CSSL COMPUTER SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA
NEWSLETTER
www.cssl.lk | MARCH | 2015

CSSL Emerging ICT Leader of the Year 2014

Dhanika Perera

Dhanika Perera is the Founder & CEO of Bhasha Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, a Sri Lanka based software company & a social enterprise dedicated for developing local language software solutions.

Dhanika is the inventor of Sinhala rendering technology on Android platform & he invented SETT Browser as the first Sinhala/Tamil supported mobile web browser & Bhasha Helakuru as the first Sinhala soft-keyboard for Android, enabling local masses to get the benefit out of ICT solutions in their own languages.

He founded his company Bhasha while he was following his bachelor's degree at University of Moratuwa converting his professional life from an engineer to an entrepreneur. He was awarded the mBillionth South Asian Award in 2011, the e-Swabhimani National Award in 2011 & 2012 & the NBQSA National Award in 2012 for his innovations & honoured as the Emerging Entrepreneur in 2013 by University of Moratuwa.

International Schools Software Competition 2015

9th - 11th October 2015 - Colombo , Sri Lanka

Hosted by The Computer Society of Sri Lanka

Organized with the aim of bringing out problem solving and programming talents in school students in a competitive environment, within international standards. This competition also provides an opportunity for students from the around the world to meet and exchange valuable experience in the field of ICT. The competition further provides opportunities for the young people around the globe to acquire better awareness of culture, life-style and aspirations of each other's country, leading to social harmony in the regions.

RULES

1. Each country will be allowed to send a maximum of two teams with one chaperon. Each team may consist of up to three school students.
2. All team members of school teams must be full-time students under eighteen years of age on 1st January 2015 (that is, born on or after 2nd January 1997).
3. The competition will be two (2) hours in duration, consisting of four (4) programming problems. Problems will be set in English.
4. The programming languages to be used will be C or C++ or Java.
5. A trial competition will be conducted on the same pattern as the main competition. However, the scores obtained at the trial competition will have no official validity.

* *Visit www.cssl.lk for complete rules, General Information and Applications*

IMPORTANT DATES

Registrations Closing	: 1st June 2015
Arrival of Teams	: 8th October 2015 (Thursday)
Visit to Sri Lanka	:"the wonder of Asia" 9th October 2015 (Friday)
Trial Competition	: 10th October 2015 (Saturday)
Main Competition	: 11th October 2015 (Sunday) 10.00 am local time
Awards Ceremony	: 11th October 2015 (Sunday) 2.00 pm local time
Departure of Participants	: 12th October 2015 (Monday)

Like us on *International Software Competition*

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Security in Internet of Things - Current Status

Survey of the Literature Dr. Malitha Wijesundara MCSSL

The Internet gave us the opportunity to connect in ways we could never have dreamed possible. The Internet of Things (IoT) will take us beyond this to become a global nervous system.

The "Things" in IoT refer to devices attached to the Internet having a unique identifier and the ability to send and receive information without human interaction.

Kevin Ashton, cofounder and executive director of the Auto-ID Center at MIT, first mentioned the Internet of Things in a presentation he made to Procter & Gamble. Here's how Ashton explains the potential of the Internet of Things:

"Today computers -- and, therefore, the Internet -- are almost wholly dependent on human beings for information. Nearly all of the roughly 50 petabytes (a petabyte is 1,024 terabytes) of data available on the Internet were first captured and created by human beings by typing, pressing a record button, taking a digital picture or scanning a bar code.

The problem is, people have limited time, attention and accuracy -- all of which means they are not very good at capturing data about things in the real world. If we had computers that knew everything there was to know about things -- using data they gathered without any help from us -- we would be able to track and count everything and greatly reduce waste, loss and cost. We would know when things needed replacing, repairing or recalling and whether they were fresh or past their best."

One example, is a heart monitor, that can be equipped to send information to your doctors office, a sprinkler system can be set up to determine if your lawn needs watering and perform the task, all without you having to do anything.

Another example is Google's acquisition of Nest, a company that makes a thermostat that extracts data from the environment, including information about lighting, humidity, and the daily behavior of a home's residents in order to automatically adjust the temperature settings based the resident's preferences.

Because the sensors embedded these devices are linked through wired and wireless means, often using the same Internet Protocol (IP) that connects the Internet, security in IoT will become a primary concern for many IoT related products and businesses.

There are hundreds of thousands of homes equipped with video cameras today that stream images to tablets and mobile phones of owners. In the healthcare industry, wrist bands and other wearable devices are being produced so that your doctor gets an intimation when you fall sick. Auto manufacturers are building cars that can sense when other vehicles are too close, so that accidents can become a thing of the past.

The IoT movement has already seen some of the biggest companies in every field — AT&T, Ericsson, Nokia, Qualcomm, Accenture, Vodafone, General Motors, Mercedes Benz and BMW, among many, many others — investing significantly on developing new products. These companies are adding wireless connectivity to their devices, bringing network connectivity and remote management to their offerings in order to appeal to a growing number of smart consumers.

