



Issue 6 (2008) July

In this edition we bring you details of how to enter the European Commission's e-Inclusion awards, news on CEPIS' involvement in the largest European electronic entertainment event for young people and a report from the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs on future requirements for ICT skills in Ireland.

Below you'll also find all the necessary details on how to put forward your candidature for the Execom Elections at CEPIS Council this coming autumn, and a CEPIS LSI Statement on Social Networks for your review. In addition we keep you up to date on the latest developments with an OECD report on the future of the Internet economy and an article published in ACM on the need for a consistent standard to define digital literacy.

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Execom Elections

Application forms now available. The CEPIS Execom elections will take place at Autumn Council on November 20th 2008 in Brussels. This year there are 5 positions for election to the CEPIS Execom.

[Read More](#)

CEPIS at the Campus Party '08

CEPIS has just become a partner in the largest European electronic entertainment event targeted at young people - the Campus Party '08. Young members of your society can get a CEPIS discount on registration for this innovative ICT event.

[Read More](#)

NEWS

➤ [Execom elections – application forms now available](#)

The CEPIS Execom elections will take place at Autumn Council on November 20th 2008 in Brussels. This year there are five positions for

election to the CEPIS Execom. The positions are:

- President Elect;
- Honorary Secretary;
- Honorary Treasurer;
- Vice President;
- Vice President.

[Details on the election process and nomination forms for each position are available here.](#)

Applications by candidates must be submitted to the CEPIS office in writing and also contain copies of the requisite supporting nominations.

In order to ensure that CEPIS is active and relevant to its Members, it is essential that all members are engaged in both putting forward potential candidates and supporting the nominations of candidates. By doing so they will ensure that CEPIS is a member-led and member-focused organisation.

The closing date for applications to be received in the CEPIS office in Brussels is Friday 17th October 2008.

Be the e-Inclusion Champion

Have you created or implemented an initiative that uses ICT to positively impact socially disadvantaged or digitally excluded communities? If so, then your initiative could win in one of seven categories of the European e-Inclusion Awards. The European Commission is seeking examples of how ICT can be used to tackle digital exclusion. Five finalists from each of the categories listed below will be invited (expenses paid) to exhibit their project at the Ministerial Conference in Vienna on December 1st, where the winner of each category will be announced.

How do I enter?

You can enter as many times as you wish by registering your interest [online](#). There is no fee to enter and the **deadline for the submission of projects is 12:00 GMT, 12th of September 2008**. A project can only be submitted once in a single category.



What are the judging criteria?

Each category will be judged according to the following seven criteria: impact, innovation, usability, partnerships, sharing, sustainability and the 'wow' factor!

Categories:

- Ageing well
- Marginalised Young People
- Geographic Inclusion
- Cultural Diversity
- Digital Literacy
- e-Accessibility

- Inclusive Public Services

What do I get if I win?

The awards present an opportunity for you to enhance the profile of your society and to raise the visibility of your initiatives in the e-Inclusion domain on a national and a European level. The winner in each category will receive high-level recognition across Europe and among European Ministers in addition to participation in the Vienna summit at which the awards will be presented.

[Click here to find out more and enter](#)



CEPIS at the Campus Party '08

CEPIS, along with the Spanish Informatics Association, ATI, and the Informatics Students and Young Professionals Special Interest Network (ISYP SIN), has just become a partner in the Campus Party '08, which will take place in Valencia, Spain, from July 28th to August 3rd.

The Campus Party is the largest European electronic entertainment event for young people, where thousands of people have been meeting every year since 1997 to share their concerns, exchange experiences and have fun with computers, communications and new technologies.

With an impressive broadband connection provided, participants can get involved in activities such as video gaming, simulation, free software, robotics, and programming. There are also competitions on modding, cryptography and free style robotics!

The Campus Party organizers are **offering young members of CEPIS societies a significant discount on registration**. Please forward this information to your youth and student members who may be interested in attending this event.

For information on how to get the CEPIS reduction on registration fees please contact the [ATI Madrid Secretariat](#).

[Click here for more information](#)



The 20th IFIP World Computer Congress Milano, September 7-10 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 issues in the ICT domain, which are at the heart of the 21st century economy of knowledge and the main driver of our society.

