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# CCA

# Canadian Computing Alliance

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# Objectives of the CCA

- Re-establishment of CIPS as the Canadian national computer society
  - We have strong relationships with academics regarding accreditation
  - But current CIPS membership is mostly IT business leaders and project managers
  - Yet CIPS was founded by CS faculty members
- Provide services that everyone will value

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# CCA is not just for computer scientists

- Also for:
  - College-level information technologists
  - Business technology management

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# Note on naming

- CCA was formerly AEP
  - Academic Engagement Program
  - Accredited programs will have received a letter mentioning the old name

# The next few slides discuss some CCA activities being planned

## ■ General areas:

- 1. National conference
- 2. Professionalism textbook
- 3. Information resources
  - E.g. CS news, job profiles and postings, available expertise etc.
- 4. Academic awards

# CCA Initiative 1: Conference on Computing/IT Education & Research

- ❑ Rationale:
  - Canadian academics have no single place to meet
  - The Canadian academic context has unique aspects
  - Training HQP well is of great interest to NSERC
- ❑ Ideally in partnership with others
  - E.g. CACS-AIC, IBM/Cascon, university and college units that give training in teaching, NSERC
- ❑ Would/could have:
  - Peer-reviewed education papers, teaching workshops, textbook tradeshow, NSERC grant workshops, student project contest, research methods workshops

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# CCA Initiative 2: Textbook on Computing and IT Professionalism

- Partners/authors would be professors who teach the topic
  - Some informal discussions have been held
- Rationale: This is entirely lacking: Currently we must use books that use US or engineering examples

# CCA Initiative 3: Information Resource

- Feed of information in the Canadian context relevant to computing academics
  - What Canadian computing companies are doing
  - Canadian research announcements
    - Opportunities, grants, accomplishments, conferences
  - Jobs for students; faculty positions; postdoc positions available or wanted; consulting services available
  - Canadian labour market data for computing and IT
  - Teaching materials available to share, or wanted
  - Ideas for collaborative student projects
  - Blog posts: E.g. how to do research with certain companies
  - Website with RTF and mailing list



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# CCA Initiative 4: Academic Awards

- ❑ National awards for educators, researchers in CS and IT
- ❑ Again, partnership with others is being sought

# Departments with accredited programs would have some advantages

- E.g

- Discounts

- at the conference

- on certain products and services

- E.g. discount for students on the professionalism book

- On CIPS memberships for faculty and students

- Ability to post jobs and other items at little or no cost

- Access to certain password-protected resources

- None of the above is finalized yet

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# We need CACS-AIC to nominate a CCA board member

- Anyone interested?
- We also need your feedback on our proposed initiatives