

IEEE Professional Communication Society –Japan Chapter Annual Conference (Dec. 12, 2010: Sunday)

Timetable

1:30 pm

Greetings and registration

1:40 pm

Presentation #1: T. Orr, *The basics of international negotiation in less than 30 minutes*

2:10 pm

Presentation #2: K. Morimura, J. Entzinger, Sh. Suzuki: *Teaching global communication skills in the 'Live experience of global activities'*

2:55 pm

Break

3:05 pm

Presentation #3: D. Roy, *Perception of objects in technical illustrations: A challenge in technical communication*

3:35 pm

Presentation #4: L. Anthony, *A Data-Driven Approach to Advanced-Level Technical Writing Instruction for Scientists and Engineers*

4:05

Break

4:15 pm

Business meeting (election results, director reports, member opinions and input, membership recruiting strategies, planning for hosting IPCC 2012)

4:50 pm

Meeting closes

[informal get-together at a local restaurant follows for all interested participants]

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Presenters' Abstracts

Presentation #1: Thomas Orr (Center for Language Research, University of Aizu)

The basics of international negotiation in less than 30 minutes

Abstract: This presentation will provide an instructive overview of international negotiation principles and strategies that are appropriate for professionals in fields of science, engineering, and other professional fields. The material is condensed from a popular graduate course on International Negotiation in the Graduate School of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Aizu.

Presentation #2: Kumiko Morimura, Jorg Entzinger, and Shinji Suzuki, (Center for Innovation in Engineering Education, School of Engineering, University of Tokyo)

Teaching global communication skills in the 'Live experience of global activities'

Abstract: To boost internationalization for engineering students, we started the "Live Experience of Global Activities (LEGA)", a new initiative supplementing our "English for Engineers and Scientists" and "Special English Lessons" courses. Students gain practical international experiences in the LEGA, which consists of several sub-projects with different types of international collaboration, for instance with global companies such as Cisco systems and Airbus. In the paper, we will detail the implementation and results of the LEGA.

Presentation #3: Deboprio Roy (Center for Language Research, University of Aizu)

Perception of objects in technical illustrations: A challenge in technical communication

Abstract:

This presentation will deal with two dimensional display planes and perception of distances for physical tasks showing human actions. Current literature in cognitive psychology is rich in dealing with illustrations a little removed and atypical of the procedural illustrations typical of technical communication.

Another challenging situation that will be discussed as part of this presentation is that the concept of distance into and across display plane, and the affordance generated for task completion based on mental image rotation might be easier to decipher when objects are rotated object-centered vs. body-centered. Also, the discussion will raise certain specific procedural situations when such affordance might be difficult to measure and ability for task completion that much more difficult. Also, physical objects demonstrated without human handling might be more difficult to explain.

Presentation #4: Laurence Anthony (Faculty of Science and Engineering, Waseda University)

A Data-Driven Approach to Advanced-Level Technical Writing Instruction for Scientists and Engineers

This presentation describes a novel, data-driven approach to advanced-level technical writing instruction in science and engineering. The approach utilizes small-scale, individualized corpora of target texts created by students, in combination with freeware concordancer tools and a specially designed textbook. Results from a two-year pilot test of the approach reveal it to be effective in increasing students' grammatical accuracy, vocabulary breadth and depth, understanding of discourse structures and discipline-specific writing conventions, as well as in-class motivation.