HMI TC Meeting Minutes

Call to order

The 1st 2023 meeting of IEEE CTSoc Human-Machine Interaction and User Experience Technical Committee (HMI) was held remotely on Zoom on 2022-24-04 11:00AM - 11:55 AM UTC.

Attendees

1. David Murphy (Chair)
2. Kingkarn Sookhanaphibarn (Vice-Chair)
3. Davide Calandra (Secretary)
4. Kenichiro Ito
5. Luca Romeo
6. Vivek Kant
7. Ryota Horie

Agenda Items

- Introduce new HMI-TC members and Membership Update
- Information updated from Technical Committee Board -21st February 2023
- Call for Volunteers
    o Conferences
    o Reviewers
- Special Interest Groups
    o SIGM (Kingkarn and Ruck)
- New Activities:
    o Code of Ethics for Metaverse?
    o Standard Opportunities?
    o Webinar?
    o Monthly technical activity - Tech Tuesday?
- Discussion

1. Welcome by Chair [10min]

David Murphy (Chair) welcomes the participants.

The Chair starts sharing a presentation and presents the meeting agenda.

2. Introduce new HMI TC members and Membership Update [5min]

The Chair welcomes the new member, Mrs. Ana Vasconcelos, and congratulates to Vivek Kant for his new position as associate professor.

The Chair shares the list of members per country and discusses the issue of underrepresentation of some counties (e.g., UK and USA, among others) and the possible solutions.

Vivek Kant expresses the will to leverage his new position to involve his colleagues.

3. Information updated from Technical Committee Board -21st February 2023 [2min]

The Chair reports on the first board meeting of 2023, which was mostly introductory, giving the opportunity to old and new chairs to introduce themselves, and their interests.

The Chair mentions the welcome presentation by The CTSoc president Wen-Chung Kao, and the introduction of Fabrice Labeau (VP for publications) and Raed Abdullah (VP for Industry and Standard Activities.

The Chair informs that the next board meeting will be on April 26th, and that he will send a mail to the TC members if something important will arise.

4. Call for Volunteers [2min]

The Chair reminds of some conference calls (Call circulated to members via e-mail) for Track Chairs/Co-Chairs/Reviewers:

- ICCE Berlin 2023
- ICCE GEM 2023
- CEMag SI on Metaverse and eXtended uniVerse (XV)

The Chair encourages members that are interested in one of them to feel free to directly apply, or to ask officers to do it for them, highlighting the benefits related to these positions (e.g., in terms of visibility).

5. Special Interest Groups [14min]

The Chair starts talking about the Special Interest Groups (in particular, the one on Metaverse between HMI and ENT), and then he passes the word to the Kingkarn Sookhanaphibarn (Vice-Chair) to update members about the SIGM activities:

The Vice-Chair recalls the origin of the SIGM:

- It started with few members (~14) as an initiative from her and Prof. Ruck Thawonmas (former chair of ENT)
- Advertised through the mailing list of HMI and ENT TCs
- The first meeting was configured by Ruck Thawonmas as a Dagstuhl Seminar, and members were subdivided into three main research groups:
    1. Challenges of WebXR based metaverse / eXtended uniVerse (XV)
    2. Design and Develop a Campus in Metaverse
    3. Metaverse vs. Interdisciplinary education and research
- The Vice-Chair is involved in the second group, and at the moment they are working on a joint academic paper to be submitted to CEMag.

The chair recalls a point raised by Davide Calandra (Secretary), which suggests inviting the VAM TC to the SIGM, considering the recent change in name and topics (from Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality and Displays to Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality and Metaverse). Committee members agree on doing it.

6. New Activities [15min]

The Chair starts discussing on possible new activities for the TC.
- Code of Ethics for Metaverse
  - Similarities with the early days of the WEB
    - Nobody knows how it will look like
    - At the moment, there is attention on what industry wants, which is not always aligned with the view of the academic research community
    - Some companies want to own the metaverse instead of opening it up
  - Principle of openness, ethics, interoperability, accessibility, and inclusiveness have to be pursued.
    - The TC can work on making some recommendations on these topics.
- Standard Opportunities
  - In the area of HMI, metaverse and other emerging technologies
  - OpenXR as successful example
  - IEEE is particularly interested in standardization
- Webinar / Monthly technical activity (Tech Tuesday)
  - Output of activities like SIG or individual activities
  - For the Tech Tuesday, continuity is the key (2-3 speakers 15min presentation + Q&A)
    - opportunity to rehearse technical presentations
    - technical questions for which a member doesn't have the answer and wants to ask to other members
    - low key, informal activities, to encourage people to participate

The Chairs points out that 2 formal meetings per year are not enough to keep the community engaged. Other activities may help increasing the involvement.
The Secretary agrees.
For the Vice-Chair the Tech Tuesday is the most interesting idea, with a view to turning it into webinars in the future. The Chair agrees. All members agree to go ahead with that initiative.

7. Discussion [7min]

The Chair asks for further questions in an open feedback session.

The Vice-Chair proposes to bring the topic of ethics in metaverse as 4th path for the SIGM, she will write to Prof. Ruck Thawonmas about that.

Vivek Kant expresses his interest in the discussion regarding human factors in HMI standardization.

The Chair talks about the state of ISO, in which he is active. There are very old standards from a human centered perspective. HMI is still not well established. He has a meeting organized with Raed Abdullah (VP for Industry and Standard Activities) on this topic (opportunity to investigate and developing standards).

The Chair points out that the next week in EU is the Standard Valorization Week, a campaign that will ultimately lead to the situation that future research that want to be funded will have to show how they comply to standards.

Meeting is adjourned by the Chair.