About the Editors

Aaron Adler is a Scientist at Raytheon BBN Technologies in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Dr. Adler has worked on a variety of projects for DARPA and AFRL involving security, machine learning, robotics, artificial intelligence, and synthetic biology. Dr. Adler has a particular interest in creating intelligent user interfaces by automatically handling complexities to enable intuitive interfaces for users. He received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from MIT where he also received his M.Eng. in Computer Science and Engineering and S.B. in Computer Science. His Ph.D. thesis centered on constructing multimodal interactive dialogues: combining speech recognition and sketch recognition for user input and generating speech and sketching for multimodal computer output. The system helps the user describe simple mechanical (Rube-Goldberg-like) devices by asking probing questions.

Tracy Hammond Director of the Sketch Recognition Lab and Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Texas A&M University, Dr. Hammond is an international leader in sketch recognition and human-computer interaction research. Dr. Hammond’s publications on the subjects are widely cited and have well over fourteen hundred citations, with Dr. Hammond having an h-index of 18, an h10-index of 27, and four papers with over 100 citations each. Her sketch recognition research has been funded by NSF, DARPA, Google, and many others, totaling over 3.6 million dollars in peer reviewed funding. She holds a PhD in Computer Science and FTO (Finance Technology Option) from MIT, and four degrees from Columbia University: an M.S in Anthropology, an M.S. in Computer Science, a B.A. in Mathematics, and a B.S. in Applied Mathematics. Prior to joining the TAMU CSE faculty
Dr. Hammond taught for five years at Columbia University and was a telecom analyst for four years at Goldman Sachs. Dr. Hammond is the 2011–2012 recipient of the Charles H. Barclay, Jr. ’45 Faculty Fellow Award. The Barclay Award is given to professors and associate professors who have been nominated for their overall contributions to the Engineering Program through classroom instruction, scholarly activities, and professional service.

Mark Payton is the Director of Technology and Library Services for Whitfield School, an independent 6–12 school in St. Louis, MO. He is in his seventeenth year as an IT Director in independent schools, having been at schools in Vermont and Madaba, Jordan previously. He started his IT career working in the ski industry at Killington and as IT Director for Burton Snowboards. Between the industry and academic stints, he was a software developer. Self-taught as a programmer and IT person, his training is in early childhood education with a BA from the University of Kansas. He has taught subjects as varied as Introductory Programming and Christian Theology, and to students of every grade between Pre-K and the undergraduate university level. He has been interested in pen-based computing since the days of the GRiDpad and Windows for Pen Computing and has been a member of the WIPTTE steering committee since the conference’s inception.

Stephanie Valentine is a PhD student in the Department of Computer Science & Engineering at Texas A&M University. A Nebraska native, Valentine graduated Salutatorian of her class with a BA in Computer Science with a minor in Electronic Publishing from Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota. Valentine is an NSF Graduate Fellow, winner of the Susan M. Arseven’ 75 Make-A-Difference Award, and Vice President of the CSE Departmental graduate student association. Valentine’s research focuses around understanding how children communicate in online social networks and empowering children to have safe, healthy, and expressive digital friendships. Valentine is also the founding president of Wired Youth, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works to educate the community about safe social networking for children as an active prevention strategy for cyberbullying, online predation, and other cyberthreats.
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