But while IoT offers a huge business opportunity, consumer rights advocates and privacy watchdogs fear complete chaos. So far, only Google and a few other sites you visited while surfing the Net or posting on a social website kept track of your interests. But as personal devices increasingly get connected to the Internet, and transmit data, it will be hard for you to keep any part of your life a secret. A smart car will log the roads you drive on and your driving style and will share the captured data with your car workshop. The toothbrush will inform your dentist each time you forget to brush before going to bed. The refrigerator will tell the grocer how much and what you are consuming. The smart television set will send out data on the programs you watch. The sneakers you wear will upload your walking pattern to the fitness website. Pretty soon, every bit of your life will be tracked and uploaded as you start embracing smart devices.

The endless variety of IoT applications poses an equally wide vari¬ety of security challenges. In factory floor automation, deeply embedded programmable logic controllers (PLCs) that operate robotic systems are typi¬cally integrated with the enterprise IT infrastructure. How can those PLCs be shielded from human interference while at the same time protecting the investment in the IT infrastructure and leveraging the security controls available?

A smart meter—one which is able to send energy usage data to the utility operator for dynamic billing or real-time power grid optimization—must be able to protect that information from un-authorized usage or disclosure. Information that power usage has dropped could indicate that a home is empty, mak¬ing it an ideal target for a burglary or worse.

In August of 2013 a couple in Houston heard a stranger talking to their 2-year-old daughter through the baby monitor. The monitor in question, a Foscam, allows for remote monitoring from around the world. Remote access is a handy feature for parents away on a trip that want to check in on things at home, but quite distressing if that remote connection has been hacked into by a malicious stranger.

If privacy is the big casualty in an IoT environment, a cyber-attack is a nightmare. The worst Trojan attack today can, at best, paralyze your work and home computers — and perhaps damage your mobile phone. In a connected world, such an attack can very well cripple your life — from shutting off your smart air conditioner to preventing you from entering your house or starting your car by attacking the onboard computers. That is why IoT is seen as a huge oppor-tunity by all kinds of cyber security firms.

You may want to implement some of the following IoT security tactics to ensure peace of mind.

- Design a good perimeter protection with a firewall and an intrusion prevention system.
- Include everything in a security information and event management environment.
- Implement an emergency response program.
- Include a good identity and access management program with your IoT program for central user control. Consider, for instance, using a cloud identity approach.
- Implement two-factor authentication where practical.
- Have the administrators of your devices use privileged user control.
- Search for standardization. The market will soon define standards for the IoT, including security standards.
- If you have a third-party IoT provider, consider due diligence.
- Stay informed with key sources of security through groups such as the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

The IoT is quickly reshaping our world and the way in which we communicate to each other and to things. However, strong security will be essential for applications, devices, and networks in order to realize the tremendous economic and productivity benefits made possible by connecting more systems to each other and the cloud.

Dr. Malitha Wijesundara MCSSL
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Dean Faculty of Computing
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Former Council Member CSSL

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Organizes a Session on;

"Peace through Spirituality in the modern world"

To bring worries, anxiety and stress to an end

Session by;
Vipula Wanigasekera
former Sri Lankan Diplomat
and the Author of the book
'Pointers to Enlightenment'

In life,
one way or another,
everyone goes through
spells of suffering.
However,
Suffering is one aspect in life
that ignites a self-inquiry to go into a
search for freedom.

You will see
the fallacy of the conditioning
which makes you think and act in a particular way
while the awareness is overshadowed by
the mind activities or mental noise.

The realization of the freedom is not knowledge.
The intellect cannot grasp this.
This discourse will show you that
freedom is within you.
You only need to discover that
which you had simply overlooked
throughout your life assuming
that you are a separate self.

30th April 2015

From 5.00 pm to 6.30pm

@ Western Province Aesthetic Resort , Colombo 07

Exclusively for CSSL Members

Entrance Free

For more details;
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"Truth is simple'.
'And it is too simple,
that most people fail to see the obvious"

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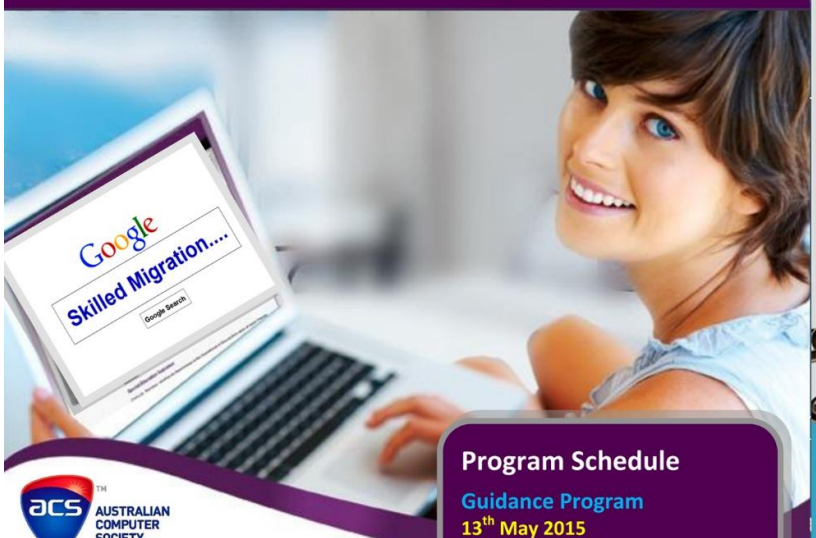

