# Message from the WG 8.2 Chair

## The Articulate Audible Voice of the Past: What Our Organizational Memory Means for Shaping the Future

**Julie E. Kendall, Rutgers University, USA**

*In books lies the soul of the whole Past Time: the articulate audible voice of the Past, when the body and material substance of it has altogether vanished like a dream.*

> Thomas Carlyle (1795–1881), from *Heroes and Hero-Worship.*
> *The Hero as a Man of Letters.*

My column this time is dedicated to all of the members and friends of IFIP Working Group 8.2 who have permitted me to be part of their past. With this issue of OASIS I will be com-

# Cleveland Conference - August 2005

The IFIP Working Group 8.2 Conference on "Designing Ubiquitous Information Environments: Socio-technical Issues and Challenges" was held in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, from Aug 1-3, 2005. The conference was hosted by the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University and held in the renowned Peter B. Lewis building designed by Frank Gehry.

The entertainment at the social event

*Organizations and Society in Information Systems*

**OASIS**

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Photo by Ken Kendall

# Cleveland Conference (continued)

The proceedings of the conference have been published in book form by Springer. The full reference details are: .

Sorensen, C., Yoo, Y., Lyytinen, K., and DeGross, J.I. (Eds.), *Designing Ubiquitous Information Environments: Socio-Technical Issues and Challenges,* Springer, 2005, ISBN: 0-387-27560-6.



The book brings in diverse perspectives on ubiquitous information environments, from computer-supported collaborative work, institutional perspective, diffusion of innovation, management, sociology, individual cognition, and software engineering. It also covers a variety of technologies that make up ubiquitous information environments including RFID, wireless grid, GPS, mobile phones, and wireless local area network. The papers cover many contexts of ubiquitous computing including personal use, library, automobile, healthcare, police, professional knowledge work, remote diagnostics of machines, and marketing, attesting to the wide range of potential of ubiquitous information environments.

The conference organisers. Photo by Ken Kendall

# OASIS Workshop 11 December 2005

## Call for Participation

## Organizations and Society in Information Systems (OASIS) Workshop

## Co-chairs: Helena Holmstrom and Elisabeth Rossen

**The Venetian Hotel**
**Casanova 501 & 502**
**Las Vegas, Nevada, USA**
**9 AM-3:30 PM Sunday 11 December 2005**
(immediately before ICIS)

The workshop will be in the ICIS 2005 Conference Hotel, The Venetian, in Las Vegas Nevada, US. The workshop will be held from 9 AM-3:30 PM on the Sunday December 11 immediately prior to the ICIS 2005 conference. The Call for Papers is now closed.

**Registration.** There will be a nominal registration fee to cover the cost of coffee breaks, AV equipment and copying.

**IFIP WG 8.2 Business Meeting**: All workshop attendees and anyone interested in WG 8.2 are encouraged to attend the WG business meeting that will follow the workshop at 4 PM. At the business meeting, we will discuss future workshops and working conferences, elect new members to the working group and conduct other business.

**Questions**: Please email any questions regarding this workshop to helena.holmstrom@ul.ie

# Chair's message (continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

pleting a three-year turn as Chair of WG 8.2. More than that, I will be saying farewell to working with a small circle of WG 8.2 officers, some of who I have worked with for the past nine years. It has been a sincere pleasure to work with each of you. I have learned a great deal from all of you about research, mentoring, how to grow an organization, about friendship and life.

I want to especially thank those who saw to it that I would participate in IFIP WG8.2: Rudy Hirshheim (USA) and Heinz Klein(USA), and Enid Mumford (UK). I am forever indebted to them for their inclusiveness at a time when I was just beginning my research life and had not yet earned my doctorate. Their helpfulness and generosity was a piece of good fortune I cannot fathom even to this day.

I must also thank past Chairs David Avison (FR) and Richard Baskerville (USA) for encouraging me to keep participating with WG8.2. I worked with David and Jan DeGross (USA) co-editing the volume for the Noordvejkerhout working conference. David demonstrated grace under pressure and a tremendous sense of humor that kept us all going. Richard, who is another co-author of mine, set up many of the procedures that we still use in WG 8.2 today. His hard work and insightful advice made the job of Chair much easier, so I am thankful for that. Another astute advisor was past WG 8.2 Chair Ken Kendall (USA) who has served tirelessly as chair of the IFIP WG 8.2 Awards Committee for the last decade.

