

AusWIT 2003

“Participation, Progress and Potential”

**Proceedings of the 2003 Australian Women in IT
Conference**

**19-20 February, 2003
Hobart, Australia**

**Editor
Su Spencer
University of South Australia**

ISBN 1 86295 080 6

Published by
School of Information Systems
University of Tasmania
Sandy Bay, Tasmania
Australia 7006

ISBN 1 86295 080 6

Copyright The Authors © 2003. The authors assign to AusWIT2003 and educational and non-profit institutions a non-exclusive licence to use this document for personal use and in courses of instruction provided that the article is used in full and this copyright statement is reproduced. The authors also grant a non-exclusive licence to AusWIT2003 to publish this document in the Proceedings. Those documents may be published on the World Wide Web, CD-ROM, in printed form, and on mirror sites on the World Wide Web. Any other usage is prohibited without the express permission of the authors.

Preface

The School of Information Systems at the University of Tasmania sponsored the 2003 Australian Women in IT Conference for educators, researchers and practitioners. The theme of the conference was “Participation, Progress and Potential”, which concentrated on ways of ensuring full participation by girls and women in information systems and information technology within education, industry and government.

Women have been and remain under-represented in the IT profession, and they continue to be under-represented in the tertiary courses that prepare IT professionals. There is growing discussion of differences in gender attitudes to IT and IS and to the attractiveness of IS/IT careers. These differences go back to school curriculum, teaching and role models, as well as the perceptions of teachers and parents of the options available to girls.

There have also been suggestions that women enter IS/IT through other career areas, and may not be recognized appropriately as full professionals. Pathways to entering IS/IT and their longer-term potential for satisfying and senior careers may be quite different for women and girls from those traditionally associated with professional development.

This conference brought together academics, educators and practitioners, to share insights into the issues of women’s participation and progress within the IS/IT area. Papers were invited on the theme of “Participation, Progress and Potential” and in areas including

- Gender equity issues in IT
- Curriculum developments and curriculum initiatives
- Increasing participation and awareness of women
- Career mobility

The papers on this CD were subjected to a double-blind referee process prior to the conference. Each paper submitted had identifying information removed before it was anonymously reviewed. Referee’s comments and recommendations were the basis for selection of papers and feedback to authors. The amended papers provided by authors were subject to final copy edit before inclusion on this CD.

Thanks to all participants, reviewers and the staff and students of the School of Information Systems at the University of Tasmania.

Leonie Ellis
Program Chair, AusWIT 2003

Su Spencer
Editor, Proceedings

Conference Program

Evening	18 February, 2003
18:00	Pre-Conference Cocktail Party Information Systems Building University of Tasmania

Morning	19 February, 2003
9:00	Official Opening
9:30	Keynote address Brenda Richardson, Vice President, Information Technology & Business Initiatives, Ford Motor Company (Australia & New Zealand)
10:00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
10:30	<u>The extent to which Information Communication Technology Careers fulfil the career ideals of girls</u> Judy Young
	<u>Overcoming the adversity of diversity</u> Angela Scollary, Annemieke Craig, Julie Fisher
	<u>Increasing the Participation of Female Students in IT Education</u> Kathy Darzanos, Kirsten Wahlstrom, Jill Slay, Julie Mills, Mary Ayre
	<u>Do girls prefer a different computing learning environment to boys?</u> Keri Logan
	<u>Flaws and gaps in the women in computing literature</u> Catherine Lang
12:30	<i>Lunch, Staff Club</i>

Afternoon	19 February, 2003
13:30	<u>Women with New Careers</u> Theresa McLennan
	<u>Making and Stealing Time to Study On-Line</u> Marie van der Klooster
	<u>Can you do addition? Questioning the Domain of IT</u> Su Spencer
15:00	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
15:30	Workshop
17:00	<i>Close of Day One</i>

Conference Program

Evening	19 February, 2003
19:30	Conference Dinner Moorilla Estate Speaker: Margaret Lindsley Double Decker Bus pick up – Campus, Sandy Bay and City (time to be advised)

Morning	20 February, 2003
9:00	<u>Challenging Dualisms in Female Perceptions of IT Work</u> Jenine Beekhuyzen, Sue Nielsen, Liisa von Hellens
	<u>Multimedia is much fun but I still don't want to do IT</u> Tari Turner
	<u>Understanding the experiences of women in the Australian IT Industry</u> Elisha Bell
	<u>Gender issues in the career development of IT professionals</u> M Suriya, Annemeike Craig
	<u>The participation and remuneration of women in the Australian IT industry</u> Graeme Byrne, Lorraine Staehr
11:00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11:30	Workshop
13:00	Close of Conference <i>Lunch</i>

Index of Authors

Author	Page
Ayre, M	19
Beekhuyzen, J	73
Bell, E	89
Byrne, G	109
Craig, A	11, 97
Darzanos, K	19
Fisher, J	11
Lang, C	39
Logan, K	29
McLennan, T	47
Mills, J	19
Nielsen, S	73
Scollary, A	11
Slay, J	19
Spencer, S	61
Staehr, L	109
Suriya, M	97
Turner, T	83
van der Klooster, M	55
von Hellens, L	73
Wahlstrom, K	19
Young, J	1