

Preface

Pen-based technologies (e.g., Tablet PC, PDAs, digital pen and paper) provide novel opportunities to develop more natural interaction and collaboration, enriched by multimodal, multi-party feedback and communication.

The impact of these changes on teaching, studying, learning and communication can be profound and it is important to develop an understanding of the factors that can determine the successful application of pen-based technology to learning and instruction. This requires conceptual, methodological, pedagogical and technical innovation. This can in turn inform the design and development of next generation pen-based learning tools, going beyond simple sharing of digital ink between students and teachers to increasingly collaborative learning paradigms and increasingly sophisticated ways to support learners with different needs.

This workshop (PLT 2007, 1st International Workshop on Pen-based Learning Technologies) brings together researchers and practitioners interested in any aspect of design, development, deployment and evaluation of the next generation of pen-based learning technologies (PBLTs). The goal of the workshop is to advance our understanding of how to make optimal use of PBLTs, of the next technical challenges to be solved, and to elucidate the relationship between pen-based interfaces and pedagogy, learning tasks, and learning settings.

Topics of interest of PLT include but are not limited to: Annotation and note-taking support; Assessment of learning; Collaborative interactions; Digital pen and paper; Feedback, Intelligent pen-based interfaces (e.g., sketch and diagram understanding); Mobility; Multimodal interaction, Novel pedagogical models; Organizational issues (from content design and development to delivery to assessment); Usability studies, Case studies of practice.

The accepted contributions address interesting combinations of the topics above, and we have grouped them under these broad headings:

- Software tools and classroom pedagogy
- Sketch-based interaction
- Pen-based and drawing technology
- Tablet PCs in Engineering, Mathematics and Science
- Feedback and graphical annotations
- Mobility and Lifelong Learning.

We thank all the members of the Programme Committee for reviewing the submissions and providing valuable feedback to the authors.

Our feeling is that PLT'07 has initiated a fruitful and stimulating interdisciplinary dialogue linking communities traditionally working in separate areas, and we look forward to a next edition of this workshop.

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