



The Real Times

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December 2007

GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting Tuesday, December 11th, 2007

The Open Cell Project: Analysis, Design and Construction of Simple Living Systems

Speaker: Tom Knight, MIT CSAIL
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Location: Broad Institute Auditorium

Details: <http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/semI-nfo.php?id=1141>

Joint meeting of Boston/Central New England Chapter of IEEE Computer Society and GBC/ACM (cosponsored and hosted by the Broad Institute)

Overview: The science of biology typically studies systems at a level of complexity far beyond our understanding. As we attempt to approach biology from an engineering perspective, this complexity becomes a major impediment to progress. As engineers, our approach is to design and build systems from well-understood, simple parts, assembled with tried and true techniques. My recent work has centered on the understanding and modification of a particularly simple living system -- one which could be said to be barely alive. I'll explain how we are approaching the level of understanding of this organism necessary for its engineering, and how we hope to create an open access platform for construction of novel and simple living systems.

Lecturer's Biography: TK has been extending

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GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting Thursday, January 17th, 2008

Client Side Story: Enhancing Experiences with Ajax, RIAs, and Browser-side Intelligence

Speaker: Jared M. Spool,
User Interface Engineering
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: IBM Innovation Center

Directions: The IBM Innovation Center is located at 404 Wyman Street, Waltham. There is free parking in the garage at the north end of the building. To reach the meeting room, walk out the front of the garage and around to your right to the front door of the building. Directions to the room will be available when you sign in at the front desk.

Details: <http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/semI-nfo.php?id=1142>

Joint meeting of Boston/Central New England Chapter of IEEE Computer Society and GBC/ACM

Overview: Browser-side development capabilities, such as Javascript, Ajax, and Rich-Internet Applications (RIAs), (along with the latest additions: Adobe's AIR and Microsoft's Silverlight,) present developers with tremendous power. We can create more fluid interactions, moving away from the dreaded page refresh, giving users an experience more like the desktop applications they are used to.

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Please check for any last-minute changes to meeting arrangements by visiting the
GBC/ACM website <http://www.gbcaacm.org> before the meeting.

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Timely notices of events, meetings, and other activities of interest to the Chapter's Membership should be submitted by the 10th of the month Before the intended issue and emailed to: editor@gbcacm.org

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Dec 2007/Jan 2008 Meetings

Software Quality Group of New England (SQGNE)

Topic: Managing Up: Communicating the Value of Testing Throughout the Organization

Speaker: Dan Koloski, Empirix

Date/Time: Wednesday, December 12th, 2007, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

6:00 - 6:30 Networking

6:30 - 8:00 Business and Presentation

Location: Sun Microsystems, Burlington, MA

Transforming into Security Testers, January 9th, 2008, Marc Rene

Agile: Adopting a New Methodology at Harvard Business School, Sarah Olivier, Susan Borges, Jennifer Gilmore, February 13th, 2008

Using Customer Surveys to focus Software Quality Improvement, Peter Schulz & Lisa Arnold, Cisco, March 12th 2008

Boston Area Windows Server User Group

Topic: Microsoft Deployments in an iSCSI SAN Environment, Equal-Logic & Wireless Project - 802.11, GPS, WEP Encryption and Cracking, Presentation by Lou Labrecque of Astaro

Date/Time: Wednesday, December 5th, 2007, 6:00 pm

Location: Microsoft, Waltham, MA

Directions: <http://www.microsoft.com/mscorp/info/usaoffices/newengland/waltham.mspx>

Boston Linux and Unix Group

Topic: Astaro Security Gateway: a Linux-based security appliance, Pete Stagman, Senior Systems Engineer

Location: MIT Building E-51, Room 315

Time and Date: Wednesday, December 19, 2007 - 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Details: <http://www.blu.org/cgi-bin/calendar/2007-dec>

Wed, Jan 16, 2008 :: FOSS Enterprise Security Tools, Josh Abraham, Northeastern University

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PLEASE READ

Starting with January 2007 - we have switched from a hard to soft copy of the Real Times. In order to send you notification of the Newsletter posting, we need your email address. We are asking members to send their email address to membership@gbcacm.org.

Please include your first and last name, if you would like to receive email copy/notification of the Real Times soft copy.

