

**IFIP
Working Group
8.2**

OASIS

Organizations and Society in Information Systems

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Message from the WG 8.2 Chair

David Avison, WG8.2 Chair

Something to look forward to ...

Our next event is the Barcelona working conference that takes place (December 12-14) just before ICIS. The program co-chairs Eleanor Wynn, Michael Myers and Edgar Whitley have received over 60 excellent submissions, and they (along with 41 members who make up the program committee) are deciding which papers will form the most exciting conference possible. The topic is 'Global and organizational discourse about information technology' and I think it is an opportune time to discuss these issues. I find myself both 'hot' and 'cold' about globalization: I am excited by the possibilities it has brought, yet concerned that it has resulted in an even greater division between rich and poor. It is interesting that we have this debate in Barcelona, where of course the locals speak Catalan rather than Spanish. I am used to hearing this

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New IFIP WG 8.2 Officers Elected by Acclamation

**Richard Baskerville,
Chair of the Election Committee
Past Chair, IFIP WG 8.2**

The new IFIP WG 8.2 Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary were elected by acclamation last month. The new Chair will be Julie E. Kendall (US), the Vice Chair will be Michael Myers (NZ) and the Secretary will be Nancy Russo (US) effective at the business meeting in December 2002. The terms are for three years and will expire in December 2005.

The election committee consisted of Committee Chair Richard Baskerville (US), Rudy Hirschheim (US), and Juhani Ivari (FI). The election process began with nominations made by the current Chair, David Avison (FR) and seconded by Allen Lee (US). The biographies of the nominees were circulated to the membership. Next the membership was solicited for additional nominations. The nominations closed on April 5, 2002 and since there were no other nominees, Richard Baskerville asked that the membership accept the three nominees by acclamation.

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Special points of interest:

- Meet the new, recently elected officers of WG8.2
- Farewell to Julie Travis
- WG 8.2 Chair looks forward to the meeting in Barcelona
- Photos and a Report on the New Orleans Workshop

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Organizations and Society in
Information Systems

OASIS

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Current Officers of IFIP WG 8.2 from left to right: Secretary Michael Myers (NZ), Chair David Avison (FR), and Vice-Chair Julie Kendall (US).

Meet the Newly Elected WG 8.2 Officers

New WG 8.2 Chair: Julie E. Kendall, Ph. D., Rutgers University, USA

Service to IFIP

- Vice Chair IFIP WG 8.2, December 1999 to present.
- Secretary IFIP WG 8.2, December 1996 to December 1999.
- Coordinator, OASIS Workshop, Charlotte, North Carolina, 1999.
- Editor, *Human, Organizational, and Social Dimensions of Information Systems Development*, which was based on the IFIP WG 8.2 working conference in The Netherlands in 1993, co-edited with D. E. Avison and J.I. DeGross, Amsterdam: North-Holland, 1993, 496 pages.
- Member of numerous IFIP WG 8.2 program committees since 1984.

Julie E. Kendall is an Associate Professor of Ecommerce and Information Technology in the School of Business-Camden, Rutgers University. Dr. Kendall is currently the Vice Chair of IFIP Working Group 8.2. Professor Kendall has published in *MIS Quarterly*, *Decision Sciences*, *Information & Management*, *Organization Studies* and many other journals. Additionally, Dr. Kendall has recently co-authored a college textbook with Kenneth E. Kendall, *Systems Analysis and Design*, fifth edition, published by Prentice Hall. She is also a co-author of *Needs Assessment and Project Planning*.

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Meet the New WG 8.2 Officers (continued)

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Dr. Kendall co-edited the volume *Human, Organizational, and Social Dimensions of Information Systems Development* published by North-Holland. Julie was a functional editor of MIS for *Interfaces* and has served as an associate editor for *MIS Quarterly*. She is a Senior Editor for *JITTA*. She is on the editorial boards of the *Journal of AIS*, the *Journal of Database Management*, and is on the editorial review board of the *Information Resource Management Journal*. She has served as a Vice President for DSI. Dr. Kendall is researching societal implications of push and pull technologies. Julie is currently examining the strategic uses of Web presence and ecommerce for off-Broadway theatres and other nonprofit organizations in the service sector. Her home page can be accessed at www.thekendalls.org.

New WG 8.2 Vice-Chair: Michael D. Myers, Ph. D., University of Auckland, New Zealand

Service to IFIP

- Secretary IFIP WG 8.2, December 1999 to present.
- Co-editor of the book *New Information Technologies in Organizational Processes: Field Studies and Theoretical Reflections on the Future of Work*, Ngwenyama, O. K., Introna, L. D., Myers, M. D., and DeGross, J. I. 1999 (eds.), Kluwer, Norwell, MA. This book was based on the IFIP WG 8.2 Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, USA in 1999.
- Program Co-Chair of the forthcoming IFIP WG 8.2 Conference entitled "Global and Organizational Discourse about Information Technology", to be held in Barcelona from December 12-14, 2002.
- Member of numerous IFIP WG 8.2 program committees.

