Ron Wakkary

Erik Stolterman

The Humanities of HCI

A humanist's view of HCI would involve a weaving of disciplines and approaches of the humanities through and alongside the sciences of HCI. However, the humanities is a broad branch of knowing that includes the arts, classics, philosophy, history, law, and other disciplines. And so to what degree of precision and clarity can we understand the idea of humanistic HCI? Our cover-story authors, Jeffrey Bardzell and Shaowen Bardzell, provide us with their considered thoughts on the dialogue between humanistic practices and HCI research. They pay particular attention to the productive entanglements of literary practices with third-wave HCI, sharing excellent insights and lucid framing for how we might consider aesthetic approaches to user experience; art and literary

critical approaches to research through design; and feminist approaches to participatory design.

This issue contains a number of other highlights, including a Special Topic on the Aarhus Conference, which is held every 10 years in Aarhus, Denmark. In its 40-year history (five conferences), the Decennial Aarhus Conference series has continually engaged in critical reflections on information technology (IT) research. The goal has been to inspire and motivate different voices to pursue new theoretical perspectives and alternative futures. We are pleased to include selected and condensed papers from the Aarhus 2015 Critical Alternative conference edited by its organizers, Olav W. Bertelsen, Kim Halskov, and Shaowen Bardzell.

We are also delighted to feature Ben Shneiderman's wonderful personal

photo journal of his encounters with HCI pioneers over the decades of his professional career. Be sure to keep tabs on this unique historical project at <https://hcupioneers.wordpress.com>.

As always, we ask you to stay connected with *Interactions* through print, online, or through all things social media. We value your feedback on articles and welcome your contributions through the many departments within the magazine, including Confessions, Demo Hour, What Are You Reading?, Visual Thinking Gallery, forums, feature articles, and cover stories. And of course, let us know if you would like to join our community of bloggers and possibly see your post featured in print in our Blog@IX department.

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