The GBC/ACM will not disclose your email address outside the chapter without your permission. Please check our privacy policy at:

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GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting
Thursday, January 17th, 2008
Client Side Story: Enhancing Experiences with
Ajax, RIAs, and Browser-side Intelligence

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As more sites move to using these capabilities, developers are exploring the canvas -- seeing what works and what doesn't. Through this exploration, we've discovered patterns and principals to help guide us to make better designs going forward.

In this presentation, Jared will talk about the different approaches developers have taken with these new capabilities. He'll discuss:

- What smart clients bring us, such as enhanced progressive disclosure, visualization, and efficiency capabilities?
- What we can learn from game design for creating immersive experiences?
- What are the common traps developers fall into when they start playing with these technologies?

He'll show examples from Flickr, Google, Yahoo!, Netflix, Lands End, Gap, and LA Times, deconstructing their use of these new development capabilities to help us understand how we can apply them to our own designs.

Lecturer's Biography: If you've ever seen Jared speak about usability, you know that he's probably the most effective, knowledgeable communicator on the subject today. What you probably don't know is that he has guided the research agenda and built User Interface Engineering into the largest research organization of its kind in the world. He's been working in the field of usability and design since 1978, before the term "usability" was ever associated with computers.

Jared spends his time working with the research teams at the company, helps clients understand how to solve their design problems, explains to reporters and industry analysts what the current state of design

is all about, and is a top-rated speaker at more than 20 conferences every year. He is also the conference chair and keynote speaker at the annual User Interface Conference, is on the faculty of the Tufts University Gordon Institute, and manages to squeeze in a fair amount of writing time.

GBC/ACM and IEEE CS Meeting
Tuesday, December 11th, 2007
The Open Cell Project: Analysis, Design
and Construction of Simple Living
Systems

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the reach of computer science in new directions for several decades. You can find more information on Tom Knight's web page at <http://www.csail.mit.edu/biographies/PI/bioprint.php?PeopleID=2033>.

The meeting will be held at the Broad Institute Auditorium. MIT Building NE30 (also known as the Broad Institute) is next to the Whitehead Institute on Main St. between Vassar and Ames Streets. You can find it on MIT's map server at http://whereis.mit.edu/map-jpg?selection=L13;selectlayer=Landmarks;selectfie_id=Loc_ID;zoom=level2;centerx=711002;centery=496995. The main auditorium is on the first floor near the entrance. More detailed directions are available at <http://www.broad.mit.edu/info/visiting.html>. the social forms of data analysis it enables.

Upcoming conferences of interest

The SpringExperience: Interface21 and NoFluffJustStuff Java Symposiums (NFJS) are pleased to announce The Spring Experience, the first ever conference exclusively for the Spring Framework community. This international event will take place December 07 - 10, 2005 at the Sheraton Bal Harbour Beach Resort in South Florida. To register reference the JUG promo code: tse2007jug100 which will gives all NEJUG members a \$100 discount good thru November 5th.

Pearson's Google Web Toolkit (GWT) conference in San Fran (December 3-6, 2007): Google Web Toolkit enables developers to use their favorite Java tools to build AJAX applications without having to tackle the steep learning curve and quirks of JavaScript and CSS. The Voices That Matter: Google Web Toolkit Conference will insure you understand why this is so and how you can leverage the power and functionality of GWT for your applications. Best of all, NEJUG members are entitled to a \$100 discount off any core conference package if you enter 'GW-GATL' as the priority code.

Boston CHI

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education includes extensive work in the visual and theatrical arts at Carnegie-Mellon and The Cranbrook School before going to the MIT Media Lab.

Tinsley was the first person to receive his Ph.D. from the Interactive Cinema group at the MIT Media Lab, where he worked to evolve cinematic storytelling techniques for use in interactive experiences. While there he produced a short animated piece that was theatrically released, directed a virtual reality exhibit for the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, and published a number of papers in the fields of computer graphics, human computer interfaces and artificial intelligence.

Shortly after leaving the Media Lab Tinsley worked as a freelance New Media Designer. In 1996, Tinsley founded Nearlife. Nearlife is known for its work leveraging the power of new technologies to create unique entertainment and educational experiences for clients. These clients include Intel, Hewlett-Packard, British Telecom, AT&T, Museum of Science & Industry Chicago, Boston Museum of Science, The Millennium

Boston SPIN

Topic: Software Security Weaknesses - Avoiding and Testing

Date: Tuesday, December 18, 2007,
6:00 PM-8:30 PM

Speaker: Robert A. Martin

Venue: MITRE, Bedford, MA

Abstract: Most organizations want assurance that their software has been tested for known security issues. Government, in conjunction with industry and academia are working together to make this economical and effective. The acquisition groups in large government and private organizations are moving to require that this type of testing be part of future contracts. The tools and services that can be used for evaluating source code, design, and architecture are maturing, however, there are no standards defining these types of capabilities. This lack of defined standards leaves open the question of which tool/service is appropriate/better for a particular job and how effective they are. Government, industry, and academia are working together to develop a dictionary of software weakness types and an assessment approach to help mature this new code-based security assessment industry, and dramatically accelerate the use and utility of these capabilities in testing the software systems they acquire, develop, and use. Discover all this at the December 18th meeting of Boston SPIN.

