Praise for AIS Transactions on Human-Computer Interaction

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Congratulations to SIGHCI and especially Ping Zhang and Dennis Galletta, co-editors, on the inaugural issue of AIS Transactions on Human Computer Interaction. SIGHCI is the first special interest group to propose a specific journal oriented to the discipline of a special interest group.

The impetus for this new journal came from many sources. At the SIGHCI pre-ICIS workshop held in Milwaukee in 2005, Joe Valacich gave the keynote speech. He focused on the paucity of high quality outlets for IS-related research, parting with the comment, “The IS discipline is eating its young.” We agree. Over the years, Ping Zhang and other leaders of SIGHCI have bounced around the idea of a journal, but never felt the timing was right until now.

Launching this journal has been a dream of mine for nineteen years. In 1990, I created a timeline for the HCI discipline (at the time we called it Human Factors in Information Systems). In my timeline, I saw 2000 as a tentative date for the launching of a journal dedicated to HCI. In 1990, AIS itself was only a fledgling organization. There were no Special Interest Groups. Since then, AIS has grown and matured along with all the sub-disciplines. Although we are about nine years past my projected date, it is a remarkable feat that a mere eight years after becoming an official special interest group of AIS, SIGHCI has evolved to the point where a high quality journal is feasible.

I am so proud to be a small part of this effort. The real praise goes to Ping Zhang and Dennis Galletta. They are a remarkable team. Ping has the energy, vision, and political capital to influence the AIS leadership with her cogent arguments. Dennis has the respect of AIS and is well positioned in the AIS leadership to drive the decision home. SIGHCI has paved the way for other SIGs to launch their own Transactions journal.

What does it take to launch a journal?
1. A strong vision from discipline leaders,
2. A supportive parent organization with available technology to support the publication process,
3. A critical mass of experienced and well-respected scholars with high standards, who can guide the review process,
4. A critical mass of experienced and dedicated reviewers,
5. A pent-up demand for a high quality publication outlet in the discipline, and most importantly,
6. A critical mass of well-trained scholars who are willing to submit their best work to the journal in order to advance the discipline and to build a strong reputation for the journal.

SIGHCI has met these lofty goals, and the Transactions is headed for a bright future.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jane M. Carey is an Associate Professor of Information Systems at the WP Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. Dr. Carey received her PhD in Business Administration from the University of Mississippi and her MBA from Eastern Illinois University. Dr. Carey's research is in the area of Human-Computer Interaction. Her teaching interests are in the area of Cultural Bases for Interface Design, Global Project Management, and Software Globalization. Dr. Carey has published 7 books, 18 book chapters and dozens of refereed journal articles. She is the chair of the Advisory Board for the Special Interest Group in Human-Computer Interaction in the Association of Information Systems and on the review board for the new Transactions in Human Computer Interaction.