

Wednesday, August 4, 2004

14:00-16:00

Hall E

## **Symposium and Workshop on Global Education via the Virtual Classroom over the Internet**

Chair: Prof. Winfried K. Ruddloff,  
Governors State University, Univ. Park, IL, USA

### **Multimedia and the Internet II: Exploring the Potential of Internet-Based Video Conferencing in Education** (Keynote Address)

by Prof. Winfried K. Ruddloff, Governors State University, Univ. Park, IL, USA

### **WebCT as a Long-Distance Teaching Tool** (Keynote Address)

by Dr. Nancy Shlaes, University Professor, Governors State University, Univ. Park, Illinois, USA

### **Global Dialogue: Right to Listen/Freedom to Listen** (Keynote Address)

by Dr. Michael Purdy, University Professor, Governors State University, Univ. Park, Illinois, USA

**The Workshop** will offer a long –distance presentation over the Internet. This presentation will focus on the organization of content of WebCT course management software as well as on the course tools used to assist students - including glossary, calendar, grades, compiler, quizzes, and the communication tools such as: E-mail, chat, and bulletin board.

The purpose of this Workshop is to demonstrate the potential of Internet-based conferencing as a long-distance learning tool. An attempt will be made to establish Internet contact with our colleagues and students at Governors State University (GSU) in a virtual classroom setting. Examples of actual recordings during the Course on “Natural Language Processing” will be presented. It is anticipated that this experiment will provide the GSU-based students with a virtual participation in our International Baden-Baden Conference (InterSymp-2004).

One thing about building dialogue through educational networks (aside from language problems), is that listening is critical. We can have wonderful “push” technology and networked education but without critical listeners the effort falls short. There has been a wealth of study of the theory and practice of listening (as an intergral aspect of communication) but there must also be an awareness of the freedom to listen and the right to listen (complementing freedom to speak and right to speak).

The freedom to listen implies the responsibility to be an educated listener – the responsibility of the listener for becoming an effective listener, for educating her/himself (particularly about diverse cultures and the issues of global importance), and learning how to create harmony through understanding.

The right to listen implies the motivation to listen to diverse voices, even to seek out diverse voices and to work to appreciate their perspective on issues. However, the right to listen also implies an obligation of the media and of individuals and organizations to present and make available the diverse voices to be listen to. Without the perspectives of diverse voices we cannot learn about others and appreciate how they live in the world.