Call for Papers

*The First Workshop on the Impact of Pen-based Technology on Education*

April 6-7, 2006
Purdue University

Conference Web Site: www.purdue.edu/wipete

Organizing Committee:
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Submissions Due: November 1st, 2005 for full submissions and works in progress.

**Objectives:** A wide variety of disciplines are embracing Tablet PC's and similar pen-based devices as tools for the radical enhancement of teaching and learning. Deployments of Tablet PCs have spanned the K-12, higher education, and graduate levels and have dealt with an amazingly diverse range of subject areas including nursing, veterinary science, geology, ethno-musicology, anthropology, landscape architecture, writing, mathematics, computer science, Japanese language, physics, engineering, art, and economics. Despite the diversity of content areas, many deployments have been similar in terms of the passion they have generated among students and teachers. The First Workshop on the Impact of Pen-based Technology on Education (WIPTE) is intended to leverage this shared passion and to identify best practices in the educational use of pen-based computing so that all educators may benefit from this next generation of technology.

Previous efforts to provide a venue to share pen-based computing experiences have been organized around specific disciplines. Most notably, Microsoft Research has sponsored an annual summit to facilitate the exchange of information related to applications of the Tablet PC to computer science education and research. Faculty members attending this summit have found it to be extremely valuable and participants have begun to build a community that shares ideas and best practices. To date, however, there has been no similar venue for sharing and disseminating the value of pen-based computer technology as it cuts across a variety of educational disciplines, grade levels, and settings. In an effort to address this need, WIPTE seeks submissions from individuals with experience deploying pen-based pedagogy in varied educational environments. All submissions will be peer reviewed. The review process will look for contributions that discuss actual deployments of pen-based educational solutions coupled with reports on attempts to assess the value of the deployment. Within the context of this focus, however, the workshop seeks to be inclusive with respect to the following:

* Submissions related to all education settings, especially higher education, but also including K12, continuing education, distance education, and corporate training are welcome.

* Contributions that focus on a specific discipline or subject area, or those that cut across areas, are welcome.

* Contributions are welcome to define "Education" broadly to include in-class experiences as well as activities that occur outside the classroom. Similarly, contributions can focus on student activities, teacher activities, or a combination of the two. In particular, contributions can describe support for synchronous teaching and learning and/or asynchronous activities such as grading written work, studying for exams, preparing for class presentations, etc.
Successful submissions will include an evaluation component that will typically consider one or more of the following areas: student attitude changes; teacher attitude changes; changes in learning outcomes; changes in the classroom dynamic; changes in student retention and/or attendance; changes in homework submissions; impact on recruiting teachers; impact on teacher efficiency and workload; any of the preceding categories or any other category as it relates to impact on special populations, students with special needs, or specific areas of national need. While we expect many evaluations to be largely positive, we recognize the value of sharing what has not worked as well as what has. Therefore, the evaluation component may include positive outcomes, negative outcomes, or a mixture of the two. (Note the section on “Works in Progress Submissions” for information about submitting a description of a work in progress in cases where evaluation is not complete by the initial submission deadline.)

Contributions may report on "out of the box" deployments of Tablet PCs, experiences with commercial educational software solutions, locally developed systems, or combinations of the two approaches. Solutions that are described should be generally available to the public, either commercially or otherwise.

This list is not intended to be definitive. While we welcome submissions that may lie outside of the areas listed above, we discourage submissions that simply describe a pen-based solution without discussing the impact on teaching or learning, as well as submissions that describe systems that have not been deployed and evaluated in a real environment.

**Submissions Guidelines**

**Important Dates:**

- **November 1st, 2005** -- Deadline for complete submissions and works in progress as described below.
- **December 15th, 2005** -- Notification of acceptance of complete submissions and notification of tentative acceptance of works in progress.
- **January 15th, 2006** -- Deadline for completing submissions that were tentatively accepted as works in progress.
- **February 15th, 2006** -- Workshop registration deadline
- **April 6th – 7th, 2006** -- Workshop convenes at Purdue University.

**Submission Content and Style:** Each submission should be organized as a vignette that describes a deployment of Tablet PCs (or pen-based video tablets, or pen-based graphics tablets) and supporting software in an educational setting. The audience for this workshop is diverse in terms of discipline, grade-level, and educational settings. Therefore, vignettes should be written in language that is accessible to educators and instructional technologists at various levels who work in a variety of contexts. This means that academic jargon should be minimized and discipline specific terms should be explained. While it may well be appropriate to provide concrete examples from specific content areas, these examples should be presented in a way that will be accessible to a broad audience. The final collection of accepted vignettes will be assembled into a compilation that will be prefaced by a brief overview of pen-based computing hardware. Therefore, individual vignettes do not need to define the concept of a Tablet PC.

