CFP: Best Practices in Longitudinal Research

Call for Proposal
Traditional user research and evaluation methods tend to focus on ‘first-time’ experiences with products, which trends the results towards discoverability problems, rather than usability concerns that may persist over time. This workshop will extend current thinking by an in-depth discussion of methods and metrics for longitudinal data collection. Our goal is to identify and describe best practices for longitudinal research.

This is the fourth event in an ongoing effort by the organizers to enhance our current body of knowledge about longitudinal research. We invite practitioners and academics who have experience with longitudinal studies to submit a 3-page position paper plus a short bio by email to catherine.courage@gmail.com by February 28, 2009 in order to participate in this one-day workshop.

Your position paper should describe a longitudinal research case study, including:
- Research questions addressed
- Study design and methodologies used
- Participant characteristics, recruiting, retention
- Data analysis and comparison techniques used
- Lessons learned. We are interested in both successes and failures of the study.

A sample case study template is available at: http://longitudinalusability.wikispaces.com/CaseStudyTemplate

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We will select a variety of case studies from participants with diverse experience. Participants will receive all the position papers in advance, so they may formulate discussion questions before the workshop. The organizers will also publish a draft agenda and for the in-depth discussions during the workshop.

Up-to-date information on the workshop will be available at:
http://longitudinalusability.wikispaces.com/

Please note that workshop participants must register for the workshop and for one or more days of the CHI 2009 conference. Workshop fees for participants in 2009 are estimated to be xxx for a one-day workshop.