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AMI
AUGMENTED MULTI–PARTY INTERACTION

Integrated Project
Information Society Technologies

D10.1 TRAINING ACTIVITIES REPORT

Project co-funded by the European Commission in the 6th Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	✓
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

D10.1 Deliverable title

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Participants UEDIN, ICSI, IDIAP, BUT, UT, TNO

Abstract: N/A

Content

1   Introduction

The aim of the AMI training programme is to spread excellence by providing training for young researchers within the main AMI programme. The major training activity is to support placements for researchers to work in AMI labs on projects which are AMI-related.   In addition, the AMI training programme provides support to the Euromasters Scheme in Language and Speech and (from 2005) will sponsor a Summer School for AMI researchers.

There is a budget of €313K for these activities over the lifetime of AMI and an additional €220K specifically to support placements at ICSI.

The AMI training programme is managed by Prof Phil Green of USFD. Prof Green chairs the AMI training panel, whose 5 members direct the programme, with the help of a part-time administrator at USFD. The training budget is handled by UEDIN.
The home page for the training programme is *http://www.amiproject.org/edu.php*

2   The placement programme

The AMI placement programme is available to researchers at all levels, from undergraduates to post-docs. It pays travel costs and living expenses, not salary: applicants are expected to be studying or employed at a 'home' institution. Living expenses are €1,250/month for the general scheme and €2,000/month for the ICSI scheme. Travel costs are allowed on the basis of the cheapest available flights or trains.

The placement programme is open to researchers outside the AMI labs, and to researchers outside Europe. There are no restrictions on placement length, 6 months – 1 year is typical and less than 3 months is unusual.

The application process is as follows
- Applicants apply using a form downloadable from the web site,
- They have to describe the project they want to do and why,
- They require statements of support from their home lab & their prospective host lab, together with an academic reference and CV,
- Applications are considered by the training panel on a quarterly basis,
- A budget is negotiated for each successful applicant on an individual basis,
- At this point a formal offer is made and payments are set up.

Researchers on placement are allocated supervisors at their host lab and required to produce reports at the end of the placement. Abstracts of the work in each placement are posted on the AMI web site.

The table overleaf details the placements arranged by December 31st 2004. In summary,
- 16 researchers have been offered placements, 2 have been rejected and 7 are under consideration. As might be expected, applicants 'self-select' – they are generally high-quality and well-motivated.
- The ICSI scheme has 7 takers; the other hosts are USFD(3), IDIAP(3), UEDIN(1), UT(1) & TNO(2)
- There are 3 post-docs, 9 Ph.Ds, 2 masters students and 2 undergraduates
- 8 takers are from AMI labs, 8 from outside
- The budget committed so far on placements is €95K for the ICSI scheme and €75K for the general scheme.

Applicant	Home Institute	Host Institute	Scheme	Visit period
Xavier Anguera Miro	Polytechnic Uni of Catalonia	ICSI	ICSI Scheme	Sep 04 - Sep 05
Marc Ferras	Polytechnic Uni of Catalonia	ICSI	ICSI Scheme	Start Jul-Sep 04 End Dec 04-Feb 05
Matthew Aylett	Rhetorical Systems Ltd	ICSI	ICSI Scheme	April - Nov 05
Jean-Christophe Lacroix	ENST	USFD	Masters Internship	Jul-Nov 04
Guillaume Heusch	EPFL	IDIAP	Undergrad Internship	Sep 04 - Feb 05
Martin Karafiat	Brno	USFD	Ph.D. Internship	Jun-Sep 04
Harikrishna Maganti	University of ULM	IDIAP	Ph.D. Internship	Oct 04 - Sep 05
Michael Pucher	Telecommunications Research Center, Vienna	ICSI	Ph.D. Internship	Jan-June 05
Frantisek Grezl	Brno	ICSI/IDIAP	Ph.D. Internship	Jul 04 - Jun 05
Mihaela Bobeica	University of Nice Sophia Antipolis	TNO	Ph.D. Internship	Oct 04 - May 05
Darren Moore	IDIAP	USFD	Postdoctoral visit	Aug 04 - Sept 04
Arlo Faria	ICSI	UEDIN	Undergrad Internship	Feb 05 - Jul 05
Joe Frankel	CSTR Edinburgh	ICSI	ICSI Scheme	Sept 05 - April 06
Liudmila Boldareva	University of Twente	TNO	Ph.D Internship	Dec 04 - Dec 05
Volha Petukhova	Tilburg University	UT	Masters Internship	1 Feb 05 to 1 Jul 05
Robert Eklund	Linkoping University	ICSI	ICSI Scheme	June 05 to Feb 06

Funded AMI Training Placements, December 2004

3   Other activities

As stated in AMI's contract, we are supporting the Euromasters scheme in Language and Speech, which allows students in participating institutes to gain an additional qualification, signed by professional bodies. To do this, they must spend at least 1 semester outside their home institution, engaged on a language/speech project. In addition, they must attend a Summer School which is organised annually. AMI gave €5K to support this Summer School in 2004, and a presentation about AMI was given by the scientific manager, Iain McCowan. We plan to combine the Euromasters and AMI Summer Schools in 2005.