



Feb. 15 – 21, 2009

(CCT Anchor Story)

Mardi Gras Conference Taking Place This Week in Downtown Baton Rouge

The CCT will host the Mardi Gras Conference on “Virtual Worlds: New Realms for Culture, Creativity, Commerce, Computation and Communication” this week in downtown Baton Rouge.

This conference marks the first occasion where people using virtual environments such as Second Life, MultiVerse and Croquet to advance both business and academia will come together to discuss the latest developments in this emerging field.

The conference will take place Thursday through Saturday at the Sheraton Baton Rouge Hotel and Conference Center in downtown Baton Rouge. The conference includes two-and-a-half days of workshops, keynote speakers and seven discussion panels on various topics related to virtual worlds. Registration fee is \$280; \$180 for students. Spaces are still available to attend the conference!

Participants from around the world will attend the conference to present papers on topics including legal issues in virtual worlds, research methods for virtual worlds and avatar identity. Following the conference’s conclusion, participants will travel to New Orleans to see the Endymion Mardi Gras parade.

To see a full schedule of conference events and to register online, please visit www.mardigrasconference.org .

CCT in the News:

- **LSU Center for Computation & Technology to Host 16th Annual Mardi Gras Conference on Virtual Worlds**
BATON ROUGE – The LSU Center for Computation & Technology, or CCT, will host the Mardi Gras Conference on “Virtual Worlds: New Realms for Culture, Creativity, Commerce, Computation and Communication.”
<http://www.cct.lsu.edu/site.php?pageID=63&newsID=947>
- **NSF Funds Distributed Computing Development**
Source: [Grid Computing Planet](#)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded a Louisiana State University professor a grant to develop a new distributed computing system.

<http://www.gridcomputingplanet.com/article.php/3801886>

CCT Welcomes:

- Wuyi Yu will be interning for Xin Li.
- Dr. James Lupo, HPC User Services Manager, will be joining CCT in March.
- Lei Pan, IT Analyst 3 (Software Engineer) will be joining Thomas Sterling's group in March.

Upcoming Lectures:

- Xin Li, Assistant Professor at LSU's Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, will be lecturing Friday, Feb. 20 at 11:30 a.m. as part of the Colloquium Series. The lecture, titled "Shape Mapping and its Applications in Graphics and Visual Computing," will take place in 338 Johnston.
- John Chowning, from Stanford University, will be lecturing as part of CCT's Colloquium Series next Friday, Feb. 27, at 11:30 a.m. The lecture, "FM Synthesis: 40 Years in Art and Industry," will take place in 338 Johnston Hall.

Please Note:

- Classes will not take place Feb. 23-25 because of the students' Mardi Gras holiday. All University offices, departments and regular business operations are closed on Tuesday, Feb. 24, for Mardi Gras Day.
- The next training seminar will be Wednesday, Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. to noon in Johnston 338. This training is Introduction to Open MP. To register visit: <http://hpc.lsu.edu/training/tutorials/#spring09mpi1>.
- The deadline for abstracts for Computational Science Poster Day has been extended to this Friday, Feb. 20. Please encourage your students to submit their ideas! This activity is open to all undergraduate students in Louisiana. There is no fee to submit work or attend the Computational Science Poster Day. Students who wish to participate should submit an abstract describing their research questions/purpose, methods and outcomes (actual or anticipated). Full details on submissions can be found at www.cct.lsu.edu/posterday09. Abstracts should be submitted to: Kathy Traxler, LSU CCT, 216 Johnston Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, or by e-mail: ktraxler@cct.lsu.edu.
- SIGGRAPH, the annual premier conference for digital media and computer graphics, will take place in New Orleans Aug. 3-7, 2009. Feb. 23 is the deadline for student volunteers to register, so please encourage your students to sign up! Student volunteers receive free access to the conference, and this is an excellent networking opportunity.

- The Louisiana Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Committee publishes regular newsletters to provide updates on research taking place at Louisiana's universities. The newsletters are available online through the Louisiana Board of Regents Web site, at <http://www.laregents.org/www2/index.htm>.
- ALL CCT meetings of the Spring 2009 semester will take place Wednesdays at 3 p.m. in Johnston 338. If you have any information, news or announcements you wish to include at the meeting, please notify Karen Jones, kjones@cct.lsu.edu. ALL CCT meetings for this semester are scheduled for March 18, April 15 and May 20. Please make every effort to attend.
- If you have any news for the CCT Weekly, please e-mail PR Manager Kristen Sunde directly at ksunde@cct.lsu.edu.

Upcoming Grant Deadlines:

Note: Please see the CCT deadline Web site, as many NSF deadlines are listed here: <http://www.cct.lsu.edu/about/grants/deadlines/events.php>

Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)

February 24 2009 10:00 am

At Most \$ 5,000,000.00 available

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08611/nsf08611.htm?govDel=USNSF_30