

The project „fFORTE—WIT—Women in Technology“ in cooperation with the Faculty of Informatics at Vienna University of Technology and IEEE Section Austria invite you to:

## WIT-Kolloquium

### Towards Emotional Sensitivity in Human-Computer Interaction

**Prof. Dr. Elisabeth André**

**When?** Friday, 29.05.2009  
10:00—11:00 + refreshments

**Where?** Hörsaal EI 8, Pötzl Hörsaal  
Elektrotechn. Institutsgebäude, 1040 Wien,  
Gusshausstr. 25-29, Stiege 1, Erdgeschoss

#### Abstract:

Human conversational partners usually try to interpret the speaker's or listener's affective cues and respond to them accordingly. Recently, the modelling and simulation of such behaviours has been recognized as an essential factor for successful man-machine communication. There is empirical evidence that many problems in man-machine communication could be avoided if the machine was more sensitive towards the user's feelings. The availability of robust multi-channel recognition methods is an important prerequisite for the development of affect-aware interfaces. In my talk, I will report on challenges that arise when moving from the recognition of acted emotions to the recognition of spontaneous emotions which are of higher relevance to man-machine communication. I will present a framework for smart sensor integration that is especially suited for real-time multi-channel emotion recognition. Our approach to emotion recognition will be illustrated by affective interfaces that have been developed within the European Networks of Excellence Humaine (Human-Machine Interaction Network on Emotion Research) and IRIS (Integrating Research in Interactive Storytelling) and the European projects e- Circus (Education Through Characters With Emotional-Intelligence And Roleplaying Capabilities That Understand Social Interaction), Callas (Conveying Affectiveness in Leading-Edge Living Adaptive Systems) and Metabo (Personal Health Systems for Monitoring and Point-of-Care Diagnostics – Personalised Monitoring).

#### Biography:

Prof. Dr. Elisabeth André is a full professor of Computer Science at Augsburg University, Germany and Chair of the Laboratory for Multimedia Concepts and their Applications. Prior to that, she worked as a principal researcher at DFKI GmbH where she has been leading various academic and industrial projects in the area of intelligent user interfaces one of which was honored with the European IT Prize. Her current research interests include affective computing, multimodal user interfaces and synthetic agents. Elisabeth André is on the editorial board of Artificial Intelligence Communications (AICOM), Cognitive Processing (International Quarterly of Cognitive Science), Universal Access to the Information Society (UAIS), Autonomous Agents and Multi-Agent Systems (JAAMAS) and the International Journal of Human Computer Studies (IJHCS). In summer 2007 Elisabeth André was Fellow of the Alcatel-Lucent Foundation for Communications Research.

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#### NOTE

Attendance free. Lecture in English. No registration required.

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