

# Ready for a Challenge?

## International 2005 ICT Student Design Competition

The Competition invites students working with Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) around the world to apply their creative talents in developing solutions towards integrating older persons into the fabric of the community and fully include them in all social, cultural and productive activities.

"We often are on the cutting edge and we need your help to get us across!"

Professor Dianne Davis, Founding President, ICCC

"This is the age of aging. But it's only the dawn of that age."

Julia Alvarez, Former Ambassador for The Dominican Republic To The United Nations



### Eligibility

Undergraduate and graduate students concerned with the design, development or deployments of ICTs are eligible to submit projects.

### Deadlines

To enter the competition, instructors or students are encouraged to send an entry form to the International Council for Caring Communities by May 31, 2005. Competition projects are due on or before September 1, 2005 at the International Council for Caring Communities, 24 Central Park South, NY 10019, USA.

### Awards

There are two first prizes, one for the best hardware or software development supportive of ICT use, access or inclusion by older persons. A second prize will be given to the best or most innovative application including training or content related development supportive of "effective use" by older persons of ICTs.

First Prize US \$10,000, Second Prize: US \$5,000; Third Prize: US \$2,500. At least three more projects in each category will receive honorable mentions. All other completed submissions will be recognized with a certificate of acknowledging a student's participation.

### Program

While some of the needs of older persons are universal, other needs vary by culture, political system, social structure, geographic region and demographic context. The entry may be adapted to reflect situations specific to regions and or environmental contexts.

Competition guidelines are available by visiting: [www.international-iccc.org](http://www.international-iccc.org); e-mail: [icccworld@earthlink.net](mailto:icccworld@earthlink.net) or by mail International Council for Caring Communities (ICCC), 24 Central Park South, NY 10019, USA. Tel: (+1) 212.688.4321 Fax: (+1) 212.759.5893

**CHAIR**  
H.E. Dr. Leonel Fernandez  
President of Dominican Republic.

**VICE CHAIRS**  
Dr. Fadi P. Deek, Dean, College of Science and Liberal Arts, New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Mr. Amir A. Dossal, Executive Director United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP).

Mr. Walter Fust, Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Mr. Danilo Piaggese, Chief, Information and Communication Technology for Development Division, Sustainable Development Department (SDS/ICT) Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

**Integrated Communities:  
A Society for All Ages International 2005  
Student Design Competition Cycle**

Name of Student

Home Address

Telephone Number

Fax Number

E-mail Address

Enrolled in what Degree Program

Graduate or Undergraduate

Name of Institution

Faculty Advisor

Telephone Number

Fax Number

E-mail Address

Completed entry forms must be submitted either electronically to [www.icccworld.earthlink.net](http://www.icccworld.earthlink.net), faxed: (+1) 212.759.5893 or postmarked on or before May 31, 2005 and sent to the International Council for Caring Communities, 24 Central Park South, New York 10019, USA.

**“We are proud to launch an opportunity to address inclusion of the “Graying Society” in the Information Society by fostering practical research among the next generation of ICT designers and developers. The ICT Design Competition provides a unique opportunity to stimulate new thinking and globally to showcase meaningful solutions that enhance the quality of life for all ages.”**

H.E. Dr. Leonel Fernandez, President of Dominican Republic.

**Competition Background**

The fast approaching global “Agequake” makes it essential that inclusion of older persons becomes an integral part of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) deliberations. The International Council for Caring Communities is thus organizing for 2005 a worldwide Student Competition to stimulate ICT research and design projects towards integrating older persons into the “knowledge society” and to demonstrate the value of ICTs in the context of an ageing population.

This program is a centerpiece activity of the International Council for Caring Communities (ICCC); which endeavors to stimulate the next generation of ICT designers and developers to address the issues and opportunities related to enhancing the quality of life for the emerging graying society. The competition is organized in conjunction with the United Nations ICT Task Force, the United Nations programme on ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UN Department of Public Information, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the private sector, academic centers, and related organizations.

Every month over 1 million people turn 60 years old globally; 73% of this growth is occurring in the developing countries!

