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1 CORE award nominations

In addition to best student paper prizes at ACSW CORE makes the following awards:

- CORE Teaching Award
- John Makepeace Bennett award for the Australasian Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation
- The Chris Wallace award for outstanding Research Contribution
- The John Hughes Distinguished Service Award (bi-annual, last awarded 2015)

We have decided to adjust the timeline for nominations and decisions regarding these awards, to enable more timely planning for presentation of the awards at ACSW, and possibly an invited talk by one or more of the award winners. Calls for nominations will be made shortly, with an expected closing date of mid September. So please think about nominations!

2 Labour science network

Register interest for contributing on policy issues around K-12 ICT education.

CORE was invited to a pre-launch event in Sydney, of the new Labour Science Network (www.laborsciencenetwork.com/) that is an attempt by the Labour Party to actively engage with the science community around Labor policy in relevant areas. Aditya Ghose attended on behalf of CORE and they then followed up asking which issues we may want to lead or contribute to workshops on. We have indicated that K-12 ICT education is a key issue for our community, and one where there is considerable expertise. We are now collecting details of people interested in contributing, and details of information and expertise about specific initiatives that have been trialled and/or evaluated. Please contact lin.padgham@rmit.edu.au if you would like to participate, or can provide relevant information. Please also let me know if there are other key issues where you think CORE should take an active lead and where you are interested to be involved.

3 Journal rankings

- Portal
A journals ranking portal with the 08 entries from the ERA 2010 journal ranking, is now available at <http://103.1.187.206/core/journals/>¹. We aim to have this updated following submissions, to provide the CORE 2015 journal ranking, by December 2015.
- Ranking submissions
CORE will shortly be calling for submissions for additions or changes to the journal ranking list. This will be submitted via a web interface. All required data must be supplied before a submission will be accepted. Please note that requests for a ranking upgrade, or for ranking of a new addition, require detailed data for 2 comparator venues in the same general area, which are at the rank being requested, but are considered to be inferior.

¹This is a temporary address, pending setup of sub-domain.

The committee recognizes that submissions do require considerable effort. However, in order for decisions to be made based on data, someone must collect that data. Distributing this work across the community is the most feasible approach. Those wishing to see a particular ranking change will hopefully be willing to invest the time to provide the data for the proposed change to be considered by a committee in an informed manner. Comparator journal data will also be reviewed by the committee, and may on occasion lead to a ranking change for those venues.

As with the conference list, all submission data will be stored into the portal database, along with the committee decision and a brief justification.

4 Where (good) people publish

CORE has developed a tool to analyse which journals (or conferences) a specific group of people tend to publish at. By providing a list of outstanding people in a given area of Computer Science, the tool can provide useful data on where they tend to publish. This data will form part of the data collection for journal/conference rankings. The underlying data source is DBLP. The tool can be found at the temporary address http://103.1.187.206:48884/journal_ranking. Thanks to Rene Fischer for implementation.

5 Conference rankings collaborations

The CORE conference rankings are highly regarded and used internationally. Average queries per day has risen from about 1000 when the portal first came on line late 2013, to average over 2,500/day the last 4 months. During the past month we have had interactions with 2 international groups around use of these rankings and collaborations.

- Springer
Alex Birukou, Springer's in-house editor in Computer Science, contacted us about referencing CORE ranking data in Springer's Linked Open Data portal (<http://lod.springer.com/wiki/bin/view/Linked+Open+Data/About>). They also suggested that they will be obtaining data about conferences, such as links to proceedings of conference series, which we may like to link to.
- GII-GRIN Computer Science and Computer Engineering Rating
This is a national Italian conference ranking, found at <http://valutazione.unibas.it/cs-conference-rating/>, developed by GII (Group of Italian Professors of Computer Engineering) and GRIN (Group of Italian Professors of Computer Science). It uses the CORE ranking as one piece of input data, along with two other rankings. We have had discussions and exchanges of information, and they have kindly provided us with a list of conferences where the CORE rank is higher or lower than both the other rankings. This will provide us with a list of conferences we may want to pro-actively review. They have also given us a list of duplicates they found in our database, which we will be addressing.

6 Miscellaneous other items

- ACSW 2018: we will soon be asking for expressions of interest. 2018 can be anywhere in Australia other than Victoria. Please think about volunteering.
- Chris Johnson has replaced Tony Koppi as Executive Officer of ACDICT.
- Alan Fekete made a CORE presentation on HE cCS curriculum at ACDICT via skype, as he had the flu and was not well enough to travel to the meeting. Chris Johnson assisted by changing the slides and it apparently all went well. Thanks to Alan and Chris.
- There is an interesting special issue of Nature on STEM education:
<http://www.nature.com/news/the-scientist-of-the-future-1.17965>