Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Presents

Michael Kolling, University of Kent

Developing Software Tools for Programming Education: Challenges and Opportunities

Software tools have been used to aid computer science education (especially programming education) for a very long time. Many tools have been developed and used in classrooms. Some tools are successful, many others fade away quickly.

We have been involved in developing educational software tools, including the "BlueJ" and "Greenfoot" environments, for some time. In this talk, we will briefly present these environments and discuss our experiences with development, dissemination and support of these tools. We will cover general tool design issues, such as design challenges, motivation and practicalities, and draw some lessons learned from our experience.

Bio: Michael Kolling is a Professor at the Computing Laboratory, University of Kent, in Canterbury, England. He holds a PhD in computer science from Sydney University, and has worked in Australia, Denmark and the UK. Michael's research interests are in the areas of object-oriented systems, programming languages, software tools, computing education and HCI. He has published numerous papers on object-orientation and computing education topics and is co-author of a Java textbook. Michael is one of the developers of BlueJ, an educational programming environment, and more recently, the Greenfoot platform.

Thursday, February 26, 2009
3:30 - 4:30 PM

330 Student Union

University at Buffalo – North Campus

This talk is free and open to the public. Refreshments for attendees after the talk in 224 Bell Hall

For more information, please email **cse-dept@cse.buffalo.edu** or contact (716) 645-3180