My Vice Chair, Michael Myers (NZ), and our Secretary Nancy Russo (USA) were wonderful to work with. Whenever there were bumps in the road they came to support me and helped us to get over the rough patches with kindness, intelligence and humor.
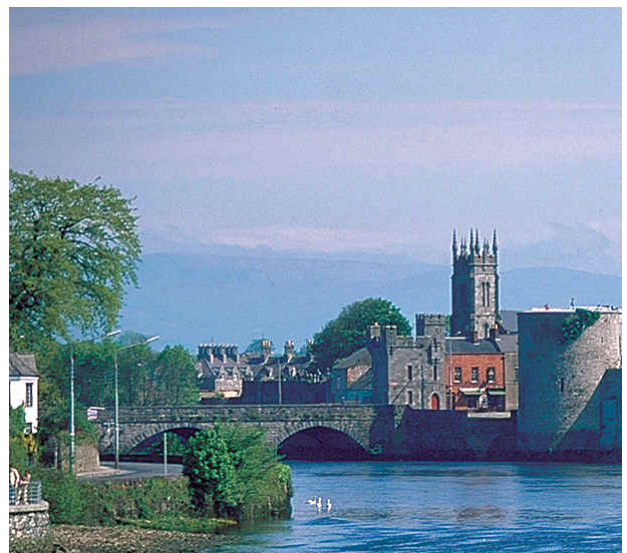
# Conference in Ireland, July 12-15, 2006

**Call for Participation**

**IFIP WG 8.2 Working Conference**

**July 12-15, 2006**

**Limerick, Ireland**

**www.ifip82-2006.ul.ie/index.php**

## Social Inclusion: Societal & Organizational Implications for Information Systems

The expression social exclusion is widely deployed in debates that refer to changes in society which have consequences for individuals and collectivities who are excluded from various processes such as: participation in decision-making and political procedures, access to employment and material resources, and integration into common cultural processes. Contemporary debates about social exclusion identify information as a key dimension of poverty, and digital exclusion as a problem. As the IS field broadens to embrace wider concerns that go beyond systems development issues, it is essential that we expand our field of enquiry to consider what are the processes that engender social exclusion and what are the issues that derive from it?

This conference will consider the use of information technology to reproduce exclusion as well as the consequences of social inclusion in the broadest sense to include: geographic, demographic, disciplinary, philosophical, linguistic, economic and informational.

**General Chair**

Julie Kendall

**Program Co-Chairs**

Debra Howcroft and Eileen Trauth

**Organizing Chairs**

Tom Butler and Brian Fitzgerald

# Minutes of the IFIP 8.2 Business Meeting
## Cleveland, Ohio, USA, August 3, 2005

Chair Julie Kendall (US) called the meeting to order at 12:20 P.M.

Julie thanked the organizers of the Working Conference, Michel Avital (US) and Matt Germonprez (US), the program chairs, Carsten Sorensen (UK) and Youngjin Yoo (US), and General Chair Kalle Lyytinen (US).   Kalle mentioned that all the presentations from the conference would be produced in PDF and linked to the program, as would the keynotes.

### 1.  Old Business

Julie reviewed past meetings of the Working Group from 2001-2004, highlighting the variety of topics.

The next event will be Oasis 2005, an informal one-day workshop to be held on Sunday, December 11, immediately prior to ICIS, in Las Vegas.  Oasis is being organized by Helena Holmstrom (EI) and Elisabeth Rossen (US).  Information can be found at oasis2005@ifipwg82.org.

Carl Magnus Olsson (EI) presented information on the July 12-15 2006 Working Conference on Social Exclusion: Societal and Organisational Implications for Information Systems to be held in Limerick, Ireland.  For information, see
http://www.ifip82-2006.ul.ie/.

Carsten Osterlund (US) provided information on the summer 2007 Working Conference to be held in Portland, Oregon, USA.  The conference theme is Virtuality and Virtualization in Organizations, with anticipated conference dates of July 26-29 and an anticipated submission date of February 2007.    The General Chair will be Wanda Orlikowski (US).  The Program Chairs will be Kevin Crowston (US) and Sandra Seiber (ES) and the Organizing Chair is Eleanor Wynn (US).

An Oasis Workshop will be organized for Montreal in December 2007, on the day preceding ICIS, by Wendy Cukier (CA), Ojelanki Ngwenyama (CA), and Catherine Middleton (CA).

### 2.  New Business

In response to a request for any new proposals for Working Conferences, Ojelanki Ngwenyama (CA) mentioned that his university had facilities and financing and might be willing to host a working conference in 2008 or 2009.

Kalle Lyytinen (US) announced the establishment of a joint task force on mobile information systems, with the purpose of establishing a new working group.  Those interested should contact Kalle or Carsten Sorensen (UK).

Ken Kendall (US) reminded the group that the Awards Task Force will be meeting in December to discuss a new process for determining recipients of the Silver Core and Outstanding Service Awards.  Anyone who has nominations should contact Ken.  The Silver Core – awarded this past year to Julie Kendall (US) – recognizes those who have served IFIP as General Assembly members, committee and working group officers, and members of the IFIP Congress Program Committees.  The Outstanding Service Award is presented to members who have provided exemplary service to IFIP.

Kevin Crowston (US) and Rudy Hirschheim (US) received this award last year.

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## 3. Election of New Members

Julie Kendall (US) provided an overview of qualities required of new members. Individuals seeking membership (1) need to love the group, of course, (2) do not have to sign oath of loyalty, and (3) required to attend two business meetings within the past three years, although we are somewhat flexible on this depending on locations of the business meetings and other circumstances.

The following friends of IFIP WG 8.2 were nominated and approved for membership. Welcome to the group!