Michael D. Myers is Professor of Information Systems in the Department of Management Science and Information Systems at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He currently serves as Senior Editor of *MIS Quarterly*, Associate Editor of *Information Systems Research*, Editor of the *ISWorld Section on Qualitative Research*, and Editor of the *University of Auckland Business Review*. His research articles have been published in many journals and books. He won the Best Paper award (with Heinz Klein) for the most outstanding paper published in *MIS Quarterly* in 1999. He also won the Best Paper Award (with Lynda Harvey) for the best paper published in *Information Technology & People* in 1997.

New WG 8.2 Secretary: Nancy Russo, Ph. D., Northern Illinois University, USA

Service to IFIP

- Program Co-Chair, 2001 Working Conference, Boise, Idaho.
- Editor, *Realigning Research and Practice in Information Systems Development: The Social and Organizational Perspective*, co-edited with B. Fitzgerald and J.I. DeGross, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, 496 pages.
- Organizer, OASIS Workshop, Atlanta, 1997.
- Member of IFIP WG 8.2 election committee and several program committees.

Nancy L. Russo is Associate Professor and Chair of the Operations Management and Information Systems Department at Northern Illinois University. She received her Ph.D. in Management Information Systems from Georgia State University in 1993. During 1998 she was a Visiting Professor in the Department of Accounting, Finance and Information Systems at University College Cork, Ireland. She is an Associate Editor of the *Information Systems Journal*, and serves on the editorial boards of *Information Technology & People* and *Information Systems Review*. She is currently co-authoring the text *Information Systems Development: Methods-in-Action* with Brian Fitzgerald and Erik Stolterman. In addition to on-going studies of the use and customization of system development methods in evolving contexts, her research has addressed web application development, the impact of enterprise-wide software adoption on the IS function, IT innovation, research methods, and IS education issues. Her work has appeared in *Information Systems Journal*, *Journal of Information Technology*, *Information Technology & People*, *Journal of Computer Information Systems*, *System Development Management*, *Journal of Systems and Software*, and various international conference proceedings.

Minutes of the Business Meeting New Orleans, Louisiana, United States

December 16, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 4.00 p.m. by the Chair, David Avison (FR).

1. Introduction

David Avison began the meeting with a brief description of IFIP, TC 8, and IFIP Working Group 8.2.

2. Past Workshops and Working Conferences

David Avison reported that the IFIP Working Group 8.2 Oasis Workshop held in Brisbane in December 2000 was a great success. The IFIP Working Group 8.2 conference held in Boise was also very successful. The most recent workshop in New Orleans was well attended and much appreciated. On behalf of the group, David thanked Joe Nandhakumar (GB), John Venable (AU) and Kevin Crowston (US) for organising the workshop.



One of the many filled-to-capacity sessions at the recent OASIS Workshop in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. Current Vice-Chair, Julie Kendall (US) and Dan Robey (US) must have gotten there early for a good seat.

3. Forthcoming Workshops and Working Conferences

David Avison said that the next IFIP 8.2 Working Conference will be held in Barcelona in December 2002, just before ICIS. Edgar Whitley (GB) and Sandra Sieber (ES) spoke about the conference and handed out a call for papers. The conference will be hosted at the IESE Business School.

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2002 Working Conference December 12-14, Barcelona, Spain

Global and Organizational Discourse about Information Technology

Important dates:

Deadline for submission: March 1, 2002
Notification of acceptance: June 1, 2002
Final Papers Due: July 15, 2002

Conference Program Co-Chairs:

Eleanor Wynn (USA)
eleanor.wynn@intel.com

Michael Myers (NZ)
m.myers@auckland.ac.nz

Edgar Whitley (GB)
E.A.Whitley@lse.ac.uk

Photo Credits: Photos on pages 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8 by WG 8.2 Past Chair, Ken Kendall.
Photos on page 7 by John Venable (upper right) and unknown (lower left).

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David Avison said that the following Working Conference will be a joint working conference with IFIP Working Group 9.4 to be held Athens from 15-17 June 2003 (immediately before ECIS). The title of the conference is "Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries." The Program Co-Chairs will be Mikko Korpela (FI) and Ramiro Montealegre (US), with Angeliki Poulymenakou (GR) as Organizing Chair. There will be a one-day PhD supervisor's workshop before the conference.



The co-coordinators of the OASIS workshop in New Orleans take a moment to savor their success. L to R: John Venable (AU), Kevin Crowston (US), and Joe Nandhakumar (GB).

