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Seminar Series
Comp. Sci. Dept.

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Improving Software Usability Through User Characteristics

Leslie Miller, Iowa State University

Sep 21st Tuesday, 12:30 to 1:30pm

Venue – CS Room 216

Abstract - In general, a wide variety of users need to interact with software programs. Government agencies, like the Census Bureau, hire tens of thousands of short term employees to complete tasks such as capturing the addresses of housing units. The abilities of such users can vary widely.

The presentation will look at both physical and cognitive user characteristics and their impact on user performance. The issues associated with employing adaptive or adaptable user interfaces will be discussed. Finally, we will look at the results of our studies targeted at testing ways of taking both physical and cognitive user characteristics into account when designing software.

Brief Bio - Dr. Miller is currently looking at the developing infrastructure for providing geospatial data to field survey and exploration applications. Other work on geospatial data focuses on developing accuracy models. Current activity in the organizational decision support systems area centers around the use of object based database systems to support the decision process. Work on organizational memory is focused on the capture of organizational semantics and the integration of corporate documents into the meeting process. He received his PhD from the Computer Science Department at Southern Methodist University in 1980.