Magnus Andersson, Viktoria Institute (SE)
Laurence Brooks, Brunel University (UK)
Matt Germonprez, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (US)
Edoardo Jacucci, University of Oslo (NO)
Heejin Lee, University of Melbourne (AU)
Rikard Lingren, Viktoria Institute (SE)
Anastasia Papazafeiropoulou, Brunel University (UK)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.

*Nancy L. Russo (US), Secretary*



Tradition re-invented: National songs at the social event

# Chair's message (continued)

*(Continued from page 3)*

Gordon Davis (USA) has served as a terrific mentor over the course of my career, and he was always available for consultation and advice. Gordon, as you know, was the US Representative to TC 8 for many years and an active supporter of WG 8.2.

We should all thank Jan DeGross (USA) who has served as an editor on so many WG 8.2 publications over the years. We are proud of the quality of these volumes, and every author who has had a paper that Jan worked on is thankful for her observant eye. We are also fortunate to have Webmaster Kevin Crowston (USA) who undertook a new design of the Web site recently, and continues to add new material and features.

I also want to thank all of those members and friends who took it on themselves to organize and run wonderful conferences and workshops, to serve on Program Committees and review papers, edit IFIP publications, contribute to the newsletter, attend the business meeting, and serve on special task forces. The ability of WG8.2 to grow and remain an engaging entity has certainly been shaped by the outstanding research papers, the working conferences, business meetings, and the fun, informal social events and international songfests we all participated in over the years.

What are some "firsts" or accomplishments during my years as an officer which I view with the most pride?

- Acting as the keeper of the WG 8.2 flame, which meant making sure that Working Conferences, workshops and business meetings would maintain our traditions but go forth with imagination and creativity.

- Designing a new look for the OASIS newsletter while I was serving as vice chair. OASIS has now gone entirely online and the design is still in use today.

- Increasing the numbers of members and friends, thus broadening our circle of researchers and our impact in the IS field.

- Increasing awareness of IFIP and IFIP WG 8.2 through other professional and research networks.

During my term as Chair, we had three working conferences and two OASIS workshops. The working group has expressed a desire to hold a working conference every year, and many dedicated individuals saw to it that outstanding conferences were held in response to the members' wishes. Specifically, here is a list of the working conferences and OASIS workshops that took place during my tenure:

- Designing Ubiquitous Information Environments: Socio Technical Issues and Challenges, Working Conference, Cleveland, Ohio, USA, 1-3 August, 2005.

- OASIS Workshop, Washington, DC, USA, 14 Dec 2004.

- Relevant Theory and Informed Practice: Looking Forward from a 20 Year Perspective on IS Research, Working Conference, Manchester UK, 15-17 July 2004.

- OASIS Workshop, Seattle, Washington, US, 14 Dec 2003.

- IS Perspectives and Challenges in the Context of Globalization, Joint Working Conference WG 8.2/9.4, Athens, GR, 15-17 June 2003.

I would also like to thank Dewald Roode (SA) who served as TC 8 Chair during my time as Chair. It has been sheer joy to work with him, and I will encourage all of you (especially current WG 8.2 officers) to participate in the upcoming 30th anniversary celebration of TC 8 which is slated for Santiago, Chile in August 2006 where we can see many of our TC 8 colleagues face to face and celebrate the life of an organization that has been so pivotal in our research and personal lives. There are innumerable individuals who have worked on a variety of task forces, committees, and working conferences. Space does not permit to list them all here, but I appreciate their contributions, and I encourage you to examine the Web site, OASIS newsletter, and WG 8.2 publications to get a full picture of how many people have devoted time and energy to our working group.

Our next working conference on "Social Inclusion: Societal & Organizational Implications for Information Systems," "will be held in Limerick, Ireland July 12-15, 2006. You will see the Call for Papers elsewhere in this OASIS newsletter and on the WG 8.2 Web site. Please feel free to contact the Program Co-Chairs Eileen Trauth or Debra Howcroft if you have any inquiries about the program or about how to become involved. I look forward to seeing you there.

During the Limerick working conference, I will have the opportunity to try on a new role, that of "General Chair." Traditionally, this is the person who must serve as the eyes and ears of the conference; who must be present everywhere at once during the working conference, who then closes the conference with a few observations sizing up the event, its contributions, and lessons. I am relying heavily on the articulate, audible voice of the past to provide perspective for me as I crystallize our experiences at the conference. Faced with the daunting task of presenting the General Chair's remarks I can only console myself with the fact that my duties of chairing the WG 8.2 business meeting are now complete!



Julie gives her last presentation as Chair of the working group. Kalle Lyytinen looks on intently. Meanwhile, John Venables is determined to capture the moment.

## Forthcoming IFIP WG 8.2 Conferences and Workshops

- Oasis Workshop, Las Vegas, USA, 11 December 2005 (immediately before ICIS). See more information in this issue.
- "Social Inclusion," IFIP 8.2 Working Conference, Limerick, Ireland, July 12-15, 2006. Paper submission deadline has now closed. Check out the IFIP 8.2 website for further details of the conference.
- "Virtuality and Virtualization," IFIP 8.2 Working Conference, Portland, OR, USA. At the moment this is planned for late July 2007. The organizing chair is Eleanor Wynn. Check out the IFIP 8.2 website for further details of the conference.