [review this paper](#) and send their comments to [Eleni Kosta](#) prior to 30th June. Comments received after this date may not be taken into consideration in the final paper.



Education and Research Task Force

The Education and Research Task Force presented a position paper on university and ICT industry relations. This paper outlines the unique role of ICT and the need for increased cooperation between universities and industries to produce the professionals needed by the ICT industry.

The paper highlights that while universities and industry have divergent opinions on many issues with regard to developing informatics graduates, with a structured collaborative approach, compromise would work to the benefit of both groups.

Members have a period of nearly two months to [study this paper](#) and express their views to [Vasile Baltac](#). Members are invited to send their comments prior to 30th June. Please bear in mind that comments received later than this date may not be taken into consideration in the final paper.



Professionalism

Council received a report from the Professionalism Task Force that was set up in 2007. The Task Force concluded that national and cultural diversity in Europe prohibits the imposition of a single standard or a common approach to professionalism; however it is clear that CEPIS should take the lead by promoting top level principles of professionalism in IT within the appropriate European Institutions. To this end, the task force shall circulate a position paper to Members in the coming months. Members interested in contributing to this paper, learning more about this area, or indeed joining the professionalism task force should contact [Declan Brady](#).



Informatics Students and Young Professionals Working Group

At the last Council, Members discussed the issue of comparatively low numbers of informatics students and young professionals within Member Societies. As a result of this, a workshop was formed to work on a strategic action plan to rejuvenate societies. At Council this group presented some of the issues identified, and highlighted common best practices.

Moving forward this group will propose and develop one specific CEPIS action that could help improve youth membership. The results of this work will be presented at the Autumn Council meeting. For more information please contact [Rafael Fernández Calvo](#).

EVENTS



The 20th IFIP World Computer Congress Milano, 7th-10th September 2008

AICA, the Italian Computer Society, is pleased to invite you to the 20th IFIP World Computer Congress (WCC 2008), which will take place in Milan from the 7th to 10th September 2008.

During this four-day congress, delegates from all over the world will debate the main questions and perspectives in the ICT domain, which is at the heart of the 21st century economy of knowledge and the main driver of our society.

A rich and innovative programme is envisaged including an opening session on "Globalisation in the Digital Scenario" and the following hosted conferences: Women & Technology, e-Inclusion, and a record number of 13 Technical Conferences with up to 17 Industry-oriented sessions.

[Click here to access the congress programme, details, and online registration](#)

ENISA offers discount for SANS Secure Europe conferences

ENISA is supporting SANS Secure Europe 2008, an event that takes place in three major European cities (London, Amsterdam, and Brussels) this June. As a result ENISA offers a discount of 250 euro to CEPIS members. You can take advantage of this offer by using the discount code 250ENISA when registering for the event.

[Click here for more information about the event.](#)

Other events taking place soon:

- **12th May**
[EU: High level workshop on ethics and e-inclusion](#), Bled, Slovenia. Sponsored by European Commission.
- **28th-30th June**
[The 3rd International Conference on ICT for Development, Education and Training](#), Accra, Ghana. Sponsored by Eduvision, Microsoft, HP, Panasonic, and Oracle.
- **7th-10th September**
[20th IFIP World Computer Congress](#), Milan, Italy
Organised by: IFIP & AICA

CALLS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS



Call for Collaboration

ENISA would like to invite organisations to express their interest in holding joint events in Europe in 2008. ENISA aims to enhance the culture of Network and Information Security (NIS) by promoting its work in EU Member States and to a wider audience.

ENISA is targeting events in the field of Network and Information Security as well as general ICT events during which Information Security could be promoted to a wider target audience.

For more information please contact [Mr. Kjell Kalmeiljd](#)



Call for experts

ENISA is seeking experts to take part in a Virtual Expert Group (no physical meetings required) to study the security issues in Operating System Virtualisation Technologies. The work of the group is expected to result in a position paper which will be published by ENISA, while all the members selected for the group will be designated as co-authors. The paper is aimed at end users of these technologies, policy and decision makers.

[Click here to view the terms of reference.](#)

For further information please contact [Dr. Simone Balboni](#).

YOUR SUGGESTIONS



Your Suggestions

We welcome your suggestions on items for the newsletter or any additions or amendments to the website.

Please send your thoughts and comments to [Fiona Fanning](#).

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