

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> ICT4D Postgraduate Symposium 2008

organized by IPID and the University of Joensuu.

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The first **Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D) Post Graduate (PG) symposium** was held at Royal Holloway, University of London in 2006 and the second at Karlstad University Sweden within the context of the IPID-network. IPID is an International Network for PG students in ICT4D, which has 201 students from 144 universities in 64 countries. The third symposium will be organized in Finland at the University of Joensuu within the IPID-network from September 7-9, 2008.

The symposium will be a forum where **postgraduates** (Master's and PhD students) can present their ongoing work and get feedback from their peers as well as from participating senior colleagues. The symposium is designed above all to provide an informal environment where postgraduates can share their research findings and ideas in a non-judgmental way. The area of ICT4D includes a wide range of fields of studies. By attending the symposium postgraduates can improve their understanding of the most significant current research issues, and share practical experiences of undertaking research in this field.

The symposium has four **main aims**:

- To encourage the sharing of research ideas and practices among postgraduates in the field of ICT4D
- To provide an opportunity for postgraduate students at all stages in their careers to present their findings in a friendly and supportive atmosphere
- To enable postgraduate students at an early stage in their career to gain advice and suggestions from other participants.
- To network and further strengthen the existing network between researchers within ICT4D

**Keynotes:** Prof. Tim Unwin, UNESCO Chair in ICT4D, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK

Prof. Seugnet Blignaut; North West University, South Africa

**Focus:** ICT4D research, including private sector initiatives and development policy

**Program:** Research presentations, and social activities. As a specialty for this year, the program will include group discussions and short group events. The symposium especially supports PhD students, and each presenter will get individual written feedback from professors as in previous years.



**ipid** The International Network for  
Post Graduate Students in  
the area of ICT4D

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**Location:** At the Mekrijärvi Research Station and the main campus of the University of Joensuu, Eastern Finland

**Organizing committee:** Professor Erkki Sutinen, University of Joensuu, IPID coordinator Gudrun Wicander, Karlstad University (Sweden), ICT advisor, PhD Jyrki Pulkkinen, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Finland), Researcher, PhD candidate Marcus Duveskog, Tumaini University (Tanzania), and Assistant Professor Mikko Vesisenaho, University of Joensuu

***Call for abstracts:***

*Postgraduate students are invited to submit their 200-300 words abstract/proposal for the conference by 30<sup>th</sup> June for review. The focus of the symposium is very multidisciplinary.*

*The accepted and presented abstracts will be published as an e-publication in the series of the The Department of Computer Science and Statistics at the University of Joensuu after the conference. About ten of the papers will be selected to be extended to full papers for publication after the symposium.*

*Send your proposal including contact information by email to [ipid2008@cs.joensuu.fi](mailto:ipid2008@cs.joensuu.fi) in pdf- or rtf-format by 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2008.*

**Costs:** The participation fee of €100 includes two nights accommodation at Mekrijärvi research station, meals and transportation from Joensuu to Mekrijärvi and back.

**Contact information:** Professor Erkki Sutinen & Assistant professor Mikko Vesisenaho, [erkki.sutinen@cs.joensuu.fi](mailto:erkki.sutinen@cs.joensuu.fi), [mikko.vesisenaho@cs.joensuu.fi](mailto:mikko.vesisenaho@cs.joensuu.fi), +358 13 251 7982, +358 400 429493

**For more information see <http://cs.joensuu.fi/ipid2008>**