

Comment on: "Context-aware applications & physical hypermedia"

Understanding their own roots is perhaps the most precious value treasured by smalltalkers because of the continuity line that projects their work into the future.

Smalltalk was introduced in Argentina more than 20 years ago by Gustavo Rossi at the University of La Plata. Some years later, the ample horizon of research projects impelled by Rossi and his collaborators made them create the LIFIA institute. Since its early days LIFIA has been notably influential in the study of object orientation theories and practices. The work developed by LIFIA placed Argentina among the first countries in the world to adopt OOP in the academy, the scientific research and the industry. That influence is still palpable in educational and professional circles and many smalltalkers around the world wonder why the Argentine Smalltalk community is so broad and active.

In accordance with its tradition, LIFIA is represented in the Smalltalks 2007 conference by one of its more vigorous and enthusiastic research groups. Lead by Andrés Fortier, and integrated by a bunch of young and cultivated smalltalkers, the group develops relevant aspects of the field of Context-aware Applications, which is a subject of growing interest for the times to come. These applications belong to the realm of ubiquitous computing, a relatively new model for human-computer interaction that involves several technologies, domains of knowledge and new problems that users are willing to see solved.

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