

# bulletin

## A Surprise Introduction to SIGCHI

No-one is more surprised than me to suddenly be the Guest Editor of the *SIGCHI Bulletin*. Alas, poor Steven Pemberton, SIGCHI's Editor-in-Chief found his volunteer plate overflowing. I was asked in June by one of Drexel University's professors and now, SIGCHI Chair, Marilyn Tremaine, to see if I could quickly learn Frame Maker and help out. Poor Steven, after four plus years of turning out a superb *SIGCHI Bulletin* and now doing wonders being Editor-in-Chief of *Interaction* had little time left to sleep. I flew to Amsterdam and Steven and his wife housed and fed me while I learned the ropes of editing the SIGCHI Bulletin. This has been an incredible experience for me. I am a Masters Student, ready to grad-

uate this September in the Information Systems program at Drexel University in Philadelphia. The program teaches students a lot of human-computer interaction and, of course, is home to the former (Mike Atwood) and current SIGCHI Chair so students are steeped in the culture of HCI. However, this has been an overwhelming experience for me. I learned from Steven how to layout pages for aesthetic presentation, how to organize the journal so that various items attract the readers attention, how to structure information so that it is assimilated more readily and how to put an entire visually appealing package together. All this information enhanced my HCI training tremendously. I wish we had been

asked to do something like this as an assignment in class, but then, it probably would have been too hard.

### Volunteers

On the tenth of June, I had never heard of the Frame Maker software package. Now, on September tenth, I am designing the final headings, checking to sure that all the column labels Steven added to the Bulletin are aligned and on the appropriate side of the even or

odd-numbered page. In the April 1995 issue of the *SIGCHI Bulletin*, Steven Pemberton wrote the following:

*SIGCHI is run almost entirely by volunteers (check opposite and the inside back cover to see a selection of their names). But there's always room for more people who have got time to help out. The Bulletin too has room for more helpers. We especially could use people with Frame Maker skills who are willing to format an article or two per issue, and I'd also be interested in someone who would like to fill the role of Software Technology editor. Interested? Send me email.*

If I can do it, so can you. With Steven's help, I have just edited the

January, April and July issue of the *SIGCHI Bulletin*. Somehow, I also managed to finish three courses I took over the summer and be a teaching assistant for two labs. Yes, I am tired, but it was great fun. And, who knows, if you volunteer, you might even be Guest Editor!!! If you volunteer, I will also be around to give you some pointers on Frame Maker. I'm staying on as an Associate Editor.

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