

Preface

ICCE2008 is the Sixteenth International Conference on Computers in Education. It is also the fifth one held in Taiwan. Actually, Taiwan hosted the first three ICCEs since 1989. After the third one, ICCE1993, which was hosted also by National Central University, the same host of this ICCE2008, ICCEs has become a regional conference series held in different countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Details of the ICCE history can be found at <http://www.apsce.net>, the official website of the Asia-Pacific Society for Computers in Education (APSCE).

As described in the call for papers of ICCE2008, “Digital technology is the biggest thrust to change education in this century. Despite being a slow process, technology will ultimately change every aspect of education. In this rapidly growing and by nature interdisciplinary field, research interests are swiftly diverging. Innovative pedagogy design, rigorous scientific studies, and care and concern for humanity are all within our research realm.” In responding to these trends, ICCE2008 is an experiment, intending to foster theme-based research communities in the region. As thus, ICCE2008 is composed of multiple collocated theme-based sub-conferences. Actually, in preparation for ICCE2008, several Special Interest Groups (SIGs) of APSCE have been formed. We believe that these communities will enhance the identity or sense of belonging of individual researchers in APSCE. Moreover, we also hope that these theme-based communities can communicate effectively with the corresponding worldwide theme-based research communities.

ICCE2008 includes the following sub-conferences:

C1: ICCE Conference on AIED/ITS & Adaptive Learning

C2: ICCE Conference on CSCL & Learning Sciences

C3: ICCE Conference on Advanced Learning Technologies, Open Contents, & Standards

C4: ICCE Conference on CUMTEL & DIGITEL

C5: ICCE Conference on Emerging Research in Technology Enhanced Learning

Each sub-conference has its own Program Chairs and Program Committee as well as Call for Papers. Additionally, Workshops, Interactive Events, Open Forums, and Doctorial Student Consortia were also called and organized under different themes. One may ask whether there was difficulty in coordinating these sub-conferences, for example, in deciding which paper should be reviewed by which sub-conference. For this particular example, what we have learnt is that as long as information or data are transparent to all the Program Chairs, it is easy to reach consensus.

As can be seen, ICCE2008 takes a distributed model, with most part of the technical program being distributed over sub-conferences. If future ICCEs adopt this model, then these sub-conferences will be organized by the corresponding SIGs. Nevertheless, there is one feature of ICCE2008 that subsequent ICCEs are unlikely to follow – the number of keynote speeches. To further underline the multiplicities of our field and their theme-based research communities, ICCE2008 arranges the keynotes in a rather peculiar way: not only organizing keynotes around different themes, but also having more than one speaker for each theme.

Here are some statistics. ICCE2008 has received 271 papers all over the world (see Table 1). After a negotiation process among all Program Chairs, they are finally distributed into five different sub-conferences for reviewing (see Table 2). We finally accepted 56 full papers, 69 short papers, and 51 posters (see Table 3).

Table 1: Submission Distribution

Country	Submissions	Country	Submissions
Algeria	2	Japan	60
Australia	8	Korea	6
Austria	1	Kuwait	1
Brazil	2	Malaysia	8
Brunei Darussalam	1	Mexico	3
Canada	9	New Zealand	3
Chile	1	Philippines	4
China	27	Portugal	2
Finland	7	Singapore	11
France	3	Spain	6
Germany	4	Taiwan	67
Hong Kong	9	Thailand	3
India	1	United Kingdom	2
Iran	1	United States	16
Italy	2	Vietnam	1
Total	271		

Table 2: Submission Distribution among Sub-Conferences

Sub-conferences	Submissions
C1	58
C2	63
C3	61
C4	38
C5	51
Total	271

Table 3: Accepted Papers

Sub-conferences	Full Papers	Short Papers	Posters	Total
C1	12	11	15	38
C2	12	16	11	39
C3	10	16	10	36
C4	13	11	6	30
C5	9	15	8	32
Total	56	69	51	175

Finally, your suggestions to improve the organization of future ICCEs are most welcome, and, of course, we would like you to enjoy this meeting, the outcome of our experiment!

Program Committee Coordinator:

Tak-Wai Chan

Program Chairs of Sub-Conferences (alphabetical order):

Gautam Biswas

Tak-Wai Chan

Fei-Ching Chen

Sherry Chen

Chien Chou

Michael Jacobson

Kinshuk

Fanny Klett

Chee-Kit Looi

Tanja Mitrovic

Riichiro Mizoguchi

Kiyoshi Nakabayashi

Peter Reimann

Daniel Suthers

Stephen Yang