

2009 Web Accessibility Conference Schedule

Alice Campbell Alumni Center in Urbana, Illinois

Time	Ball Room (East)	Ball Room (West)	Bresee Lounge
8:30am-9:00am	<i>Registration</i>		
9:00am-10:00am	-	Victor Trasan <i>Senior Yahoo Accessibility Manager</i>	-
10:00am-10:10am	<i>Break</i>		
10:10am-11:00am	IITAA Web Accessibility Requirements and Certification Program	Captioning Video Content	Screen Reader and Disability Simulation Demonstration
11:00am-11:10am	<i>Break in Exhibit Hall</i>		
11:10am-12:00pm	Web Accessibility and Usability Go Hand-In-Hand	Adobe PDF Accessibility using Acrobat and Common Look	Screen Reader and Disability Simulation Demonstration
12:00pm-1:15pm	<i>Lunch (Box Lunches in the Exhibit Hall)</i>		
1:15pm-2:15pm	Content Management Systems I: Other Campus and State Experiences	Accessible Presentations	NetCentric CommonLook Adobe PDF Accessibility Editing Tool Hands on Demo, MSFW
2:15pm-2:30pm	<i>Break in Exhibit Hall</i>		
2:30pm-3:30pm	Content Management Systems I: Illinois Efforts	Adobe Flash Accessibility	Browse Aloud hands on demo, MSFW
3:30pm-4:45pm	Conference Reception <i>This is a time for participants to informally gather to discuss accessibility issues one-on-one or as small groups.</i>		

Exhibit Hall

- Information Technology Accessibility Initiative (ITaccess)
- Illinois Center on Information Technology Accessibility
- MSF&W, Springfield, IL
- OJC, Urbana, IL
- Virtual 508, Champaign, IL

Program Details

Keynote Speaker

Ball Room West: 9:00am

Victor Tsaran, *Senior Accessibility Program Manager, Yahoo!*

Title: Accessibility in the real world, experiences from building a more accessible Yahoo! Network.

- Learn about our accessibility lab and how we find it effective in promoting accessibility across the company.
- The new yahoo.com page and how we made accessibility to be an integral part of the process development.
- Innovation and research and how they are important for us to keep developers excited about accessibility.
- Something things we would like to do better.

More about Victor

Yahoo! is one of the leading content providers on the Internet. In his current position Victor Tsaran oversees company wide local and global accessibility activities (accessibility lab, policies, guidelines and research projects). In addition to his internal responsibilities, Victor does a lot of evangelizing outside of the company participates in various public events that promote accessibility around the world. Prior to this job, Victor worked as Accessibility Programmer at BART Group, McLean, Virginia on various consulting contracts ranging from Section 508 testing for federal agencies (USPTO, VA, EOP etc) to adapting proprietary software for businesses (AOL, T-mobile, Freedom Scientific etc).

Between 2000 and 2002, after having received Bachelors degree in computer science from Temple University, Philadelphia, Victor traveled extensively in South East Asia teaching computers to the visually impaired users of different ages in countries, such as Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam and Cambodia. This work was carried out for ON-NET, Overbrook Nippon Network on Educational Technology. Victor also taught courses on assistive technology in Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

Since 1998 Victor serves as a web master for ICEVI (International Council for Education of Visually Impaired). In 1996 Victor co-established one of the first computer centers for visually impaired in Ukraine. In addition to his job responsibilities, Victor has great passion for jazz guitar and participates in various open source projects, the most famous of which is JSonar, www.jsonar.org, the software which enables visually impaired musicians around the world to use Cakewalk Sonar, the world's leading music recording application.

IITAA Web Accessibility Requirements and Certification Program Lecture

Ball Room East: 10:10am

This session will provide an overview of the Illinois Information Technology Accessibility Act (IITAA) web accessibility requirements and the IITAA Web Accessibility certification program.

Speaker

- Mike Scott, Illinois Department of Human Services

Captioning Video Content Panel

Ball Room West: 10:10am

This session will provide an overview of how the strategies and resources needed to caption videos and provide text transcripts.

Speakers

- Colleen Cook, ATLAS, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Angie Andersen, DRES, College of Applied Health Sciences
- Daniel Harvey, Eastern Illinois University

Disability Simulation and Screen Reader Demonstration Hands-on

Bresee Lounge: 10:10am and 11:10am

This is a hands-on session for people to learn about how people with disabilities use the web. Workstations will be available for people to browse the web while simulating disabilities with the use of simple assistive technologies like head sticks, special glasses, hand orthotics to simulate arthritis and paralysis due to stroke. People will be guided through navigating websites and applications only using the keyboard. Other workstations will help people understand more about what a screen reader is and how usable their web pages are to people show use screen readers. People can learn from experts what challenges are faced by people who are blind in accessing web content and what you can do to make your web pages more usable. Try a screen reader your self and experience first hand what a speech rendering of a web page is like.

Speakers

- Christy Blew, DRES, College of Applied Health Sciences
- Jonathan Hsieh, CITES
- Bryan McMurray, DRES, College of Applied Health Sciences
- Hadi Rangin, DRES, College of Applied Health Sciences

Web Accessibility and Usability Go Hand-In-Hand Panel

Ball Room East: 11:10am

What is the difference between usability and accessibility and how do they work together?

How is accessibility an integral part of usability?

- "Usability means making products and systems easier to use, and matching them more closely to user needs and requirements.", -
- *Usabilitynet.org*
- "Usability refers to how well users can learn and use a product to achieve their goals and how satisfied they are with that process"
- *Usability.gov*
- "Web accessibility means that people with disabilities can perceive, understand, navigate, and interact with the Web, and that they can contribute to the Web."
- *wc3.org*

Web accessibility and creating usable websites are two concepts that go hand-in-hand. Many web developers can create web sites that comply with accessibility standards, but are still unusable by people with disabilities. This session will address this issue and explain how simple evaluations may be performed to create a better, usable end product for all users, including people with disabilities. This session will also discuss how incorporating testing for accessibility and usability into the project planning process can save time and resources for maintaining and supporting users of the website.