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Online chapter membership signup and renewal now available!

We can now offer chapter membership signup and renewal payments online using Google checkout. The annual chapter membership fee is still currently \$10.00 and you can pay for multiple years. The membership payment page is located at the following URL.

<http://www.gbcaacm.org/website/renew/>

If you have any questions, please contact the membership volunteer at membership@gbcaacm.org

Boston SPIN

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About the Speaker : Robert A. Martin is a Principal Engineer at MITRE, a not-for-profit company that works in partnership with the government to address issues of critical national importance. For the past 16 years, Robert's efforts have been focused on the interplay of risk management, cyber security, quality assessment and the use of software-based technologies. The majority of this time has been spent working on the CVE, OVAL, and CWE family of security initiatives and assessing the quality and security risks within software systems. Robert is a frequent speaker on the various quality and security issues surrounding software systems at a variety of public forums and he has published numerous papers on these topics. Robert joined MITRE in 1981 with a bachelor's and master's in Electrical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, later he earned an MBA from Babson College.

Integrated System Framework for Excellence, Lisa Adams, January 15 2008

What's up RUP, Joe Krebs, February 19 2008

Using Software Configuration Management to Enable Agility, Steve Berczuk, March 18 2008

Cave Dwellers and Chatterboxes: Demystifying Introversion and Extraversion, Naomi Karten, TBD
Joint meeting with ASQ

Project Management Isn't Enough: Essentials of Effective Sponsorship, Payson Hall, May 20, 2008

Boston CHI

Topic: The Computer Behind the Curtain: Disguising Technology as Magic

Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2007 - 6:30 PM

Speaker: Tinsley Galyean, Nearlife

Venue: MIT Stata Center, Room E32-123, 32 Vassar Street, Cambridge, MA

Refreshments at 6:30 pm. Meeting at 7:00 pm. Meetings are free and open to the public. Please RSVP when possible to BostonCHI@sun.com (Those who have not RSVP'd are always welcome.)

A photo ID is required to gain admittance to Sun. Wheel chair accessible.

Abstract: Over the years we have had the privilege of developing a number of unique interactive experiences for a variety of different clients including: MoMA, Museum of Science Boston, Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, Cirque du soleil, HP, Warner Brothers, Discovery Channel, and Disney. These projects have been about using technology to doing something that has never been done before. As designers we are tasked with finding ways to use this technology to not only make the experience a reality but to make it feel like magic. To do this, technology needs to be invisible and the visitor has to accept it as magic. I will show a number of our projects from over the years and use them to illustrate a series of principles that have helped us to create this magic.

Bio: Tinsley Galyean's education spanned both art and technology long before it was considered a good career move. In addition to his B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and Sc.M. in Computer Graphics from Brown University, his

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Call for Volunteers

There are many opportunities to help in the GBC-ACM. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please review the current volunteer opportunities listed below. If anything appeals to you or if you have a skill you would like to share, please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Jay Conne, M:(617) 470-5038, volunteer@gbcacm.org

Newsletter co-editor
Membership Chair

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

BostonPHP User Group

Topic: Developing, pricing and delivering OSS applications

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 8th, 2008, 6:30pm

Location: IBM/Lotus
1 Rogers Street
Cambridge, MA 02142

Map: <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=1+Rogers+Street+Cambridge+MA+02142+USA&hl=en>

Your software chops are sharp; you've got the latest in hardware and development tools; now for that minor point: how do you price, develop and deliver the project without losing your shirt, pulling your hair out, or ending up in court.

Join BostonPHP and Cliff Hirsch (owner Pinestream Communications) as he describes the journey of a bootstrapped, entrepreneurial OSS development effort that seems to have followed "the flight path of a house fly". Cliff is a great guy and great speaker. Active on both the BostonPHP and NYPHP mailing lists and never one to shy away from controversy, Cliff's submissions always getting a lot of traction. This promises to be a fun and interesting discussion.

