**SIGITE FY'06 Annual Report**
**July 2005 – June 2006**
**Submitted by: Han Reichgelt, Chair SIGITE**

FY2006 was the first year of the newly elected administration for SIGITE. By and large the year proved successful, and SIGITE achieved many of the goals it had set itself.

## Conference

Despite some issues that forced the relatively late relocation of the conference to New Jersey, the conference was highly successful. SIGITE is thankful for Rob Friedman of the New Jersey Institute of Technology who had primary responsibility for local arrangements and Kathy Burnett of Florida State University who oversaw the paper review process. Both worked extremely hard in sometimes adverse conditions to make the conference a success.

The conference attracted around 160 attendees from roughly 80 institutions, a slight increase from the previous year. The conference also attracted a larger number of international attendees and attendees from community colleges than before.

The original call for abstracts attracted 130 submissions, of which 61 were eventually accepted as full papers and 20 as posters. As a consequence of the relatively low acceptance rate, papers seemed to be of high quality.

The conference was preceded by a day of workshops, which covered a range of technical topics as well as accreditation and assessment.

## Finances

SIGITE continues to enjoy a healthy financial position. The closing balance for the financial year was around $45,500, an increase of more than $10,000 over the previous year. The growth in funds was due to a modest profit for the conference (about $5,000) with the remainder being generated out of the surplus of income from dues, the digital library and other sources over operating expenses.

## Membership

SIGITE's membership slightly increased during the year. At the beginning of June 2006, SIGITE had 448 members, up from 405 the year before. In order to increase the membership further, SIGITE has started a membership initiative. It is also taking steps to further increase communication with its membership through a re-design of its Web site. In addition, SIGITE started a monthly news bulletin, as a complement to its semi-annual newsletter. Whereas the newsletter is becoming more of a vehicle for members of SIGITE to share their research results, the news bulletin primarily consists of short items aimed at keeping the membership informed of the various activities that SIGITE is undertaking.

## Activities

The highlight of the year was the promulgation of the IT model curriculum in 2005. This initiative started shortly after the establishment of SIGITE in October 2003, and was successfully completed in October 2005. The IT model curriculum is part of the ACM/IEE/AIS Computing Curricula Series and is available from the ACM web site, where interested parties can also comment on the draft. SIGITE also make a significant contribution to the recently published Computing Curricula Overview Report, and is currently working on an IT model curriculum for 2 year colleges.

SIGITE also started a survey of IT programs, similar in intent to the Taulbee survey for programs in Computer Science.  It had become clear that there was a dearth of information on IT programs. Unfortunately, the response rate to the Web-based Survey of IT programs has been disappointingly low and SIGITE is working on increasing the participation rate.

SIGITE is also engaged in a number of additional projects, some of which have an internal focus, while others have an external focus.  Among the projects with an internal focus are the creation of a SIGITE operations manual, aimed at recording various operations and decisions in the hope that this will make future leadership transitions less difficult, and an initiative to further improve communication with the membership.  Among the projects with an external focus are a project to increase the participation of women in the profession,  and a project to formulate an IT Exit Exam based on the IT model curriculum and similar to the IS Exit Exam.  SIGITE is also making an effort to reach out to IT students.


**Future Challenges**

Although SIGITE is in a healthy state at the moment, the number of volunteers actively contributing to SIGITE's various initiatives and projects is growing slowly.  It is incumbent on the organization in general and the current leadership in particular, to increase the number of volunteers.  Clearly, this requires improved communication with the membership and both the establishment of the news bulletin and the ongoing communications project are aimed at addressing this concern.