
HISTORY OF COMPUTING AND EDUCATION 2 (HCE2)

IFIP – The International Federation for Information Processing

IFIP was founded in 1960 under the auspices of UNESCO, following the First World Computer Congress held in Paris the previous year. An umbrella organization for societies working in information processing, IFIP's aim is two-fold: to support information processing within its member countries and to encourage technology transfer to developing nations. As its mission statement clearly states,

IFIP's mission is to be the leading, truly international, apolitical organization which encourages and assists in the development, exploitation and application of information technology for the benefit of all people.

IFIP is a non-profitmaking organization, run almost solely by 2500 volunteers. It operates through a number of technical committees, which organize events and publications. IFIP's events range from an international congress to local seminars, but the most important are:

- The IFIP World Computer Congress, held every second year;
- Open conferences;
- Working conferences.

The flagship event is the IFIP World Computer Congress, at which both invited and contributed papers are presented. Contributed papers are rigorously refereed and the rejection rate is high.

As with the Congress, participation in the open conferences is open to all and papers may be invited or submitted. Again, submitted papers are stringently refereed.

The working conferences are structured differently. They are usually run by a working group and attendance is small and by invitation only. Their purpose is to create an atmosphere conducive to innovation and development. Refereeing is less rigorous and papers are subjected to extensive group discussion.

Publications arising from IFIP events vary. The papers presented at the IFIP World Computer Congress and at open conferences are published as conference proceedings, while the results of the working conferences are often published as collections of selected and edited papers.

Any national society whose primary activity is in information may apply to become a full member of IFIP, although full membership is restricted to one society per country. Full members are entitled to vote at the annual General Assembly. National societies preferring a less committed involvement may apply for associate or corresponding membership. Associate members enjoy the same benefits as full members, but without voting rights. Corresponding members are not represented in IFIP bodies. Affiliated membership is open to non-national societies, and individual and honorary membership schemes are also offered.

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*IFIP 19th World Computer Congress, WG 9.7,
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Edited by

John Impagliazzo

*Hofstra University
New York, United States*



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Dedication

We dedicate this book

*to the men and women who seek to preserve the
legacy of the computing profession, particularly
those associated with the education of future
professionals in the computing field.*

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Preface

These proceedings derive from an international conference on the history of computing and education. This conference is the second of hopefully a series of conferences that will take place within the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) and hence, we describe it as the “Second IFIP Conference on the History of Computing and Education” or simply “History of Computing and Education 2” (HCE2). This volume consists of a collection of articles presented at the HCE2 conference held in association with the IFIP 2006 World Computer Congress in Santiago, Chile. Articles range from a wide variety of educational and computing perspectives and represent activities from five continents. The HCE2 conference represents a joint effort of the IFIP Working Group 9.7 on the History of Computing and the IFIP Technical Committee 3 on Education.

The HCE2 conference brings to light a broad spectrum of issues. It illustrates topics in computing as they occurred in the “early days” of computing whose ramifications or overtones remain with us today. Indeed, many of the early challenges remain part of our educational tapestry; most likely, many will evolve into future challenges. Therefore, these proceedings provide additional value to the reader as it will reflect in part the future development of computing and education to stimulate new ideas and models in educational development.

These proceedings provide a spectrum of interesting articles spanning many topics of historical interest. The invited paper by Deryn Watson describes a chronicle of the history of IFIP’s TC3 over forty years. Its comprehensive detail promises to be a treasure for IFIP, TC3, and the educational community. The panel on the computing evolution in Spanish-speaking countries highlights the events leading to computing today in Spain and in Latin America. The panelists present their perspectives in these proceedings and they provide a record of interesting and interwoven accomplishments. In addition, a collection of four articles highlights the

development of computing education in Argentina. These and other fascinating articles capture a historical perspective on the manner in which computing has affected the origins and progress of education in different parts of the world. They also preserve the computing legacies for future generations.

The HCE2 Program Committee expresses its gratitude to the organizers of the 2006 World Computer Congress for without their support, this conference would not be possible. We look forward to joining the presenters and attendees of the HCE2 conference and welcome all participants to this historic and interesting event.

John Impagliazzo

New York, 2006 May

Conference Organization

This conference

History of Computing and Education 2 (HCE2)

is a co-located conference organized under the auspices of the

IFIP World Computer Congress (WCC)

in Santiago, Chile

Mauricio Solar

WCC Congress Chair

<msolar@usach.cl>

Ramon Puigjaner

WCC International Program Committee Chair

<putxi@uib.es>

John Impagliazzo

HCE2 Program Committee Chair

<John.Impagliazzo@Hofstra.edu>

Program Committee

John Impagliazzo - Chair (United States)
Julián Aráoz (Venezuela)
Nicolas Babini (Argentina)
Cecilia Berdichevsky (Argentina)
Enrique Hinostroza (Chile)
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Arthur Tatnall (Australia)
Deryn Watson (United Kingdom)
Jan Wibe (Norway)
Cristina Zoltan (Spain)