David Avison mentioned that IFIP Working Group 8.2 is looking for volunteers to organise a workshop in December 2003, immediately before ICIS (to be held in the US). Anyone interested in organising such a workshop should contact the Chair.

There will be an IFIP Working Group 8.2 Working Conference in 2004 in Manchester, UK. This will be twenty years after the original Manchester 8.2 conference on research methods. Duane Truex (US) talked about the conference and said that it will be hosted by the University of Salford.

David Avison said that Working Group 8.2 is looking for proposals from those who might be interested in organising a Working Conference in 2005. Since the previous three working conferences will have been held in Europe, the group is keen to invite submissions from North America.

Richard Baskerville (US) mentioned that the IFIP World Computer Congress will be held in Montreal from August 25-30 2002. The theme of Richard's stream at the congress is e-business.

4. Awards

David Avison briefly discussed the awards for IFIP Working Group 8.2 and said that Ken Kendall (US) is chairing a committee to nominate people for these awards. Ken Kendall reported that the committee had concluded its work for 2001 and had put forward nominations to IFIP. Last year Jan DeGross (US) received a Silver Core award, and Richard Welke (US) received an outstanding service award.

5. Oasis

David Avison mentioned that Oasis is published twice per year and is published only on the web. Julie Kendall (US) asked people to consider writing a brief column for OASIS and to send any short articles to her.

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Allen Lee (US) Suk Rhee (US) and Gurpreet Dhillon (US) relaxing during a break at the recent OASIS workshop in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

Minutes of the New Orleans Business Meeting

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6. Elections for Committee (2003-2005)

David Avison thanked Gordon Davis (US) for his contribution to IFIP TC 8. George Kasper (US) has now taken over as the US representative to IFIP. George Kasper said that he is interested in receiving suggestions and input from members of IFIP WG 8.2.

David Avison said that elections will need to be held for a new committee of IFIP WG 8.2 in 2002. The new committee will serve from December, 2002 to December, 2005.

Richard Baskerville, Chair of the Elections Committee, suggested Rudy Hirschheim (US) and Juhani Iivari (FI) be elected as members of the election committee. This was MSC.



Why are these people smiling? The work is just beginning for future Working Conferences in Manchester 2004, Frank Land (GB), General Co-Chair; and in Barcelona 2002, Edgar Whitley (GB), Program Co-Chair, and Sandra Sieber (ES) Organizing Co-Chair for the Barcelona IFIP WG 8.2 Working Conference.

7. New Members

Kevin Crowston (US) mentioned that members can update their address details on the web. David Avison on behalf of the group thanked Kevin for his work as Webmaster.

David Avison explained that people who have attended two recent business meetings are eligible to join IFIP WG 8.2. Names were solicited of individuals who were qualified and interested in becoming members of IFIP WG 8.2. It was MSC that the following people be approved for membership, subject to a check on attendance by the Secretary: Jeremy Rose (DK), Lisa Murphy (US), Cathy Middleton (CA), Dubravka Cezec-Kecmanovic (AU), Emmanuel Monod (FR), Roy Schmidt (US), and Marshall Major (US).

8. Any other business

There was no further business and therefore the meeting was closed.

Michael D. Myers (NZ), Secretary

Report on New Orleans Workshop

There were 85 attendees at the OASIS Workshop in New Orleans, Louisiana, United States. The meeting was held at the Fairmont Hotel on Sunday, December 16, 2001, immediately prior to the ICIS 2001 conference.

Sixty-one authors contributed to the proceedings. We published 41 papers in the proceedings. Sessions on Organizational consequences of IT, New perspectives on IS research, Information Systems Processes, IT and the Dynamic Contexts, e-Commerce, New technologies and practices. There was also a panel on IS Research Foundations and Action Research led by David Avison, incorporating a number of papers.

The co-coordinators for the workshop were Joe Nandhakumar (GB), University of Bath, John R. Venable (AU), Curtin University of Technology, and Kevin Crowston (US), Syracuse University.

Farewell to a Dear Member of WG 8.2

Julie Travis

b. London, 20.03.1954, d. Perth, Australia 8.10.2001

Obituary written by Cathy Urquhart and John Venable

Friends and colleagues will mourn the passing of Julie Travis who died after a short battle with cancer last year. Julie was a fixture at many IFIP conferences, beginning with the 1991 IFIP TC8 COSCIS conference in Helsinki. People will remember her warm smile, easy grace and a way she had of adding to any company. She also loved to sing, a useful talent to have at 8.2 conferences.

