



Center for
**LifeLong
Learning
& Design**

University of Colorado at Boulder

**Wisdom is not the product of schooling
but the lifelong attempt to acquire it.**

- Albert Einstein

Increasing Participation and Sustaining a Research Community in 'Creativity and IT'

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NSF CreativeIT PI Workshop, January 2009

Research Methodology

basic research on real problems

Basic Research

- **objective:** create an analytic framework to exploit cultures of participation to understand and support social creativity

- **next generation wikis**
 - evaluate **success stories:** open source, Wikipedia, 3D Warehouse
 - **failure stories:** many wikis dead on arrival (e.g.: “Science of Design”)
 - predominantly text → supporting **different media types**
 - **tension/trade-off:** Wikis = “The simplest online database that could possibly work” ↔ rich functionality means more demands on the participants
 - content management systems → **participative systems**

Real Problem: The CreativeIT Wiki



CreativeIT

looks | view | edit | uploads | versions | print | home | changes | search | account

CreativeIT Wiki

- [Home Page](#)
- [About This Wiki](#)
- [Help](#)
- [Community Participants](#)
- [Discussion Forum](#)
- [Gallery](#)
- [Research Resources](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [CHI 2009 Panel on Creativity](#)
- [Grad-Student Community](#)
- [Success Factors Workshop](#)
- [Conferences](#)
- [Exhibitions](#)
- [MakaBlog](#)

CreativeIT Program

- [Program Description](#)
- [NSF Presentations](#)
- [Exploratory Projects](#)

News of the Week:

- The [Program for the 2008 CreativeIT Program PI Meeting](#) is available.



Recent Changes

13 January 2009

- [Program for the 2008...](#)

12 January 2009

- [Sheila Tejada](#)
- [Community Participan...](#)

9 January 2009

- [CHI'2009 Panel Discu...](#)

7 January 2009

- [Finding Roommates](#)
- [PI Workshop Page](#)

6 January 2009

- [Literature](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [AAAI Symposium on Cr...](#)
- [List of 2008 funded ...](#)
- [SGER: Learning to De...](#)

[Full Recent Listing](#)

RSS Feeds

- [page feed](#)
- [site feed](#)

Real Problem

- **objective:** create an extensive socio-technical environment (one stop shopping, anchor point, historical account,): useful, usable, reliable, informative, up-to-date, inspiring,
- create **rich seeds** to reach a “tipping point”
- tie the CreativeIT community together **indefinitely** (beyond the CreativeIT program at NSF)
- the current CreativeIT Wiki served **several activities** including:
 - original NSF workshop (Nov 2006)
 - NSF workshop in Arizona (Jan 2008)
 - this workshop, ... (Jan 2009)

Assessment

- the **threshold** to get started was too high
- the perceived **value and benefits** to participate need to be substantially increased
- media and attention **competition**
- the prototype in its current form succeeds as a content management systems but provides **little support for community discussion**;
- the existing seed is still too impoverished to come close to reach a **“tipping point”** of broad-based participation → the involvement of the community at large remained limited

Current Research Agenda

- better support for **finding** important existing information and highlighting **opportunities for collaboration**
- making **ongoing changes** (providing the rationale for participants to return on a regular basis) easier to recognize
- include **examples, models, and tutorials** of how to design interesting contributions (specifically for new users)
- explore **pro-active efforts** from the developing team to act as facilitators and mediators to encourage and invite participation (e.g.: events, featured projects of the week)
- support **targeted communities** (e.g.: PhD students working on creativity)

The New Wiki: migration to more sustainable, extensible substrate

Navigation: Edit Show Print Actions Watch Administration

NSF CreativeIT

Main: Welcome to the CreativeIT wiki!

Welcome to the CreativeIT wiki!

Please join and contribute to this community resource.

Map of the wiki

```
graph LR; WebHome((WebHome)) --- Dashboard[Dashboard]; WebHome --- RssFeeds[RssFeeds]; WebHome --- EventCalendar[EventCalendar]; WebHome --- Workshops[Workshops]; WebHome --- CommunityParticipants[Community Participants]; WebHome --- AboutThisWiki[About this wiki]; WebHome --- NSFProgram[NSF CreativeIT Program]; WebHome --- ResearchResources[Research Resources]; WebHome --- DiscussionForum[Discussion Forum]; WebHome --- WhatsNew[WhatsNew]; WebHome --- Tags[Tags]; WebHome --- WebSearch[WebSearch]; WebHome --- AllDocs[AllDocs]; WebHome --- Conferences[Conferences]; WebHome --- Gallery[Gallery]; WebHome --- Exhibitions[Exhibitions]; WebHome --- GradStudentCommunity[Grad Student Community]; WebHome --- CHI2009[CHI 2009 Panel on Creativity];
```

Quick Links: Home, Index, What's New, Blog, Calendar, Photo Albums, Sandbox, Tags

Community Pages: Workshops, Conferences, Community Participants, Gallery, Exhibitions, Research Resources, Grad Student Community, NSF Creative IT Program, About this wiki

My Recent Modifications: NSF CreativeIT Program, Welcome to the CreativeIT wiki!, Space Index, Discussion Forum, Community Participants

Create: New Page*, Name, Create

Hal Eden Log-out