Cliff Hirsch is the president of Pinestream Communications, a publisher of newsletters focused on semiconductor and next generation network startups and emerging technologies for the investment community. He is over educated, possessing B.S, M.B.A, and Master of Electrical Engineering degrees from Cornell University, and spent the early years of his career immersed in the semiconductor industry.

So why is Hirsch presenting to BostonPHP? Several years ago, he had a web "idea" and absolutely no clue what that meant. By trial and fire, he learned...as old people do...slowly and painfully... He will openly share his many lessons with you:

- He figured out that PHP is a better web language than Fortran
- He wonders why Ruby was off the radar of his initial language analysis
- He laments the lack of Frameworks when he started out

- He wrote a mountain of code himself
- He scrapped a mountain of code written by others
- He wonders why he still writes code since he should be a manager at his age
- He outsourced to a 15 year old, India, Romania, Bulgaria and Russia
- He purchased and scrapped off-the shelf software
- He purchased and integrated off-the-shelf software
- He mastered Zend Studio and wonders how others live without it
- He wow'd himself with his first AJAX functionality
- He spent no small fortune on books, conferences and other training
- He learned the horrors of encoders
- He slipped so many deadlines he no longer quotes a launch date
- He battles with the schizo I'm the artistic coder, I'm the business man dilemma
- And he learned many, many other lessons the hard way

February User Group:: Choosing an OSS license to match your business model/community

Wednesday, February 6th, 2008, 6:30pm

- Karen Copenhaver - Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP
- Ira Heffen - topcoder.com

March User Group:: An in depth view of Drupal

Last year Moshe Wietzman gave us a tour, this time Barry Jaspan will take us for a deeper dive.

NEJUG - The New England Java Users Group

Topics: SOA Using Java Web Services

Date/Time: Thursday, January 10th, 2008,
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Speaker(s): Mark Hansen

Location: Sun Microsystems Burlington Campus

Directions: http://nejug.org/directions_sun.jsp

Overview: During the meeting Mark Hansen will offer his insights on developing Web Services using Java. Some of the specific topics he will be touching on will include:

- Practical techniques for managing the complexity of Web services and SOA, including best-practice design examples
- Insights into building effective SOA applications with Java Web Services
- Illuminate recent major JWS improvements
- Discuss SOA integration using WSDL, SOAP, Java/XML mapping, and JAXB 2.0 data binding
- Provide a series of examples using the JWS APIs

About the speaker: Mark Hansen, Ph.D., is a software developer, consultant, and entrepreneur. His company, Javector Software, provides consulting and software application development focused on Web services. Mark is also a content developer for Project GlassFish and has developed the open source SOA-J application framework for WSDL-centric Web services development.

Previously, Mark was a visiting scholar at MIT, researching

applications for process and data integration using Web services technology. Prior to that, Mark was an executive vice president for Xpedior, Inc., a leading provider of e-business consulting services. He joined Xpedior when they acquired his consulting firm, Kinderhook Systems.

Mark founded Kinderhook in 1993 to develop custom Internet solutions for Fortune 1000 firms in the New York metropolitan area. Prior to founding Kinderhook Systems, Hansen was a founder and vice president of technology for QDB Solutions, Inc., a software firm providing tools for data integrity management in corporate data warehouses.

Mark's work has been featured in publications such as the Wall Street Journal, Information Week, Computer World, Database Management, Database Programming and Design, Business Communications Review, EAI Journal, and IntelligentEnterprise.

Mark earned a Ph.D. from the MIT Laboratory for Computer Science, a master's degree from the MIT Sloan School of Management and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Cornell University.

Mark and his wife, Lorraine, live in Scarsdale, New York, with their three children, Elizabeth, Eric, and Emily.

JBOSS ESB Deep Dive with Kurt Stam and Burr Sutter, March 13, 2008

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Dec 11th	<i>Boston CHI - The Computer Behind the Curtain: Disguising Technology as Magic - Tinsley Galyean, Nearlife - 6:30pm</i>	MIT Stata Center, E32-123 Cambridge, MA	Page 5
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Dec 19th	Boston Linux and Unix Group - <i>Astaro Security Gateway: a Linux-based security appliance, Pete Stagman, Senior Systems Engineer - 7:00pm to 9:00 pm</i>	MIT Building E-51, Room 315	Page 2
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