ACS AUSTRALIAN COMPUTER SOCIETY

CSSL ICT Skills Certification is offered in partnership with the Australian Computer Society (ACS)

Program Schedule

Guidance Program
13th May 2015
(5.30pm – 6.00pm)

Skills Certification program
16th May 2015
(9.00 am – 4.00pm)

Venue: CSSL Resource Centre, Colombo 07

Investment

- Guidance Program – Rs. 1000/=
- Skill Certification Program – Rs.7000/=
- Evaluation – Rs. 6000/=
- Total Investment – Rs.14000/=

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For Inquiries:
certification@cssl.lk
0114713290 (Hasanthika)

www.cssl.lk

Register before 5th May 2015 to create use login for the program

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Join with CSSL

and upgrade your Professionalism

Established in 1976, the Computer Society of Sri Lanka or CSSL was on a mission to promote Information and Communication Technology as well as endorse for professionalism for those in the field. A not-for-profit organisation, CSSL is the apex body for ICT professionals in the country. Thus, becoming a member of CSSL is not only a mark of endorsing professionalism in the ICT sector, but also a recognition of an organisation's commitment towards increasing its professional development.

The field of Information and Communication Technology is considered a relatively 'new' field in comparison and further, it is a field susceptible to constant change and developments. As ICT professionals, not only is it important for one to be up to date on the latest trends in the technology both locally and internationally, it is also imperative that professionals identify competition and strategise their technology to be on par with local and international standards.

Coming on board as a CSSL member would bring you one step closer to achieving this. As a member of CSSL, not only would you would you be a part of a large knowledge sharing base but also contribute towards this knowledge base as an expert.

In addition, what makes the CSSL membership unique is the range of membership types available that tailor to all ICT professionals. Starting off with the MCS that incorporates ICT graduates with professional experience, the Associate membership is for ICT graduates starting out in the industry. CSSL also takes into consideration the increasing student population of ICT both at university and school levels.

Moreover, the Society, rooted in its values to promote diversity and its respect for the rights and beliefs of individuals also has an Affiliate membership that encourages all ICT enthusiasts to come on board if in the event they do not have the required prerequisites to qualify as professional members or do not wish to do so. Finally, the corporate membership includes ICT companies in the country whose primary objective is connected with the production and service of technology. The CSSL website has detailed guidelines and downloadable application forms on coming on board as new members or renewing an existing membership.

The Computer Society of Sri Lanka is in the process of incorporating CSSL under an Act of Parliament. Incorporation of CSSL under an Act of Parliament would gain due in support and recognition to ICT professionals in country especially with the establishment of Chartered Status for ICT professionals in Sri Lanka has been included in the Incorporation Act.

As the apex body of ICT professionals in Sri Lanka, CSSL has been able to partake in activities and events at both national and international levels gaining more recognition as a professional body for ICT. The Computer Society of Sri Lanka is recognised as a member of IFIP – International Federation for Information Processing. IFIP is the leading multinational, apolitical organisation in ICT recognised by the United Nations and other world bodies. The CSSL is also the Sri Lankan representative in the South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation, the forum of national Information Technology professional societies in the Asia Pacific region.

Membership Types

Member (MCS)

Graduate in Computer Science or a higher degree holder in Computer Science with 4 years experience; Or
Graduate in a field other than Computer Science and 5 years experience; Or
Non-graduate who has undergone adequate training in computing and 9 years experience;
AND that at the time of membership application he/she is actively engaged in a professional capacity in the use and application of information technology and the techniques related thereto.
The applicant should satisfy the Council that the experience referred to above is at a professional level. The period of experience should normally be post qualification.

Associate

Graduate in Computer Science, or and higher degree holder in Computer Science or Graduate in a field other than Computer Science and 1 year experience;
AND that at the time of membership application he/she is actively engaged in a professional capacity in the use and application of information technology and the techniques related thereto.
The applicant should satisfy the Council that the experience referred to above is at a professional level. The period of experience should normally be post qualification.

Student

General Certificate of Education Advanced Level Examination conducted by the Government of Sri Lanka with pass in one subject; Or
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level Examination conducted by the Government of Sri Lanka with passes in six subjects where one of the subject should be either Arithmetic or Mathematics and three of the passes should be credit passes.

For Inquiries:
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7th JUNE 2015

Organized by the Computer Society of Sri Lanka

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