CALL FOR PAPERS

UbiComp in the Urban Frontier

http://www.urban-atmospheres.net/UbiComp2004
One Day Workshop to be held at UbiComp 2004
7th September 2004
Nottingham, England

Scope and Aim

UbiComp in the Urban Frontier is a one day workshop to be held at the 6th Annual Ubiquitous Computing Conference in Nottingham, England. This workshop will be focused on understand how the rapidly emerging fabric of mobile and wireless computing will influence, disrupt, expand, and be integrated into the social patterns existent within our public urban landscapes.

There is little doubt that laptops, PDAs, and mobile phones have enabled computing to become a truly mobile experience. With these new computing devices, we emerge from our office, work, and school into the urban fabric of our cities and towns. We often view these urban areas as "in-between spaces" – obstacles to traverse from one place to another. However, not only do we spend a significant amount of time in such urban landscapes, but these spaces contribute to our own formulation of identity, community, and self. Much of the richness of life transpires within our own urban settings. Similarly, there is a growing body of work within the field of social computing, particularly those involving social networking such as Tribe, Friendster, and Live Journal. At the intersection of mobile and social computing, we seek to provoke discussion aimed at understanding this emerging space of computing within and across our public urban frontiers.

The timing of the Urban Frontiers workshop is aimed at capturing a unique, synergistic moment – expanding urban populations, rapid adoption of Bluetooth mobile devices, and widespread influence of wireless technologies across our urban landscapes. The United Nations has recently reported that 48 percent of the world's population currently live in urban areas and that this number is expected to exceed the 50 percent mark by 2007, thus marking the first time in history that the world will have more urban residents than rural residents. Current studies project Bluetooth-enabled devices to reach 1.4 billion units in 2005 alone. Nearly 400 million new mobile phones are scheduled to be sold worldwide this year alone. WiFi hardware is being deployed at the astonishing rate of one every 4 seconds globally.

We are gathering for an event to expose, deconstruct, and understand the challenges of this newly emerging moment in urban history and its dramatic influence on technology usage and adoption. We invite position papers on topics related to these themes.

Participation

Selection of workshop participants and presentations will be based on refereed submissions. Authors are invited to submit a two-page position statement in the ACM SIGCHI conference publications format. Position statements are encouraged to be provocative and will be used during the workshop to guide and disrupt our views of the urban frontiers. They may include personal experiences, performances, studies, or individual urban projects. Position statements should have only one author, and should include a brief biography. For further submission details please refer to the web site at the top of this call for papers.

Please email submissions in PDF format to paulos@intel-research.net no later than **26 July 2004**.

Organizers
Eric Paulos ~~ Intel Research Berkeley
Ken Anderson ~~ Intel PaPR
Anthony Townsend ~~ NYU Taub Urban Research Center

Dates

Position Papers Due	26 July
Notification of Acceptance	2 August
Camera Ready Due	27 August