Julie started her academic career in 1988 as a Lecturer at Curtin University of Technology. Jobs in her previous 'life' included systems analyst and business analyst, as well as part-time tutoring at Curtin University. Her career also included three stints in the USA as a visiting professor: at Binghamton University in 1992, at Georgia College and State University in 1994, and at Georgia State University in 1994-1995. It was during these visits that she formed research partnerships with Richard Baskerville and Duane Truex, taking a post-modern perspective on information systems development methods. Julie also co-authored a number of papers with John Venable and others in areas such as organisational learning and knowledge management, soft systems methodology, and digital libraries. She also published in the area of qualitative research and methodologies.



Julie had almost completed her PhD entitled 'An Action Research Investigation into Information Systems Planning in the Context of Small Business'. While Linda Harvey was at Curtin, she was a major influence as Julie's thesis advisor. A complete version of her thesis has been pulled together by her final thesis advisor, Donald McDermid, and Curtin University is making arrangements for the PhD to be posthumously examined, a move that would no doubt please her very much. Draft versions of the PhD leave no doubt of her originality and creativity. A hallmark of Julie's work was always a unique view of the phenomena in question, fuelled by her wide reading and enquiring mind.

No tribute to Julie would be complete without mentioning her strong spirituality and complete conviction of worlds existing beyond our immediate experience. This enabled her to face her illness with a strength of character that was remarkable. She remained a sweet and gentle person to the very end. She was cared for by friends at home, only moving into a hospice on the night of her death, where she died peacefully in her sleep.

Julie is survived by her mother, Betty Maker, and younger brother, Alex Maker.

Chair's Message (continued from page 1)

language, as my father-in-law was born and lived there (but on the French side) illustrating that regional identity is not necessarily related to national boundaries.

Rafael Andreu and Sandra Sieber are the organizing co-chairs. I have visited IESE on a number of occasions and I think you will be delighted by all aspects of the environment. It is a very good school, situated in a very pretty area of Barcelona. The town itself is one of my favorites, situated on the sea with its romantic Ramblas, restaurants and the rest. You will find that everybody eats late and plays late, so Barcelona comes alive in the evening. It should be quite mild that time of year. I, for one, am looking forward to it very much.



Nancy Russo, newly elected 8.2 Secretary

It is an opportune moment to thank Eleanor, Michael, Edgar, Rafael, and Sandra very much for putting together this conference, and all those who have worked for the conferences in the past. It is a lot of work and pressure, but the thanks and the accolades afterwards make it all worthwhile. If you want to get involved in the future, please let us know. Work ranges from refereeing papers, to chairing sessions at the conference, and even to organizing them.

The working conference following this one will be in Athens in June 2003 on "IS Perspectives and Challenges in the Context of Globalization." It will take place jointly with IFIP working group 9.4. This conference, on the Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries, is being organised by Angeliki Poulymenakou and the program chairs are Mikko Korpela and Ramiro Montealegre with Geoff Walsham general chair. This will be followed by the European Conference in Information Systems, which will take place in Naples. There will be travel organized between the two towns. As many of you will know, we are organizing a one-day supervisors workshop to precede the joint IFIP WG 8.2 and 9.4 conference. This proposal is partly for junior academics who are starting to supervise their own PhD students, but also for more senior academics to discuss their experiences and to show different approaches to PhD supervision.

We have already received several offers of help from senior and less experienced academics so we think this new event will also be successful. In 2004 we are celebrating the Manchester conference of 1984 with another in Manchester and we are already making plans for the 2005 working conference in North America.

Our last event was a workshop in New Orleans. As with the previous one in Brisbane, this event proved to be very successful, with 61 paper authors and 85 attendees. We are grateful to Joe Nandhakumar, John Venable and Kevin Crowston for organising the event. We are also organising another to be held in December 2003 just before ICIS.



Proof that WG 8.2 business meetings are fun. L to R: Walter Fernandez (AU), George Kasper (US), Erica Wagner (GB), Steve Alter (US), and Ramiro Montealegre (US). George has just assumed the role of the United States representative to IFIP. Ramiro is the Program Co-Chair for the joint WG 8.2 / WG 9.4 Working Conference, Athens,

Plan to Attend these WG 8.2 Conferences and Workshops

- "Organizational Discourse About Information Technology," Working Conference, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, 12-14 December 2002 (immediately before the ICIS 2002 Conference). Submissions were due 1 March 2002.
- "IS Perspectives and Challenges in the Context of Globalization." Joint IFIP Working Group 8.2/9.4 Working Conference, Athens, Greece, 15-17 June 2003 (just before the ECIS 2003 Conference in Naples, Italy). "IS Perspectives and Challenges in the Context of Globalization."
- Oasis Workshop, immediately before ICIS 2003. Seattle, Washington, USA. (Dates to be announced).
- "Manchester 2: Relevant Theory and Informed Practice: A Twenty Year Perspective on IS Research," Working Conference, Manchester, England, summer 2004.