Technical Meeting and General Assembly

Annual Conference 2017

IEEE Professional Communication Society - Japan Chapter

Program

December 2, 2017 (Saturday) 13:00

Shibaura Institute of Technology, Omiya Campus
Building No. 2, Room 2203

307 Fukasaku, Minuma-ku, Saitama City, Saitama 337-8570

IEEE

CONFERENCE TIMETABLE

Greetings and Registration (13:00)

Keynote talk
Developing the Concept of Globalization in an English Language Teaching Context
Debopriyo Roy (University of Aizu, Center for Language Research – School of Computer Science and Engineering)

Break

Technical Presentations

Presentation #1
A Method to Activate the Discussion in the Project Schedule Creation
(Taketoshi Yokemura, Masahiro Inoue)

Presentation #2
A Review of Previous Studies on Definition and Assessment of Global Competency in Engineering Education
(Sayoko Oda, Atsuko K. Yamazaki, Masahiro Inoue)

Break

Presentation #3
Our New English Café: students with opinions are future global leaders
(Ernest Orlando Rodriguez Alas, Sawako Shiohara, Le Thanh Xuyen, Akimi Fujita)

Presentation #4
Cyber Communication: Is it Good or Bad
(Amit Batajoo, Akimi Fujita)

PCSJ General Assembly – open to all participants
(2018 board members, activities and budget reports, PCS developments, membership recruiting strategies)

Closing Address

Abstracts

Keynote talk: *Developing the Concept of Globalization in an English Language Teaching Context*

Debopriyo Roy (University of Aizu, Center for Language Research – School of Computer Science and Engineering)

Abstract: Japanese universities are in a difficult situation as they struggle to enroll more foreigners and internationalize the student body and the campus environment (JapanTimes, 2010). One important aspect of such internationalization is to prepare students for a global workplace with adequate corporate awareness and exposure. Numerous universities in a worldwide context developed their own internship program to provide students with real-world experience of the products and the workplace environment. But, as has been experienced in this Japanese context for a prefectural computer science university, student motivation is lacking when it comes to venturing out to a foreign land to explore the unknown, and there are only a handful of students taking part in the Silicon Valley internship program. The idea then is to develop a pedagogical structure and plan for instructional design in a language classroom that promotes the culture of corporate exposure on campus for those students who are still not ready with a mindset that will likely take them to headquarters of world famous companies and start-ups such as Facebook, Google, Apple, Tesla etc., among other lesser known entities. This presentation will discuss the plan outline for developing a series of undergraduate elective courses in a computer science English language research center that addresses the issue of "exposure and corporate mindset" from the perspective of both product-based knowledge dissemination, and intercultural and organizational communication. The presentation will discuss how the courses has been laid out to teach both business and technical communication while making students aware of different organizations such as Apple, Tesla, Uber, Airbnb, the Tokyo start-up ecosystem, and the mindset that leads to the development of an entrepreneurial culture. The first semester electives have been designed to teach soft communication skills in a business communication and text-mining environment. The second semester electives have been developed to teach product design and analysis in a technical writing and usability environment; and cultivate how products and ideas take shape in the Silicon Valley companies. Preliminary data for student reactions and course performance will be discussed. The data will show that students were able to understand and write with a positive intent to reflect initial reactions to the idea of and working in the Silicon Valley. This is still a work in progress to be developed over 2017-2019 academic periods.

Speaker Bio: **Dr. Debopriyo Roy** is a Professor at the Center for Language Research, University of Aizu, Japan. He is a technical communication specialist and his research deals with information design, visual communication and usability for computer-assisted language learning in an EFL context. He obtained his Ph.D. in Technical Communication from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York, and MA degrees in Communication and Economics. He is an active board member and current chair of the ACM chapter on Elearning and Technical Communication, a former chair of the IEEE PCS Japan Chapter, directs his own laboratory in technical communication, supervises research projects, and has numerous publications in leading journals and conference proceedings.

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Presentation #1: *A Method to Activate the Discussion in the Project Schedule Creation*

Taketoshi Yokemura (RICOH Company, Ltd., Office Printing Development Division), Masahiro Inoue (Shibaura Institute of Technology)

Abstract: Creating the project schedule and executing the project along the schedule to produce the final outcome are the core part of project management. The project moves forward by passing the intermediate deliverables from a project member/organization to the next. However, the project is often disturbed by misunderstanding and miscommunication about the deliverables, which causes a return of deliverables to the delivery side, and leads to negative impacts such as schedule delay. It is expected to activate the discussion to reduce the misunderstanding and to improve the feasibility of the project schedule by both clarifying responsibility of the project members for the deliverables, and putting those tangible deliverables on the discussion table among the project members. This paper proposes the tool called Deliverables Dependency Matrix (DDM) which can activate the discussion by drawing out the ambiguity and misunderstanding about the deliverables in the delivery side and the receiving side. This presentation also reports the evaluation results of the tool on the actual Project Based Learning.

Presentation #2: *A Review of Previous Studies on Definition and Assessment of Global Competency in Engineering Education*

Sayoko Oda, Atsuko K. Yamazaki, Masahiro Inoue (Shibaura Institute of Technology, Graduate School of Engineering and Science)

Abstract: Since the mid-1990s, discussions on restructuring of engineering education has increased to enhance students' competency for working under the global environment, collaborating with members in various disciplines and cultures. Previous works have suggested varying definitions of global competence or competency in engineering students. Thus, the dimension of global competency has been expanded gradually from knowledge and skills to attitude and identity. Some other studies determined the important attributes for global competent engineers. "Knowledge" and "skills" are easily to evaluate by traditional assessment such as paper test and report, while "attitudes" and "identity" are hardly measured with those kinds of approach. Authentic assessment was required to evaluate global competency in this new aspect. A number of universities in the U.S. initiated global programs with course work for international studies and study abroad. They tried to evaluate students' learning outcomes by measuring student's competency in language proficiency and intercultural orientation.