**The Challenge**

By 2050 for the first time in history the number of those over 60 will exceed the number of those under 15. ICTs as an instrument of change and as the enabler of the Information/Knowledge/Learning Society of the future can enrich and ensure an inclusive “Society of All Ages”. To respond to this challenge the Competition is designed to solicit student ICT based projects directed towards using technology to enhance the quality of life for older persons and thus overcoming an age related “digital divide”.

**Overall Purpose**

- **To harness** information technologies as instruments for social cohesion and social inclusion, in this way, building ICT enabled opportunities for all generations at the grass-roots level and as promoting of ICT strategies at all levels from local to global.
- **To engage** students from all regions of the world working in ICT research, design, application development and/or implementation to apply the creative talents toward solutions that promote and enable the effective use of ICTs by older persons.

- **To encourage** synthesis and integration of the technical (hardware software and networking) with the social, and including learning and the environmental/ physical contexts associated with the use of ICT by older persons.

**Why a Competition?**

The Competition reinforces the notion that the next generation must, and can, proactively plan for a society of diverse ages, and with increasing proportions of older persons. It is, after all, going to fall on their shoulders to find solutions for sustaining ageing society and “converting” it into a society for all ages. The Competition is aimed at addressing unique and practical solutions for the following issues:

While some of the needs of older persons are universal, other vary by culture, political system, social structure, geographic region and demographic context. The student participants may adapt the competition guidelines to reflect the situation in their or other specific regions. The Key Issues listed below are critical to the success of societal integration of older people and should be addressed in the entry.

**“The partnership between the IDB and the countries in the region aims at growing understanding, stimulating dialogue and creating real benefits for all people. Research, thinking and talent will help crafting the engine of a Renaissance in the developing world based on knowledge and access to information.”**

Mr. Danilo Piaggese, Chief, Information and Communication Technology for Development Division, Sustainable Development Department (SDS/ICT) Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

**Key Issues Include**

- **Connectivity:** the use of ICTs to enable the physical or electronic accessibility to goods, amenities and/or services.
- **Symbiosis:** matching the talents and interests of older people and the needs of society.
- **Dignity:** upholding and preserving personal rights and opportunities for personal autonomy regardless of any reduction in faculties.
- **Access:** availability and usability of essential services such as to health care, food, educational facilities, recreational areas, social services, communication and transportation.
- **Effective Use:** development and use of ICT’s to support social inclusion and distributed and equalized access to electronically enabled and other services and facilities for older people.
- **Security:** providing a sense of safety in physical and psychological terms.

**“The networked society is bringing enormous benefits to all, but is also the source of considerable risks not the least being the possibility of leaving behind those most vulnerable. This competition will serve to stimulate an interest in how ICT’s can benefit one of those vulnerable groups.”**

Dr. Fadi P. Deek, Dean, College of Science and Liberal Arts, New Jersey Institute of Technology.

**Eligibility**

Undergraduate/graduate students concerned with the design, development or deployments of ICTs are eligible to submit projects.

**Deadlines**

Competition entry forms may be obtained from ICCC online at: [www.international-iccc.org](http://www.international-iccc.org). Completed entry forms must be submitted either electronically to: [icccworld.earthlink.net](http://icccworld.earthlink.net), faxed: 212.759.5893 or postmarked on or before **May 31, 2005** and sent to **International Council for Caring Communities, 24 Central Park South, New York 10019, USA**. Entry projects must be received prior to **September 1, 2005**.

**Awards**

**Awards include:** First Prize US \$10,000, Second Prize: US \$5,000; Third Prize: US \$2,500.

**Jury**

Winners will be selected by an International Jury of renowned ICT experts, gerontologists and United Nations officials.

**The Exhibition**

2005 has special significance for it will offer winners worldwide exposure at two important international venues: the **World Summit for Information Society**, Tunis, November 2005 and the annual **Caring Communities for the 21st Century: Imagining the Possible Conference** at the United Nations Headquarters, NY February 2006.

