

Impressions about Conferences

Friday, 8 July 2005

Graduate Presenters

I liked the idea of giving graduate students (even at the M.A. level) a chance to participate in the conference, by either giving a presentation or displaying a poster. Some posters were really impressive. This is how future researchers are prepared and how students develop a passion for attending and participating in conferences.

Thursday, 7 July 2005

Text and Discourse Conference

Yesterday was the first day of the conference. I entered from the Westside of the main building. There were no signs giving directions to location of the conference. I followed the directions given in the conference website. I looked and went to the room numbers given, they were closed. I asked a couple of people and they knew nothing about the conference. They asked me to go to the ninth floor. I went and a secretary called and told me to go to the ground floor at 2:30 for registration. I hooked my lap-top and worked for a while. A student told me I could use the internet in the library. I went to the library and checked my e-mail.

After 4:00 p.m. I went to the registration desk and found out that there is no registration for me. They even printed my name incorrectly in the program book (printed my father's name instead of my first name). Although I registered online early enough, but I never gotten a confirmation. The treasurer said I am not registered. I was so upset as

this means I had to pay the onsite registration fee, which is higher. The same thing happened to me when I went to the ABC conference in Copenhagen this year and Milan last year. Although I had a printout of the registration submission details, they had me pay the onsite registration fee.

I do admire American conference organizers as they notify you right away once you submit your registration. The registration process of some European conferences does not seem to be efficient.

Wednesday, 29 June 2005

My NECC Presentation

My first Global Gallery Presentation was at 1:30 on Wednesday. I had a flat panel to display my presentation (not a plasma screen like last year). Some people had additional apers posters to as a supplement. I did not know we could do that. So I did not have any paper posters. When I got to my table, my friend Sally Bair with some other friends were waiting to wish me good luck. As soon as I connected my laptop to the screen, there was no picture on the screen. Sally called Camilla and another technician. The technician could not solve the problem. Camilla cam with her own tablet laptop and she hooked it to the screen. There was a picture on the screen but not on the tablet. As a result I could not browse through the website and scroll up and down the slides. So I ended up showing the presentation from my lap top. Anyway, the presentation was successful and everybody liked it and found it useful to apply with their students. I am really grateful to Sally and Camilla for their help and support.

Tuesday, 28 June 2005

NECC 2005 Conference

The exhibits at NECC conference are intriguing, as ever. Too many things to see, check, collect and carry. Enjoyed meeting and talking to many people. I learnt a lot from the demonstrations, where I could browse through some new software and ask questions.