



**Australian  
Women in  
Computing**



**Newsletter  
April 2006**



## Events

### Go Girls Go for IT - October 24 & 25

Deakin University, Burwood Campus

If you think you may be in a position to help us on one or both of these days - please mark them in your diary now as Annemieke will be begging you all for your support closer to the time.

[www.vicictforwomen.com.au/www/html/7-home-page.asp](http://www.vicictforwomen.com.au/www/html/7-home-page.asp)

### Branch Forum - Right Technologies, Right Sourcing

A corporate and personal strategy for success in IT

Considering the relationship between the use of higher-level technologies in enterprise application development and outsourcing is the theme for Ashley Aitken's Right Technologies, Right Sourcing! series for Quarter Two in 2006.

Along with some discussion on the implications of outsourcing in general, and including the outsourcing of code versus the outsourcing of design, there will also be some impressive demonstrations of some of these higher-level technologies.

May 17, Telstra Centre, 242 Exhibition Street, Melbourne . 6.00pm - 7.30pm - Drinks & snacks to 8.30pm

For more information and bookings: [www.acs.org.au/vic](http://www.acs.org.au/vic)

## Conferences

### AusWIT Conference

Mark your diaries, December 4 & 5

cfp will be published soon. Precedes ACIS

<http://www.AusWIT.org>

## News

### Victorian ICT Skills Snapshot Report

the latest publication provides statistics and commentary about a range of current ICT issues including supply and demand, current salaries, qualifications and important recruitment data as well as emerging technologies and trends.

Multimedia Victoria - <http://www.mmv.vic.gov.au/ICTSkillsSnapshot>

### Are students ready for a technology-rich world?

An OECD report, "Are students ready for a technology-rich world?", has encouraging findings for Australian educators. The 2003 study found: 94% of Australian students said that they have access to a computer at home for school work, compared to the OECD average of 79%; and 100% of Australian students said they have access to a computer at school. The study also found: 74% of students said they frequently use the Internet to look up information related to their subject studies, compared to an OECD average of 55%. Ninety percent of Australian students reported being confident users of the Internet. Findings from the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) are available on the Web.

More info: <http://www.pisa.oecd.org>

### DCITA Discussion Papers

In the digital age, Australia's media industry and industry regulatory landscape are in need of reform. A Commonwealth Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts



To send a message or submission to the Newsletter editors for the next edition email  
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Thank-you!



discussion paper discusses and canvasses opinion on reform options. Among the proposals: timeframe for closure of analogue TV services; spectrum for new digital TV channels including datacasting services; and foreign media ownership and cross-media ownership restrictions. The time for comment on these important issues is very brief with submissions due by 18 April 2006. More info: [http://www.dcita.gov.au/broad/media\\_reform\\_options](http://www.dcita.gov.au/broad/media_reform_options)

#### **Women's Community Leadership Grants**

On International Women's Day the Minister for Women's Affairs launched the 2006 Women's Community Leadership Grants.

The grants support individuals up to \$2,000, groups or organisations up to \$5,000 to undertake activities that develop women's leadership skills and provide innovative solutions to help women in the community.

Visit the Grants@DVC website, <http://www.grants.dvc.vic.gov.au/>, for further information on these grants.

#### **Internet Censorship**

The Australian Labor Party announced an Internet censorship policy that would force Internet service providers to block websites. Such a policy had been explored by the Commonwealth Government, but was rejected because of workability problems and predicted Internet performance degradation. The current policy is to encourage parents concerned about Internet content to use software filters at the PC level, rather than block X and RC-rated websites at the ISP level.

More info: <http://www.alp.org.au/media/0306/msloo210.php>

### **ACM**

#### **Computer Games for girls**

On Friday, March 31st, the student chapter of ACMW hosted a workshop for 2006 Women in Science day, called "Computer Games for Girls".

Each girl constructed an original level to 'Angels & Demons', a game developed by freshman Liz Leggett, with fellow undergrad Linda Wang. Some of the new levels were pretty creative and challenging.

Pictures and links to the games may be found at <http://www.cse.ohio-state.edu/~bbair/WIC/games4girls/>



**To send a message or submission to the Newsletter editors for the next edition email Catherine Lang ([clang@swin.edu.au](mailto:clang@swin.edu.au)) or Linda Batson ([linda.batson@acslink.net.au](mailto:linda.batson@acslink.net.au))**

**Thank-you!**