Although there is an accumulation of researches in global competency, most of them can be sorted into either of two categories; (1) foundational technical and professional attributes including engineering problem-solving and design skills, communication and teamwork capabilities, and (2) global attributes such as language proficiency, intercultural competence and "global mindset". Little study has been done with a comprehensive perspective of both categories. Therefore, it could be said that the discussion of the foundational attributes exerted at actual situations in global environment is necessity.

Presentation #3: *Our New English Café: students with opinions are future global leaders*

Ernest Orlando Rodriguez Alas, Sawako Shiohara, Le Thanh Xuyen, Akimi Fujita (Shinshu University, Faculty of Engineering)

Abstract: At English Café, we are committed to empowering ourselves to become global leaders that can make a difference in our community and beyond. After three years of running English Café, we have realized that it is more important 1) to be able to think for ourselves and 2) to be able to communicate our opinions with people from culturally diverse backgrounds than to practice English. Therefore, we decided to make some changes at English Café this semester. Every month, we choose one discussion topic, so that the students have time to think and express opinions about one specific subject for a month. We apply "Brain storming" tactics to improve our group discussion. We also use PDCA model to keep improving English café. With these changes, we have positive results but the same problem persists: Japanese students are not willing to participate in discussion. After two months of trying our new English Café format, we think it is necessary to implement a dual communication system (English-Japanese) to facilitate active discussion.

Presentation #4: *Cyber Communication: Is it Good or Bad*

Amit Batajoo and Akimi Fujita (Shinshu University, Faculty of Engineering)

Abstract: Communication is an important part of human life: we share our feelings and exchange ideas with each other through communication. Communication media has evolved, and today, the development of Internet and Smart electronic devices gave birth to cyber communication. In this presentation, we will discuss the positive and negative aspects of cyber communication. We specifically raise problems that are related to security threats, based on the security issues encountered while developing an application system for Smart Tourism Process Framework (STPF) between users and the application system. We also discuss serious ethical problems caused by cyber communication.

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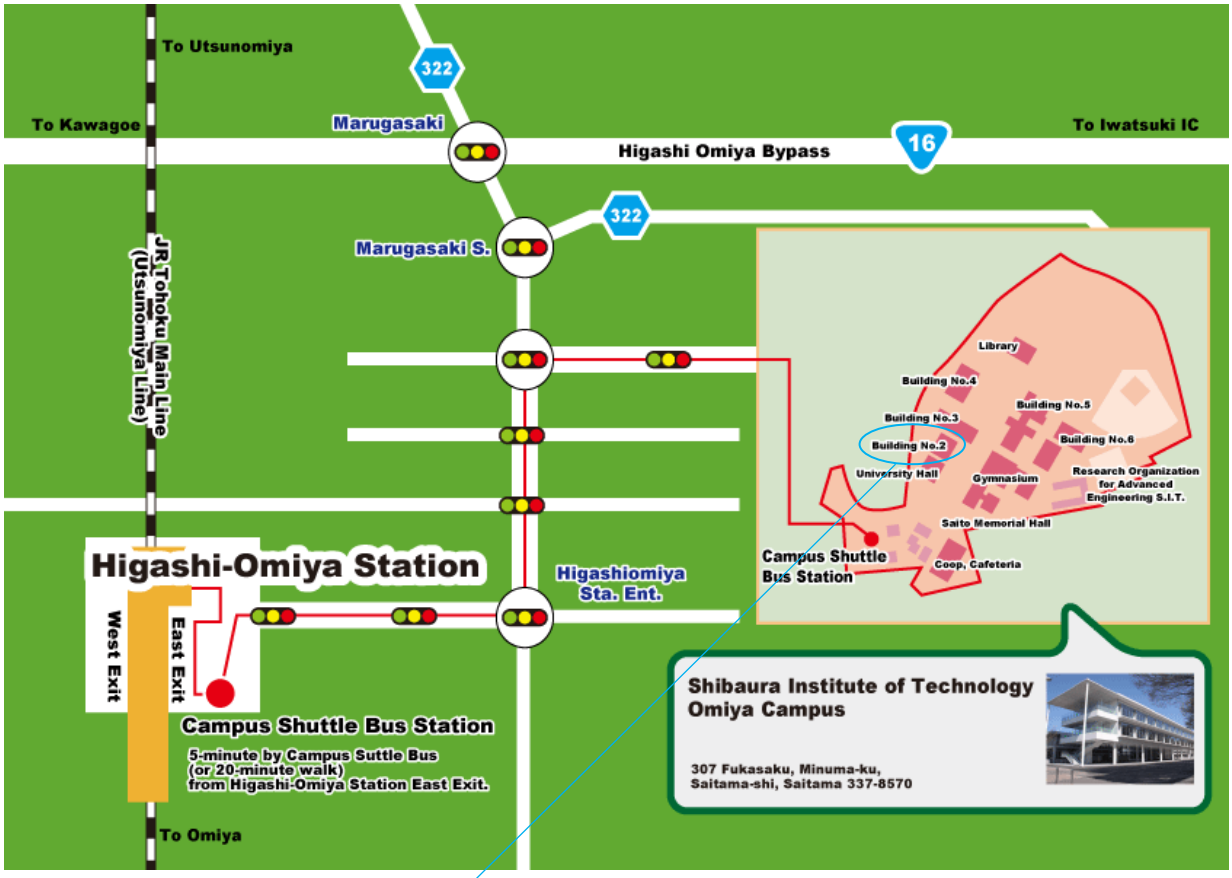
Access Map



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