

I PROF-09 ICT Professionalism: a Global Challenge

Arnhem, The Netherlands February 12 -15, 2009

Working Conference background

Active participation of all participants is a main characteristic of an IFIP working conference.

A conference participant will contribute according to his or her involvement in ICT professionalism issues.

Participants share knowledge, experiences and views on ICT professionalism issues in conference sessions and discussions.

Participants from all over the world will contribute, performing in one or several domains:

- Business and industry
- Professional societies
- Social partners
- Education, higher or vocational
- Governmental, intergovernmental on a national, regional or global scale.

A conference day

A conference day schedule will include:

- A contribution from a keynote speaker
- Plenary session(s)
- Parallel session(s)
- A conference working group session.

Conference working groups

Participants will discuss on crucial topics either concerning a specific domain or covering several domains.

Participants are invited to submit in advance a theme or a topic to be discussed.

Working group conclusions will be presented at the last conference day and be published in the conference proceedings.

Preparations for working group themes and topics will start in December.

The Sunday morning panel

On the last conference day a panel will address points of special interest and will comment on the working group outcomes.

Members of the panel will be asked to prepare for discussion during the conference and in a preliminary panel meeting.

Conclusions of the conference will be published in the conference proceedings.

A summary of conclusions will be distributed in a press release.

Networking

The conference and its social activities will be a good place for informal meetings and discussion.

The challenge

Discussions about the “gap and mismatch” between demand and supply in the ICT labour market have a history of at least ten years, may be even longer.

Initiatives to contribute to a solution of the problem are widespread. Approaches have elements in common and show a variety of differences.

Recent research is showing an increasing demand for qualified ICT professionals¹ for the next ten years.

It is a challenge to co-operate and to exchange views in a multi-national conference environment in order to try to come closer to answers on questions like:

- Why does supply not cover demand, considered from a national up to a global point of view?
- How to get the right people on the right place, both in quantitative and qualitative numbers?
- What is the impact of outsourcing ICT tasks on national and regional demand?
- Will moving from knowledge oriented education to competence oriented education (knowledge, skills, attitude) be a movement in its own or does it contribute to changes in supply and demand?
- Will competence oriented education (better) respond to industry and business needs?
- Will life long learning contribute to a better balance between demand and supply?
- How to increase the number of qualified ICT professionals in order to meet increasing future needs?
- How to increase female participation in the ICT profession?
- How to change the ICT image in order to encourage young people to take ICT as a subject?
- Will dual professionalism, on ICT and another subject, contribute to a solution?

1) ICT professionalism includes ICT professionals and ICT practitioners.

Open conference document

An open conference document will be launched on the website and by e-mail. It is about the timeline of ICT professionalism developments since 1970. People and organizations involved with ICT professionalism activities will be invited to submit a short contribution.

The document will be updated shortly before the conference by integrating contributions. During the conference contributions can be submitted as well.

The final document will be available as a part of the conference proceedings.

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Participation

Participation in the working conference is on invitation only by the Chair of the International Programme Committee.

If you are interested in the conference, you can make yourself known to the Programme Committee:

- As an expert, proposing to present a relevant topic, not necessarily accompanied by a paper. The International Programme Committee may comment on the topic.
- As an author and presenter of a paper. Extended abstracts and papers have to go through a review procedure.
- As a delegate expressing a special interest in the conference.

Please send an e-mail to: PC-IPROF-09@planet.nl

Publication

A handout of abstracts together with details of conference working groups and the conference programme will be published and made available to conference participants on registration at the conference desk. Information about the programme will be available in advance on the Conference website.

Conference proceedings will contain:

- All accepted papers
- Expert presentations with accompanying abstract
- Conference working group outcomes
- The Conference Proceedings will be a publication with ISBN number. All conference participants will receive a copy of the proceedings a few months after the conference.

Important dates

Extended abstracts due	1 November 2008
Invited expert presentation, abstracts due	1 December 2008
Paper acceptance/rejection advice,	15 December 2008
Low fee registration for delegates being not a speaker	Until 1 January 2009

Fees

Delegates € 595, early registration € 495.

Speakers € 495.

For full details please visit the Conference website:
<http://www.IPROF09-arnhem.nl>

Committees

International Programme Committee

Anneke Hacquebard (Programme Chair, Co-editor),
The Netherlands

Roger Johnson, UK

Deny Smeets (Organizing chair), The Netherlands

Arthur Tatnall (Editor), Australia

Mikko Ruohonen, Finland

J. Barrie Thompson (Co-editor), UK

Raul Sidnei Wazlawick, Brazil

Organizing Committee

Deny Smeets (Organizing Chair)

Anneke Hacquebard (Programme Chair)

Harrie van Seters

Marleen Brouwer

Willem Derksen

Conference Aim

The International Programme Committee of the Working Conference ICT Professionalism, a Global Challenge encourages experts, policy makers, researchers, stakeholders and everyone involved, to submit a contribution and participate in an in depth exchange of ideas and experiences.

It is the conference aim to be a meeting place for experts in the field of ICT Professionalism from all over the world.

The conference goal:

- To present the state of the art of professionalism initiatives, e-Skills frameworks and e-competence framework initiatives, including pitfalls, success and progress.
- To present points of view from: business and industry, education, international organizations, government, social partners (employers and unions), professional societies and others.
- Exchange of information.
- Contribute to co-operation.

Conference themes:

- The need of ICT professionalism initiatives, its aims, goals and expectations.
- The kind of initiatives needed and the way to address and communicate with people concerned, like HR managers, employers, educators, employees, students.
- The impact of Life Long Learning on demand and supply in the ICT labour market.
- The state of the art of ICT professionalism initiatives, including pitfalls, successes and progress, e.g. an International Standard for ICT Professionals, e-competence frameworks, e-skills frameworks etc.
- The scope and co-ordination of ICT professionalism initiatives, its owners and distributors.
- The spin-off and impact of successful ICT professional initiatives on recruitment, education, the labour market.
- Influences on initiatives because of differences in cultural background between parties involved, legal issues and educational standards.
- The impact of certification on ICT professionalism, certification versus formal education.
- Results of ICT professionalism initiatives, intermediate or final.
- Need for co-operation and partnership on an international scale in order to achieve consensus about main issues of guidelines about presenting and dealing with ICT professionalism descriptions.
- Issues related to ICT professionalism, international differences and similarities.

An IFIP working conference

The working conference on "ICT Professionalism: a Global Challenge" is organized by IFIP Technical Committee 3 (Education) through its Working Groups 3.2 (Informatics and ICT in Higher Education) and 3.4 (Professional and Vocational Education in Information Technology) in a tradition of working conferences.

Other IFIP conferences on this subject:

September 2008, WCC 2008 Milan, ICT Professionalism and Competences.

October 2002 IFIP Working Conference "Meeting Global IT Skills Needs - the Role of Professionalism", Woking, UK.