Each submission should consist of required sections (a) through (f) followed optionally by any of the sections (g) through (j).
a) Title

b) Author name(s), affiliation, and contact information

c) Abstract: The abstract is limited to 200 words and should provide a succinct and self-contained summary of the vignette. The abstract should include information about the educational setting (higher education, K12, etc.) in addition to other information that will help a potential reader judge the relevance of the vignette to his/her interests.

d) Problem Statement and Context: This required section should describe the problem(s) or challenges that your deployment sought to address and should also set the overall context for your work. For example, it may be appropriate to briefly describe your project’s educational setting.

e) Solution Employed: This required section should describe your solution to the challenges outlined in the previous section. As appropriate, describe the activities that used pen-based computing to support teaching and learning. The goal of this section is to paint a mental picture that allows the reader to envision your solution and its key attributes.

f) Evaluation: This required section should report on the evaluation of your solution. Evaluation metrics will naturally vary from project to project, but will typically consider one or more of the following areas: student attitude changes; teacher attitude changes; improved learning outcomes; changes in the classroom dynamic; changes in homework submissions; improved student retention; improved student attendance; improved student or teacher recruiting; improved teacher efficiency; any of the preceding categories or any other category as it relates to impact on special populations, students with special needs, or specific areas of national need.

Works in Progress: A work in progress submission is identical to a standard submission with the single exception that section f) should be titled “Work In Progress: Evaluation Plans”. This section will describe your plans for evaluating your work and, if available, will report on preliminary data. Work in progress submissions are specifically intended to allow for submissions of projects that are being deployed during the Fall 2005 semester with the evaluation component to come near the end of the semester. If a work in progress submission is tentatively accepted the author(s) will need to supply final copy with the revised version of section (f) by January 15th, 2006. Final acceptance will be contingent on the satisfactory completion of this section.

g) Future Work: This optional section should outline areas of future study that are suggested by your project.

h) Additional Resources: This optional section can point readers toward additional resources related to your vignette. For example, this section might point readers to a project web page, an online video that shows your work, etc. Note that such additional resources are not required and will not influence the review process which will consider the vignette as a self-contained document.

i) Acknowledgements: This optional section provides an opportunity for acknowledgements (e.g., grant support) if appropriate.

j) References: This optional section is to be used for vignettes that have formal references.
Formatting Instructions:

**General:** Submissions are limited to five single column pages. This is a strict page limit that includes figures and references if either is included in the vignette. Submissions should use 8.5x11" paper with 1" margins on all sides. Submissions should use the Times Roman (12 Point) font for each section of the paper unless otherwise noted below. The paper should be fully justified (left and right) and should have tab stops set to .35 inches. The first line of each paragraph should be indented. The paper should be single spaced. If possible, add .06" of extra space between each paragraph.

**Title:** The title should be in 14 point, bold, centered, and in all caps. Leave one blank line above the title and two blank lines below the title and above the author's name.

**Author, Affiliation, and Contact Information:** Include the name, affiliation, and email address of each author. Use any reasonable formatting style (side-by-side or one below the other) for multiple authors. You are free to include whatever information you wish as part of the affiliation. This information can be on multiple lines and can include any of the following: school or organization name, department name, etc. The author's names should be Times Roman 12 point bold face and mixed case (upper and lower). The remaining author information (affiliation, email, etc.) should be Times Roman 12 point italics face with mixed case.

**Sections and Subsections:** Section headings should be all caps, bold face, and left-justified. Each section heading should be numbered 1, 2, 3, etc. Subsections headings, if any, should be mixed case and italics. They should be numbered as in 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, etc. The first section is the abstract, the second section is the "problem statement and context". See text above for a listing of required and optional sections. Add a blank line above each section and subsection heading.

**References:** Use any consistent formatting style for the references (if any).

**Submission Instructions:** Submissions must be received on or before November 1st, 2005. Specific submission instructions will be announced on the conference web site (www.purdue.edu/wipte) at least one month before submissions are due.

**Review Process:** Each submission will be reviewed by at least two reviewers selected from the organizing committee and/or the review committee. Due to time constraints we are unable to promise that reviewer feedback will be provided to authors. Members of the review committee will be announced on the conference web site.

**Presentations and Dissemination:** Authors of accepted submissions will be invited to give a presentation at WIPTE, 2006. Whenever possible, authors will be encouraged to incorporate system demonstrations into their presentations. In addition, accepted submissions will be assembled into a web-based collection of vignettes which will be publicly available as electronic conference proceedings.

**Questions:** General questions can be addressed to any member of the organizing committee. Questions about local arrangements and the Purdue venue should be addressed to Ed Evans. Questions about submissions and the review process should be addressed to Dave Berque or Jane Prey. Questions about vendors and corporate sponsorship should be addressed to Jane Prey, Rob Reed, or Laura Small.