



**Australian  
Women in  
Computing**



**Newsletter  
October  
2006**



## **In this Edition: Events, Conferences, News, ACS & ACM News.**

This newsletter is brought to you by the ACM-W (Association of Computing Machinery Women) and ACS-W (Australian Computer Society Women).

It is also available at [www.austwic.org](http://www.austwic.org). Copy and paste URL's in to your browser to link to articles.

### **Events & Conferences**

#### **AusWIT06 Participation one year on**

This conference is shaping up to be a major event on the Australian WIT calendar. We have international keynotes, representatives from Industry, business and all levels of education presenting and participating.

Don't miss this great networking event with international and national speakers, government, and industry representatives. See you at - Magill Campus, University of SA. December 4 & 5.

Register on-line at <http://www.auswit.org/index.php>

#### **VicWIC dinner**

Our next dinner is planned for Friday November 17th, 7 for 7.30pm. We have a new location: Gurkhas Carlton (Nepalese) 258 Lygon Street Carlton.

RSVP [bhurst@swin.edu.au](mailto:bhurst@swin.edu.au)

#### **ACS-W presents "Hot ICT Career Opportunities for Women"**

Venue: Wooley Room Level 1, 280 Pitt St, Sydney 2000 (Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts)

Date: Thursday 9th November 2006

Time: 6.15pm- 7.30pm

Event Prices

ACS Members: Free, Non Members: \$10.00

Register at:

<http://www.acs.org.au/index.cfm?action=event&temID=eventdetails&eveID=1779>

The biggest challenge facing most IT companies like Axe Group is retaining staff and recruiting the right skill set. With the industry upturn demand for skilled IT professionals is surpassing supply. Of particular interest to Kimberley Lathe is the lack of women entering the IT industry. Kimberley will outline the staffing challenges she faces and what Axe Group are doing about it.

#### **18th European Regional ITS Conference**

Istanbul, Turkey

2-5 September, 2007

Our local partners are the Turkish Telecommunications Authority and Sabanci University Istanbul.

More information on topics, location and contact persons will be available shortly together with a Call for Papers. Please, mark your calendars and watch out for the CfP.

If you have any further questions, please write to: [itseurope@diw.de](mailto:itseurope@diw.de)

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Brigitte Preissl, ITS Vice Chair

### **ACOSM 2006 – Melbourne - 17 November**

One Day Conference

The Australian Conference of Software Measurement 2006 is a one day conference which will showcase the benefits of the practical application of software metrics in industry and government. This year's presentations will follow a theme of practical experience in the use of software measurement by industry and government through a series of Australian case studies.

Expressions of Interest are also being taken for the IFPUG CFPS Exam - scheduled for November 16th

Please find details of the full program by visiting:

<http://www.asma-sqa-nsw.org.au/acosm/pages/program.htm> < <http://www.asma-sqa-nsw.org.au/acosm/pages/program.htm>

OR, you can complete the registration form on the ACOSM 2006 website:

<http://www.asma-sqa-nsw.org.au/acosm/pages/ACOSM06%20Registration%20Form%20V2.pdf>

### **ACM/IFIP/USENIX 7th International Middleware Conference - 27 November**

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

The Middleware conference is a forum for the discussion of important innovations and recent advances in the design and construction of middleware. Middleware is distributed-systems software that resides between the applications and the underlying operating systems, network protocol stacks, and hardware. Its primary role is to functionally bridge the gap between application programs and the lower-level hardware and software infrastructure in order to coordinate how application components are connected and how they interoperate.

Grant Hyatt - Melbourne, Australia. Registration is now available online from the conference website at: <http://2006.middleware-conference.org/>

### **News**

#### **Red Light, Green Light**

How one CIO used project management discipline and the Traffic Light Report to align her IT department with her company's business goals...

<http://www.cio.com.au/index.php?id=1487133959&eid=-154>

### **ACS**

#### **Member Get Member Program**

The ACS is running a promotion for the next 12 months encouraging ACS members to recommend and promote ACS membership to their colleagues and peers? Each time an ACS member refers a non Student member they will go in the draw for a trip for two to Europe. The new member will also go in the draw for a travel voucher worth \$1,000. There will be an additional draw for a travel voucher each for

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referring members and new members 6 months into the promotion.  
Details are at [www.acs.org.au/mgm](http://www.acs.org.au/mgm)

Entry is open to all residents of Australia except employees and immediate families of the promoter, associated companies and agencies.

## **ACM**

### **Beyond Bias and Barriers: Fulfilling the Potential of Women in Academic Science and Engineering.**

National Academies Press report. I encourage you to at least read the Summary section where the findings are described and recommendations are made. Table S-1 on page 4 is especially interesting. It does a nice job of refuting.

Read more at: <http://darwin.nap.edu/books/0309100429/html>

### **Where are the Women ?**

Laskowski, Amy

While the number of women pursuing engineering degrees in college is rising, participation in the field remains heavily skewed toward male students. Women received just 15 percent of the 12,500 bachelor's degrees in electrical engineering that were awarded in the United States in the 2004 academic year. Interest in the sciences among girls often drops off at around sixth grade, and the fact that engineering continues to be dominated by men can intimidate some girls.

Read more at: <http://www.reed-electronics.com/tmworld/article/CA6367335.html>

### **Computer Education's Failing Grade**

Overby, Stephanie

CIOs must show more concern for computer science education in the United States if the nation is to head off a severe shortage of IT workers by 2012. Concerns about teacher training and resources at the high school level, the low number of female and minority students in courses, and the inability to add computer science courses to full schedules prompted the National Science Foundation to set up the Computer Science Teachers' Association (CSTA) last year to address such issues.

Read more at: [http://www.cio.com/archive/090106/tl\\_education.html](http://www.cio.com/archive/090106/tl_education.html)

### **Most IT Pros Are Looking for a New Job, Says Survey**

McGee, Marianne Kolbasuk

new study from the Computing Technology Industry Association reveals 60 percent of IT professionals are searching for a new job, with 27 percent adding that they are actively looking around. The results of the online survey of 1,000 IT workers also indicates that 73 percent are looking for more money, 66 percent are seeking advancement opportunities, 58 percent are searching for a new challenge, 40 percent are looking for better benefits, and 34 percent want to work in an environment where their contributions are appreciated.

Read more at:

<http://www.informationweek.com/management/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=192500324>

### **Study: Skills Shortage Boosts Salaries**

Rothberg, Deborah

IT professionals stand to benefit from the skills shortage in terms of higher salaries. Employers continue to

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raise salaries, and offer bonuses and flexible work schedules because they are having a difficult time filling positions with qualified candidates.

Read more at: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0%2C1895%2C2009985%2C00.asp>

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