**“There is not just one digital divide between the South and the North, but many digital divides within societies. The gap between young people and the older generation is one of them. To create a truly inclusive, equitable and balanced Information Society, it is imperative that all people—young and old—be part of it.”**

Mr. Walter Fust, Director-General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

**Competition Advisory Board as of September 2004**

- **Chair: Dr. Michael Gurstein**, Visiting Professor, School of Management, New Jersey Institute of Technology, New Jersey, United States of America.
- **Chair:** Community Informatics Research Network.
- **Ms. Khoulood Abuzaid**, Senior Program Coordinator at the Community Mobilization Unit, Knowledge Stations' Project, National Institute of Communications, Jordan.
- **Dr. W. Stanley Brown**, President, Brown Global Enterprises, LLC, United States of America.
- **Professor Alfred C.M. Chan**, Director, Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies (APIAS), Lingnan University, Hong Kong.
- **Mr. Gary Fowlie**, Chief of Media Relations and Public Information, International Telecommunication Union, United Nations specialized agency for communications, Switzerland.
- **Prof. Karamjit Gill**, Professor of Human Centred Systems, University of Brighton, United Kingdom (ret.).
- **Dr. Joel Grossman**, President, Grossman Associates, United States of America.
- **Ms. Sylvia Gurstein**, Seniors Advocate, Canada.
- **Ms. Stella Hughes**, Chief, Media and Society Section, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO.
- **Dr. Ashok Jain**, Dr. C.V. Raman Chair for Development Studies, Dr. C.V. Raman University and Vice President, Research, EMPI Business School
- **Mr. Sergei Kambalov**, Deputy Executive Coordinator, Secretariat of the United Nations ICT Task Force, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).
- **Mr. Sarbuland Khan**, Director, ECOSOC Office of Support and Coordination, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).
- **Mr. Abdul Waheed Khan**, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, UNESCO.
- **Professor Yefim Malitkov**, Chair, Commonwealth of Independent State's Interstate Committee on Knowledge Dissemination and Adult Education, CIS.
- **Dr. Peter Mathias**, Executive Director, NHSU Accreditation Consortium, United Kingdom.
- **Ms. Sarah McCue**, Senior Partnership Specialist, ICT Sector, World Bank.
- **Dr. Ndeh Ningo**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Electrical and telecommunication Engineering, Ecole Nationale Supérieure Polytechnique, University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon.
- **Dr. Jenny Preece**, Professor of Information Systems, University of Maryland-Baltimore County, United States of America.
- **Dr. Alexandre Sidorenko**, United Nations programme on ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).
- **Mr. Klaus Stoll**, President, Fundacion ChasquiNet, Ecuador.
- **Mr. Alan Toy**, Project Director: Independent Living in Los Angeles, UCLA Advanced Policy Institute, United States of America.
- **Dr. Kirsty Williamson**, Director of Information and Telecommunications Needs Research, School of Information Management and Systems, Monash University, Australia.

**“The ICT crossroads provides a unique opportunity to take a quantum leap in our thinking and develop ways of using ICT to bridge other divides, such as the generation gap. There is a well of wisdom in the older members of society that often goes untapped and unrecorded. Creative uses of technology could help to capture this knowledge for the benefit of present and future generations.”**

Mr. Amir A. Dossal, Executive Director, United Nations Found for International Partnerships (UNFIP)

**Competition Guidelines**

Competition guidelines are available by visiting the ICCC website: [www.international-iccc.org](http://www.international-iccc.org); e-mail: [icccworld@earthlink.net](mailto:icccworld@earthlink.net) or by mail **International Council for Caring Communities (ICCC), 24 Central Park South, NY 10019, USA. Tel: (+1) 212.688.4321 Fax: (+1) 212.759.5893**

International Council for Caring Communities (ICCC), an NGO, has Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). ICCC responds to the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly aging global population by stimulating and identifying successful strategies and creative solutions. ICCC encourages their adaptation and/or replication throughout developing and developed countries.

Mainstreaming ageing issues, especially within the areas of the build environment and information, and communication technologies are the centerpieces of ICCC's global dialogue. ICCC serves not only as a leader and catalyst but also as a bridge joining universities, government agencies, the private sector, NGOs as well as United Nations agencies to promote a Society for All Generations.



**International 2005 ICT Student Design Competition**  
In support of the World Summit for Information Society (WSIS), Tunis, November 2005