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The Other Side of Technology

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Editorial Preface

Issue 5.3 of Psychnology Journal and some other issues in 2008 will include selected works presented at CHItaly07 (http://www.chitaly.org), the Fifth Symposium on Human-Computer Interaction sponsored by the Italian Chapter of ACM Special Interest Group on Human-Computer Interaction. The spirit of the symposium was to offer a place where HCI researchers could meet and present their work to other colleagues from Italy and abroad; in doing so, the attendants could also take advantage of two parallel events focused on ergonomics and e-Health respectively, and of the presence of three keynote speakers illustrating as different issues as design and interactivity (David Kirsh from UCSD), collaboration technology (Steven Poltrock from Boeing) and Cybertherapy (Brenda Wiederhold from Interactive Media Institute, San Diego and Brussels).

PsychNology Journal always tries to represent the rich heterogeneity of issues that gravitate around the human relation with technologies, without disciplinary or thematic limits. CHItaly07 contributions, transformed into peer reviewed articles for PNJ, reflect this heterogeneity. In this issue we will include a work on assistive robots for elderly users in domestic environments (by Amedeo Cesta, Gabriella Cortellessa, M. Vittoria Giuliani ,Federico Pecora, Massimiliano Scopelliti and Lorenza Tiberio); a museum application of an interactive multimedia tool (Davide Bolchini, Nicoletta Di Blas, Franca Garzotto, Paolo Paolini and Aldo Torrebruno); a teachers-to-be discussion group (Valentina Grion and Bianca Maria Varisco); and a risk management solutions identified by Fabiana Vernero and Roberto Montanari.

In addition to the papers by CHItaly07, readers will find in the 'Other Contents' section an insightful analysis of the possible similarities between Free Software and gift-exchange societies, by Andres Baravalle and Sarah Chambers.

With this issue we would also like to welcome four new editors who will help us covering more aspects of the large field we are targeting as a Journal. They are Ramakoti Sadananda from Rangsit University in Bangkok (Thailand), Paul F.M.J. Verschure from Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona (Spain), Albert "Skip" Rizzo from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles (USA) and Giulio Jacucci from the Helsinki Institute for Information Technology (Finland).

Finally, we are proud to announce that PNJ contents will be indexed by EBSCO; this agreement will give our authors an additional opportunity to increase the visibility of their work in the scientific community.

The Editors-in-Chief