Human-Computer Interaction Design
Project 3.A Diversity & Social Inclusion Systems
Tuesday September 29th 2009

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Project
Find or create your own images or illustrations of existing or currently imagined social mechanisms which (i) promote diversity and so serve as positive examples or (ii) discourage diversity and so serve as counter-positive examples or (iii) which raise questions or provide insights into the issues associated with diversity. This is the research part of the project—we are looking for your design research rather than your own creative concepts.

Choose three contrasting images or illustrations. At least one of your choices must be connected to digital technologies in some way.

Explain why your choices contrast and what’s interesting about them in any terms relating to HCID. The following notions may be particularly helpful: social mechanisms of awareness; online communities; social interactions; cultural human factors; HCI and education.

Format:
Your project must be presented on a single landscape mode page in pdf format, for both the initial rough first iteration and the final form completed project. You may include auxiliary files of other media types, as instructed in class. Upload your work to oncourse, as instructed in class. Be certain to reference all of your sources accurately and completely.

The example on the page that follows gives an idea of what a design research project could look like for the purposes of this class assignment. The example is by no means the most ideal project—yours should not be longer, but it can be more compelling and interesting than the example. In particular, this week I have not attempted to make the sketch correspond to the final project examples and neither the sketch nor final examples should be taken as best examples.

DUE Wednesday September 30th no later than 23:59: An initial rough SKETCH first iteration of your ideas for how you will complete this project.

DUE Tuesday October 6th no later than 11:15: A FINAL form completed project.
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<th>Equality of opportunity</th>
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| Historical realities |
The lotus festival which takes place in Bloomington every year is a public celebration of different cultures through music. Is the unity we feel one-to-another with respect to cultural arts and music enough to overcome politics that foster inequalities of opportunity?

This diversity awareness poster was used to promote a meeting to discuss diversity. This one seems strange in that its use of a single contrasting figure (lower right) might represent tokenism as much as sensitivity to under-represented minorities.

The ACM-W Council Women in Computing News Blog promotes community among those concerned with increasing gender-balanced participation in computing. How does gender-balance or imbalance make a difference to the quality of a scientific community? Is there actual data available about these effects?
Primary Attributions
The motion of diversity as a suitable class project topic, especially the idea that online social networking communities to promote diversity might have been an interesting design challenge for this class is due to Maureen Biggers.

Secondary Attributions
Image of Bloomington Indiana Lotus Festival (source: http://www.flickr.com/photos/wfiupublicradio/3962034358/ @ 9.29.09 under creative commons license)
Image of Diversity Awareness Poster (source: http://www.flickr.com/photos/perryej/430976116/ @ 9.29.09 under creative commons license)
Screenshot of ACM-W Council Women in Computing News Blog (source: http://acmwnews.blogspot.com/ @ 9.29.09)