The programme is particularly rich and innovative, as it includes an opening session on '[Globalization in the Digital Scenario](#)', a closing session '[Towards and Inclusive Information Society](#)' and a number of

hosted conferences including 'e-Inclusion in the Information Society' and 'Women & Technology'. Furthermore, a number of Technical Conferences are planned, plus 16 Industry Oriented Sessions, one of which is specifically dedicated to '[ICT Professionalism and Competences](#)'. The EUCIP programme and best practices will be presented by CEPIS Member Societies and ECDL Foundation.

[Click here to access the congress programme, event details and online registration.](#) Groups are welcome.



✦ **Ireland: Future Requirement for High-Level ICT Skills in the ICT Sector**

The Expert Group on Future Skills Needs has recently published a report for the Irish government that aims to determine the future requirement for high-level ICT skills in the ICT sector in Ireland and to identify what proactive actions need to be taken to ensure that the supply of these skills is sufficient - in terms of quantity, quality and diversity.

A major challenge identified in the report is to reverse the recent decline in the domestic supply of high-level computing and electronic engineering graduates – particularly among women. It outlines the need both to increase the total number of graduates and to develop strong technical skills and knowledge of the use of products and services. The report makes several recommendations aimed at boosting the supply of high-level skills and identifies a range of proactive actions which can be implemented in the short, medium and long-term.

[Click here to view the report](#)



✦ **For review: CEPIS LSI SIN statement on Social Networks – problems of security and data privacy**

The CEPIS Legal and Security Special Internet Network has recently produced a statement on Social Networks: problems of security and data privacy. CEPIS Members are invited to review this paper and send their comments prior to 1st September.

The statement and background paper provide an overview of social networking sites, their uses both for individuals and for business and outlines the new security and data privacy issues that arise from them. It also provides recommendations on steps that should be taken to address these new issues.

We invite CEPIS Members to review these documents (also available in the Members Area of the CEPIS website) and send their comments to [Les Fraser](#) prior to 1st September.

[Click here for LSI Statement on Social Networks: Problems of security and data privacy](#)

[Click here for the background paper](#)

➤ **OECD proposes roadmap for the future of the Internet economy**

The OECD is to work with developed and developing countries as well as international organisations to improve policies for the Internet economy and increase international co-operation on issues such as cybercrime and security.

OECD member countries, the European Community and ministers from Chile, Egypt, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Israel, Latvia, Senegal and Slovenia affirmed in a recent declaration their commitment to working together to stimulate innovation, competition and investment in ICT. Their ultimate goal is to build confidence in and secure the future of the Internet economy.

The [Seoul Declaration](#) came at the close of the [OECD Ministerial Meeting on the Future of the Internet Economy](#), held in Seoul, Korea, on 17-18 June 2008. European Commissioner for Information Society and the Media, Viviane Reding, spoke at the plenary session, and emphasised the need for openness, neutrality, security and the protection of consumer rights among other items.

Participants agreed on the need for governments to work closely with business, civil society and technical experts on policies that promote competition, empower and protect consumers and expand Internet access and use worldwide.

[Click here to view the Seoul Declaration](#)

[Click here to view Commissioner Reding's speech](#)

➤ **ECDL as roadmap to consensus on digital literacy**

Low digital literacy levels among students in conjunction with the growing demand for skilled workers can hinder the development of the Information Society. A recent article published in the USA* suggests that the lack of basic computer skills can inhibit people's ability to perform fundamental tasks in the knowledge-based economy. Furthermore the article suggests that a consistent standard of digital literacy can help to build a solid foundation of skills – essentially it calls for a qualification such as ECDL.

As technology becomes ubiquitous, individuals will need to possess a solid foundation of computer skills that will allow them to collect, analyse, interpret and communicate electronic information effectively. This lack of knowledge workers threatens the i2010 Lisbon Agenda, which aims to make Europe the “most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world”.

A consistent standard is needed to define the skills and competences that an individual should obtain to become digitally literate. ‘There must be a consensus among educators and business as well as among government leaders on the definition of digital literacy and a generally accepted roadmap of how to produce a digitally literate individual’ argue the authors**. Their research makes a strong case for ECDL.

