Report on Knowledge Media Design Institute

Collaborative Program (KMD-CP)

Courses
The KMD-CP offered eight courses from the Summer 2011 Session to the Spring 2012 Session:

Summer 2011
- **KMD 2004**: Knowledge Media, Culture & Society “Designing Disruptive Technologies” taught by Joseph Ferenbok
- **KMD3000**: Individual Reading Course taught by Joseph Ferenbok

Fall 2011
- **KMD1001**: KMD Fundamental Concepts taught by Kostas Plataniotis
- **KMD2001**: Human-Centred Design taught by Katherine Sellen with Prof. Mark Chignell as the Instructor-of-Record.

Spring 2012
- **KMD1002**: KMD: Contexts and Practice "Pro Seminar in KMD - Values & Design Communities" taught by Karen Smith with Prof. Peter Pennefather as the Instructor-of-Record.
- **KMD2002**: Technologies for Knowledge Media taught by Katherine Sellen with Prof. Mark Chignell as the Instructor-of-Record.
- **KMD2003**: Knowledge Media & Learning /TPS1447H Technology in Education: Philosophical Issues, taught by Megan Boler.
- **KMD2004**: Knowledge Media, Culture & Society taught by Steve Szgeti.

KMD Workshops
The CP developed a series of workshops titled the Radical Design Thinking Series. The Series, facilitated by KMDI members and students, used embodied experiential thinking to generate unexpected approaches to problem solving. Each workshop led participants through aspects of the design processes focused on human-centred collaborative and iterative solutions that are triggered by visual thinking, tactile manipulation, and use of prosthetics.

The 2011-12 Radical Design Thinking Series
- **Movement Creation: Perspectives from HCI Research and Dance** - Dr. Danielle Lottridge, Anuka, with guest Prof. Mark Chignell (December 6, 2011)
- **Malleable Designs: Using Play-Doh to Design the Future** - Mike Tissenbaum (February 15, 2012)
- **Moving Networks: Designing Social Systems for Social Change** – Nina Czegledy, with guest speaker Greg Judelman (March 6, 2012)
KMD Development
KMD 1001 #9 Art Train Project
In June of 2012, a Go Train car will be wrapped in by the No.9 project and will become art in motion. The installation is planned to travel all seven of the Go Train’s routes for a period of six months. No.9’s Art Train is “art in motion”, but its motion is to promote positive environmental change. Knowledge Media Design Collaborative Program graduate students in KMD1001 have been challenged to answer: How can art and media be used in the No.9 Art Train to enhance the user experience and promote positive environmental change?

Director Search
As of May 1st 2011, the Collaborative Program has appointed Peter Pennefather as interim Director of and continuing until June 30, 2012, or until such time as a Knowledge Media Design Collaborative Program Director is appointed and takes office.

Outreach
This year KMD CP has recruited the following new units, which are in various stages of the approval process:
- Department for the Study of Religion
- Museum Studies
- Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies
- Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation
- History

Report on Research & Business Development
- KMDI Design Jam: was a one-day design session where teams of people came together to solve engaging User Experience (UX) challenges, largely inspired by the design jam framework developed by the Mozilla Labs. The Samsung sponsored event was open to University of Toronto students, faculty and the general public. The challenge was: What does a family games night in a networked home environment look like? Teams worked together to build wireframes and develop prototypes of digital games an entire family could enjoy. Projects ranged from a networked version of the board game Risk and family scavenger hunt to karaoke contest and multimedia game involving household chores.

- The SPARK Challenge: KMDI, ICCIT, and Samsung are currently collaborating on an initiative known as the SPARK Challenge, which challenges high school and postgraduate students across the GTA to create an innovative application for the Android market. Participants were invited to create apps focused on collaboration in education, business innovation and social responsibility. At the end of round one the top three winners were announced. Ideas ranged from MusiCube, a music recording and translating app to a “Community Service App,” which would assist high school students in finding placements to complete the required 40-hours of community service. The contest was accompanied by two Android App building workshops held at Thing Tank in February and March 2012. KMDI and ICCIT hope to maintain this contest as an annual event.

- ICCIS and KMDI Agreement to Collaborate: KMDI and the University of British Colombia’s Institute for Computing, Information and Cognitive Systems (ICICS) have recently signed a new partnership to foster academic, scientific, and cultural exchanges between both institutions. With a shared passion for technological advancement that moves beyond the lab and into society, the schools will collaborate on technologies, research activities, and exchange people and knowledge through various programs and initiatives.

- KMDI is supporting the activities of the ThingTank in its interactions with SMEs. The ThingTank Lab is an open, community based collaborative ideation lab: a place where the exploration, experimentation, and exchange of ideas are developed towards the building of Internet enabled “things”. The Lab catalyzes development and research around how our data-connected world is increasingly moving off the screen and into the everyday world of objects, buildings and activities. ([www.thingtank.ca](http://www.thingtank.ca))
**Personnel**

**Additions:**
- Ana Popa, Assistant Collaborative Program Coordinator (A-CPC)
- Zoe Jaremus, KMDI Administrative Assistant
- Peter Pennefather, Interim Collaborative Program Director

**Departures:**
- Joseph Ferenbok, Collaborative Program Director

**New Location:**

In August of 2012 KMDI will be moving into ThingTank’s new space on the main floor of Robarts Library.