Speakers

- Cordelia Geiken, CITES
- Tim Offenstein, CITES
- Jonathan Hsieh, CITES

Adobe PDF Accessibility using Acrobat and Common Look Lecture

Ball Room West: 11:10am

Adobe PDF documents are widely used to share printable documents on the web. Learn about how to check Adobe PDF documents for accessibility and tools that can use to make Adobe PDF documents more accessible. Learn about how you can participate in the free Netcentric CommonLook Trial Program sponsored by the IBHE Web Accessibility Collaboration Group.

Speaker

- Mike Scott, Illinois Department of Human Services

Disability Simulation and Screen Reader Demonstration Hands-on

Bresee Lounge: 10:10am and 11:10am

See description on previous page

Lunch

Exhibit Hall: 12:00pm and 1:15pm

Box lunches are provided in the Artium and please take the lunch you ordered when you registered for the conference.

Content Management Systems I: Other Campus and State Experiences Panel

Ball Room East: 1:15pm

The use of content management systems to make it easier to add and update content to web sites is becoming much more popular. Learn about the experiences of other Big Ten universities and the State Department of Human Services experiences in making both open source and commercial content management systems support the accessibility efforts of their campuses.

Speakers

- Christian Johansen (Plone, open source using Python), Penn State University
- Brandon Bowersox (Drupal, open source using PHP), OJC
- Mike Scott (OneNet, open source based on .NET), Illinois Department of Human Services

Accessible Presentations Panel

Ball Room West: 1:15pm

What makes a presentation accessible or inaccessible? Learn tools and techniques that can be used to help make accessible presentations.

Speakers

- Marc Thompson, Academic Outreach
- Hadi Rangin, DRES, College of Applied Health Sciences
- Christy Blew, DRES, College of Applied Health Sciences

NetCentric CommonLook Adobe PDF Accessibility Editing Tool, MSF&W

Bresee Lounge: 1:15pm

The Portable Document Format (PDF) has become a de facto standard for the distribution and exchange of electronic documents and forms, and is increasingly becoming a widely accepted platform for the automation of document processes and data workflows. As with other electronic technologies, PDF needs to meet the accessibility requirements that make it possible for people with disabilities to access electronic information.

The CommonLook Section 508 for Adobe Acrobat is the optimal solution for Federal and state agencies, corporations and non-governmental organizations that want to ensure their PDF holdings are accessible and meet the requirements of Section 508 (29 U.S.C. 794d) of the Rehabilitation Act.

Using CommonLook, you can easily and quickly determine if your PDF documents meet all the applicable Section 508 requirements. Furthermore, CommonLook helps correct the most common accessibility problems, including the proper tagging of images, tables, forms and other non-textual objects. A compliance report makes it possible, for PDF authors, to get detailed information on the accessibility problems so they can be corrected.

Features and Benefits

- Increases the quality of accessible PDF documents;
- Reduces the time required to remediate PDF documents for Section 508 compliance;
- Applies all Section 508 Standards that are applicable to PDF, and identifies all instances of document non-compliance, providing a comprehensive and easy-to-use accessibility testing solution;
- Automates the complete testing of individual standards, thereby increasing productivity, and providing a time-and-money saving solution;
- Provides detailed and summary test results information at the page and document levels

Leader

- Nathan Zak, MSF&W

Content Management Systems II: Illinois Efforts Panel

Ball Room East: 2:30pm

The IT@Illinois Initiative is bringing people together to find common solutions to IT needs on campus. One of the needs is content management systems to make it easier for units on campus to update and organize information on the web. One of the considerations is how content management systems support the requirements of the IITAA. The participants in this session will discuss the accessibility issues of content management systems being used and considered at Illinois.

Speakers

- Tim Offenstein, Campus Information Technologies and Educational Services
- Nicholas Hoyt, DRES, College of Applied Health Sciences
- Robert Slater, Library
- Jeremy Todd, Agriculture and Consumer Sciences

Adobe Flash Accessibility Lecture

Ball Room West: 2:30pm

Flash is widely used on campus and is used many ways to deliver information, course materials and style content at Illinois. This session will present an overview of the accessibility issues, how to test Flash objects for accessibility and key features flash developers should consider in creating Flash based resources

Speaker

- Mike Scott, Illinois Department of Human Services

Browse Aloud hands on demo, MSFW

Bresee Lounge: 2:30pm

Browsealoud reads web pages aloud for people who find it difficult to read online. Reading large amounts of text on screen can be difficult for those with literacy and visual impairments.

More than 45 million people in the United States have literacy problems. By subscribing to Browsealoud for your website, you will greatly increase the number of people who can access the content on your site.

Browsealoud makes using the Internet easier for people who have:

- Low literacy and reading skills
- English as a second language
- Learning Disabilities such as Dyslexia
- Mild visual impairments

Get Browsealoud on your site and increase your audience in the US and Canada to:

- 45+ million people with literacy problems
- 10-15% of the population with a learning disability
- 18% of the US population over age 5 for whom English is a second language
- 12% of the Canadian population with some type of disability
- 22% of Canadians who are functioning at the lowest literacy level

Leader

- Nathan Zak, MSF&W

Reception

Exhibit Hall: 3:30-4:45pm (One drink ticket is included in the registration)

This is a time to discuss one-on-one or in small groups some of the accessibility issues with other participants.