

EEUG News

The newsletter for the Educational Electronic Computer Aided Design users

Volume 16 N^o 1 January 2003 Editor: Geoff Lawday geoff.lawday@bcuc.ac.uk

News from the ECAD Educational User Group Committee

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Introduction

Welcome to this edition of the EEUG newsletter. As we move into 2003, we are moving into the work of the EEUG for this year. The main activities will be two newsletters (January and June), along with the autumn workshop in September. Following proposals and discussions, we have chosen the workshop theme for this year and a 1st call for contributions is included. Our hope is to improve on the workshop format and increase the numbers of participants. We would also like to increase the participation of the EEUG community and so we invite everyone to send articles of interest for inclusion in the next newsletter.

I wish you all a prosperous new year and look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Ian Grout (Chair, EEUG)

Newsletter

The EEUG newsletter will move back to a twice-a-year publication and circulated via email. The intention is for one newsletter in January and the second on June.

Contributions to the Newsletter

We would like to invite articles from the EEUG community on aspects of teaching and learning, along with suitable research activities, for publication in the newsletter. Articles to be a maximum of ½ page in length. Please forward any articles for the June newsletter by the *end of May* to either Geoff Lawday or Ian Grout.

Autumn Workshop 2003 1st Call for Contributions

“Mechatronics, Multidisciplinary teaching and research”

10th and 11th September 2003
Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK

Increasingly, the role of the engineer is diversifying and becoming multi-disciplinary in nature. In electronic engineering, this is noticeable with the breaking down of the traditional barriers in communication and work practices between the hardware and software engineer. Taking this to the next level, traditional barriers between electronic hardware, software, mechanical engineering and IT are now being removed. Mechatronics, with its multidisciplinary approach to the design and development of engineering solutions, provides an important direction to follow in teaching and research. The importance of inclusion, rather than exclusion, along with team building is a key to future success.

The EEUG Autumn Workshop 2003 is to be held on the 10th - 11th September 2003 at Lancaster University. Contributions are sought from those involved in (or have planned involvement in) Mechatronics teaching and research activities, in particular (but not exclusively):

- Multidisciplinary teaching and learning instruments.
- Mechatronics teaching and learning
- Teaching and learning experiences.
- CAD tool design, use and application.
- Teaching of product design and development in team environments: competition based

student project work and assessment.

Three types of contribution are sought:

- Oral presentations, which are informal in nature, and should be around 20 minutes long.
- Demonstrations of teaching and research material.
- Poster presentations detailing current projects. In particular, we would encourage the presentation of postgraduate student research project work.

Offers of contribution (title and brief synopsis (maximum 1 page) should be sent by 28th June 2003 (with full papers by 31st July 2003)), to Ian Grout (Ian.Grout@ul.ie).

EEUG Website

<http://www.eeug.org.uk>

Two main points to note:

- We have added a link to LTSN Engineering
<http://www.ltsneng.ac.uk>
- The Autumn Workshop 2003 information will be added as it is developed over the next few months.

EEUG Logo

Currently, the Group does not have any unique and identifiable logo that we can use for publicity, etc. We are looking for suggestions from the EEUG community for a suitable and meaningful logo. If you have any suggestions, please forward them onto any member of the committee. We are looking for ideas by the *end of March* and will be raising this point at the next committee meeting. We will bring

suggestions for the logo to the next AGM in September 2003.



LTSN Engineering is one of the network of 24 subject centres of the Learning and Teaching Support Network (LTSN), which are based in higher education institutions throughout the UK. LTSN Engineering provides subject-based support to promote high quality learning and teaching in engineering education. We achieve this through the engagement of and interaction with UK engineering academics and the wider engineering community, providing a focus for discussion and debate, and creating a facility that has national ownership.

The Centre seeks to:

- Create a national *focus* that is an accepted and essential point of contact for all involved in higher education engineering.
- Collate and disseminate *good practice* and innovation in learning and teaching in higher education engineering.
- Provide co-ordination and *support* for learning and teaching in engineering.

What can we offer?

Visit our website to find out more about our activities and to keep up-to-date with the world of engineering education www.ltsneng.ac.uk
The website has regularly updated information on LTSN Engineering and other engineering education events,

news items, funding opportunities, engineering education journals as well as links to learning and teaching sites and to professional networks.

Get involved!

The Centre exists to support engineering academics but it needs these academics to engage with us if we are to make a significant contribution to the enhancement of engineering education. We already have a large network of contacts but we are always keen to extend this base of activity. To get involved or to join our mailing lists, please email us at enquiries@ltsneng.ac.uk

EEUG Membership

We are in the process of updating the EEUG membership list, hopefully this will be completed by the September Workshop. You might receive an email from us for information to incorporate into the membership database. We still need to expand the coverage of EEUG activities within the Higher Education sector. If you know of any colleagues who may wish to be added to the (free) membership and email circulation list, please send details to Ian Grout.

Committee members

- Chair: Ian Grout (University of Limerick, Ireland)
- Vice-Chair: Stephen Dickinson (Lancaster University)
- Secretary: Alla Cordery (Oxford Brookes University)
- Treasurer: Richard Walters (University of North London)
- Information Officer: Geoff Lawday (Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College)
- RAL Liaison Officer: Jonathan Dell (The University of York)

- Elected Member: Robert Self (University of Essex)
- Elected Member: Martin White (University of Sussex)

EEUG Activities January – September 2003

- January
 - Committee meeting (1).
 - Newsletter (1) distribution.
 - 1st call for contributions to next workshop.
- April
 - Committee meeting (2).
 - 2nd call for contributions to next workshop and proposals for workshop 2004 theme and location.
- June
 - Newsletter (2) distribution.
 - Chair and treasurer to meet with local workshop organiser
 - Deadline for workshop submission proposals for autumn workshop.
- July
 - Distribution of EEUG newsletter.
 - Committee meeting at workshop location (3).
 - 3rd call for contributions to next workshop, if necessary.
 - Deadline for full papers for autumn workshop.
- September
 - Committee meeting (4).
 - Autumn Workshop 2003.

Upcoming Conferences and Events

A new section in the newsletter will be dedicated to upcoming conferences and events that might be of interest to the EEUG community. Please forward any information for the June newsletter by the *end of May* to either Geoff Lawday or Ian Grout.

- *Sensors and their Applications XII*, 2nd-4th September 2003, University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland, <http://physics.iop.org/IOP/Confs/SAXII/>