Societal and ethical implications of ICT

Diane Whitehouse
Chair, IFIP WG9.2

At IFIP WG9.2, SIG 9.2.2, and British Computer Society ethics group event
IFIP and its work

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Middlesex University,
Hendon Town Hall, London
Technical committee 9 – ICT and Society

- WG 9.1 Computers and Work
- WG 9.2 Social Accountability and ICT
- SIG 9.2.2 Framework on Ethics of Computing
- WG 9.3 Home Oriented Informatics and Telematics
- WG 9.4 Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries
- WG 9.5 Applications and Social Implications of Virtual Worlds
- WG 9.6/11.7 Information Technology: Misuse and The Law
- WG 9.7 History of Computing
- WG 9.8 Gender and Information Technology
- WG 9.9 ICT and Sustainable Development
- WG 9.10 Peace and War and ICT
Technical Committee 9 on ICT and Society – Its remit

• To develop an understanding of how ICT innovation is associated with change in society;

• To influence the shaping of socially responsible and ethical policies and professional practices.
Social accountability and computing

- Awareness of the social consequences
- Determining how well the public is served
- Making human choices which take into account human needs and wishes

- computer professionals, designers
- academics and researchers
- evaluators, assessors

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IFIP - new domain committee on cloud computing (DCCC)

• Launched in September 2014
• Has drafted a first draft document for the IFIP Board in November 2014
• Awaiting feedback from an upcoming IFIP Board meeting in March 2014
• Founded by N. Patrignani (chair), D. Velev (vice-chair), L. Chang (secretary).
Social accountability and computing: IFIP WG9.2
Awareness-raising, education and research
Application areas

Examples from Digital Agenda for Europe – ICT benefits for society

- Cultural diversity
- Environment/sustainability
- eGovernment
- Healthcare, and dignified independent living
- Intelligent transport
- International relations
- What or who it is to be a human being?
Three years of activities (1)

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Three years of activities (II)

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Converging Technologies: body, brain, and being

An international conference, Maribor, Slovenia, May 17-18, 2010
Slide and images thanks to Marc van Lieshout, TNO, Netherlands

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From enabling to disruptive technologies
From humanism to trans-humanism
From user to co-producer

Slide and images thanks to Marc van Lieshout, TNO, Netherlands
Human Choice and Computers international conference (HCC11)
http://www.hcc11.net

• How ICT innovation is associated with change in society. In 2014, the conference series celebrated its forty-year history.

• Human Choice and Computers works to shape socially responsible/ethical policies and professional practices in the information society.

• See Springer-Verlag volume (Kimppa et al, 2014)
Provisional title: "Intimacy and technology"

- The conference welcomes inputs from members of academia and research, civic society, computing associations, industry, and the IT professions.
From distant mainframes to personal computers to handhelds to wearable tech and implanted devices, postwar technology seems on an unstoppable trajectory to get nearer and nearer to us, our bodies, and the most intimate details of our lives. ... HCC12 and aims to examine and scrutinise both this journey towards the self and the stage we have now reached. What is the impact of this journey and where are we going next?

- Intimacy - Location - Proxemics - Wearables - Implantables - Data Warfare
- Personalisation - Identity - Data - Marketing - UX/HCI & Design
- Customisation - Material Culture - Digital printing - Kit
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URL for WG9.2 http://ifipwg92.org/