Ron Wakkary

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HCI in Pictures

Does a picture say more than a thousand words? Well, there is a growing trend in HCI research toward more diverse publication formats, such as exhibitions, videos, and demonstrations. At the DIS 2014 conference, a new format was explored: pictorials. These aimed to fulfill the practice-oriented nature of design by encouraging HCI and design researchers to express and unpack their design practices and research through imagery. In this issue we extend this effort with a Special Topic on pictorials, guest edited by Eli Blevis, Sabrina Hauser, and William Odom.

We are also happy to present a cover story by one of the most recognized contemporary philosophers specializing in technology, Peter-Paul Verbeek. He

has attracted a lot of attention in the past few years with his books *What Things Do: Philosophical Reflections on Technology, Agency, and Design* and *Moralizing Technology: Understanding and Designing the Morality of Things*. In “Beyond Interaction: A Short Introduction to Mediation Theory,” Verbeek explores the relationship between technology and the user. He writes that “humans and technologies should not be seen as two ‘poles’ between which there is an interaction; rather, they are the *result* of this interaction.” As a consequence, he claims that interaction design is not only the design of technological artifacts “but also the design of the human subjects who interact with these objects.” Read and reflect!

In other news, following an engaging cover story in our January–February 2015 issue, Elisa Giaccardi has changed the focus and name of her forum to Connected Everyday. We wish Elisa good luck with this new direction. This is also the final issue in which Gerrit van der Veer is in charge of the Community Square column; he is retiring from his role as president of ACM SIGCHI. We thank Gerrit for his faithful reporting on SIGCHI activities over the years and look forward to working with his successor.

The *Interactions* website (interactions.acm.org/) is growing with more articles and an active community of bloggers. Take a look!

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