

SIGCIS 2009 WORKSHOP: CALL FOR PAPERS

Workshop Theme

The Society for the History of Technology's Special Interest Group for Computers, Information and Society (SIGCIS – www.sigcis.org) welcomes submissions for “Michael Mahoney And The Histories of Computing(s),” a daylong workshop on the history of computing in memory of historian Michael S. Mahoney. In keeping with Mahoney's broad historical perspective, we encourage submissions not only about computers themselves but also about the technologies and knowledge systems into which computers have been embedded as well as the societies in which they are used. Contributions directly related to Mahoney's work are welcome but not required.

The keynote speaker, William Aspray, will discuss Mahoney's contribution to the development of the history of computing.

The workshop will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA on Sunday, October 18, 2009. It will occur on the final day of the annual SHOT meeting with sessions in the morning and afternoon. SHOT has reserved that day for SIG events and therefore the workshop will not overlap scheduled sessions and most other SHOT functions. It will be held at the same site as the SHOT meeting.

SIGCIS encourages scholars of all levels and affiliations to participate.

Suggested Formats for Submissions:

Organized sessions and individual papers are both welcome. In keeping with the conference theme contributions that address historiographic issues or situate work within a particular history of computing are particularly welcome. Individual contributions can fit one of a variety of formats.

1. Traditional 20 to 25-minute presentations followed by a question and answer session with the SIGCIS community. In this case a one-page abstract (maximum 400 words) will be reviewed and included in the electronic conference program. Abstracts should address the paper's topic, argument, evidence used, and contribution to the existing literature. A full version of the paper should be sent to the session commentator at least a week prior to the meeting.
2. Dissertation proposals. We hope to include a dissertations in progress session, in which individuals will present their ongoing dissertation work and seek feedback from the history of computing community. In this case submit an abstract of your dissertation proposal. The full proposal will be included in the electronic conference program if accepted. Participants will be encouraged to read this prior to the session. You will have five to ten minutes to introduce the material, leaving the bulk of time available for discussion.

3. Works in progress. This is your chance to receive informal and expert discussion of draft dissertation chapters, journal articles, or book chapters. Submit a one-page abstract (maximum 400 words) including discussion of the current state of the work and any specific kinds of feedback you are seeking. If your proposal is accepted you will need to supply the draft for discussion by 1 October for inclusion in the electronic program for the workshop. You will have five to ten minutes to introduce the material, leaving the bulk of time available for discussion.

4. Proposals in other formats are also welcome. For example round table discussions, demonstrations of software of interest to historians of computing, or "author meets critics" sessions. SHOT presenters are encouraged to apply but must present material significantly different from that presented in the main conference program.

Submission Procedures

Individual submissions should be made at <http://www.sigcis.org/?q=workshop09a>, and must include:

1. an abstract or dissertation proposal as described above. Paste this text into the web submission form.
2. a one-page curriculum vitae, including current e-mail addresses as a Microsoft Word or PDF document. Upload this via the web submission system. Use the filename AuthorLastName_vita. For example Smith_vita.

Proposals for complete sessions should be made at <http://www.sigcis.org/?q=workshop09b>, and must include:

1. The name of the session and the names, email addresses and paper titles of the presenters, organizer, chair and commentator (if applicable)
2. a one-page description (maximum 400 words) of the session that explains how individual papers contribute to an overall theme
3. an abstract for each presenter in the form described above
4. for the each presenter and other participants (including commentator if used) a one-page curriculum vitae. Compile as one Word or PDF document and upload via the web submission system.

Questions should be addressed to Joseph November [november(at)sc.edu] who is serving as program committee chair for the workshop.

The deadline for proposals is June 22, 2009. Notifications will be sent by June 29, 2009. If you are a graduate student seeking travel funding please submit ASAP for expedited review because the SHOT deadline for funding is June 1.

Workshop Organizers:

Joseph November, Program Committee Chair

Jeffrey Tang, Local Arrangements Chair

Brent Jesiek, Internet Infrastructure

Thomas Haigh, SIG Chair