[Click here for the full article](#)

*.J. Stone and E. Madigan, "Inconsistency and Disconnects", Communications of the ACM, Vol. 50:4, April 2007, pp. 76-79

**Ibid



➤ **ENISA - Information security awareness initiatives: Current practice and the measurement of success**

This report from ENISA analyses how organisations and governments within the European Union are approaching information security awareness and measures its effectiveness. It is intended to be used by professionals within organisations and public bodies that are tasked with planning, organising, and delivering information security awareness initiatives. It gives an indication of what European organisations are currently doing to measure and improve information security awareness.

[Click here to view the report](#)

EVENTS



➤ **BCS International Academic Conference "Visions of Computer Science", London, 22nd-24th September 2008**

BCS is pleased to announce that registration for its first international academic conference, to take place in the Imperial College London from 22nd to the 24th June 2008, is now open.

Focusing on the theme "Visions of Computer Science", the conference aims to energise the UK and international community around positive and inspiring visions of this discipline.

The conference will be organised in thematic sessions and mini-tracks and will include a number of prestigious speakers as well as a wide range of invited presentations from area leaders.

Keynote speakers will include the following ACM Turing Award Winners, Fran Allen; Vint Cerf; Tony Hoare; Dick Karp; Robin Milner; Michael Rabin and Joseph Sifakis among others.

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

**Pre-registration for European e-Skills Conference
9th -10th October, Thessaloniki, Greece**

Implementing a long-term e-Skills agenda in Europe is of great importance within the renewed Lisbon Strategy. This conference brings together experts from government, industry, social partners and

academia amongst others to discuss best practices, flagship projects and report on the progress of the five major action lines outlined in the EC Communication '[e-Skills for the 21st Century: Fostering Competitiveness, Growth and Jobs](#)'.

Pre-registration for the European e-Skills Conference is now open. Anyone interested in attending is required to pre-register and will receive notification of their invitation status by 1st of August.

[Click here to pre-register](#)
[For more information click here](#)

Other events taking place soon:

- **6th -10th July**
[International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software](#), Barcelona, Spain.
Sponsored by: The Technical University of Catalonia (UCP), the Dept. of Innovation, Universities and Companies, Autonomous Government of Catalonia, the Ministry of Science and Innovation, Spanish Government, the Agbar Foundation, the Catalan Institute for Water Research, the Laboratory of Chemical and Environmental Engineering (LEQUIA).
- **9th -11th July**
[11th International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs](#), Linz, Austria. Sponsored by: CWST, Information Society Technologies.
- **14th -15th July**
[2008 IFIP Conference on Wireless Sensor and Actor Networks](#), Ottawa, Canada.
Sponsored by: IFIP WG6.8; University of Ottawa.
- **18th July**
[Access IT Awards - Celebrating achievements in Assistive Technology and Digital Inclusion](#), London, UK. Sponsored by: e-ISOTIS (Greece) AbilityNet (UK) in cooperation with Microsoft UK.
- **12th -13th Aug**
[IFIP WG8.2 Work. Conf. on IT & Institutional Change in the Service Economy: Challenges and Possibilities for the 21st Century](#), Toronto, Canada.
Organised by: IFIP WG8.2.
- **7th -10th Sep**
[20th IFIP World Computer Congress 2008](#), Milan, Italy.
Organised by IFIP & AICA.
- **9th -10th October**
[European e-Skills 2008 Conference](#), Thessaloniki, Greece.
Sponsored by: European Commission DG for Enterprise and CEDEFOP.

CALLS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS



➤ **International Conference of Education Research and Innovation calls for papers**

The International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation (ICERI 2008) that will be held in Madrid (Spain) on the 17th, 18th and 19th of November, welcomes the submission of abstracts.

The objective of the conference is to promote international collaboration in the fields of Education and Research in all educational fields and disciplines. ICERI 2008 will be an International Forum for those who wish to present and discuss their innovations, projects on research and the latest innovations and results in the field of Higher Education.

Topics include: new trends and experiences, new challenges in the Higher Education Area, e-learning and virtual innovations, quality assurance and accreditation and experiences in education industry cooperation among others.

The closing date for abstract submission is 15th July 2007.

[For more information please click here.](#)

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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