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Name Change and Rebranding

Our thanks to those keen observers who spotted "Culminis's" that were still in the "wild" and thus helped us to "catch them". If you spot any that have still escaped "capture" please let us know at info@GITCA.org.

Social Networking

GITCA is now on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

To join the group on LinkedIn, go to:
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=144364&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr

To join the Facebook group, go to:
<http://www.facebook.com/futone?ref=profile#/group.php?gid=10951654533>

To follow GITCA on Twitter, go to:
<http://twitter.com/GITCAORG>

SharePoint Hosting

Unfortunately it became necessary to restore all GITCA hosted SharePoint sites on 2010-05-05 to approximately one week earlier due to the corruption of the VHD. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused. The cause is being investigated to prevent any further occurrence. If there are any remaining issues please contact technical@GITCA.org.

GITCA at TechEd North America in New Orleans, June 7 – 10, 2010

TechEd North America is coming around very soon and we are hard at work preparing. Our INETA colleagues have organized a Community Leadership Summit and kindly invited the GITCA members. If you or any of the members of your user group/association happen to be attending TechEd North America and are around at 1pm on Sunday afternoon, June 6th, please join us for an excellent opportunity to exchange community knowledge and experience. You can register at <http://meta.org/Summit2010/Default.aspx>. We look forward to meeting you at TechEd.

TechEd North America 2010 Birds-of-a-Feather (BOF) Sessions

Preparation for the IT Pro BOF sessions is well underway. If you have submitted a session and haven't yet received a final verdict please be patient. It is a lot of work all done by volunteers. Congratulations to those who have had their session accepted. For those of you that could not be accommodated this year please try again in the future. Achieving a balance of topics and deciding between submissions with similar content is not easy. Our grateful thanks go to everybody who made a submission.

GITCA at TechEd India

Microsoft TechEd India 2010 was held between the 12th and 14th April, 2010 in Bengaluru.

GITCA together with INETA, & PASS jointly published a Community Times newsletter, which was distributed to 3000 TechEd attendees. The printed newsletter was sponsored by Telerik. It contained information about unique activities organized by the user groups in India, and provided a vehicle for TechEd India attendees to join the communities relevant to them. A copy is available [here](#) for viewing or download. Additionally an influencer networking evening was organized for user group leaders and MVP's which was sponsored by Infragistics and Pluralsight. Each leader was given a free pass to technical training content by Pluralsight. As a follow up from the networking evening GITCA is discussing with [Pluralsight](#) the provision of some benefits to GITCA members. Pluralsight is now working on training materials for IT Pros in addition to their current developer offerings. More information will be available shortly.

GITCA Global and Regional Board 2010 Elections

By now you should have received a request for nominations for the Global, APAC, EMEA and NORAM Boards. The request for nominations for LATAM should be distributed soon. As a reminder all nominations must be time stamped no later than 11:59 PM local time on May 21st to be accepted. If you have any questions or input please email info@GITCA.org.

GITCA Global and Regional Board 2010 Ashwin Kini, GITCA APAC Regional Chair wins prestigious Community Award

In 2009 Microsoft India started the Community Impact Awards. The awards recognize those user groups and individuals who have made the best contributions to promoting and educating the IT Community in India with respect to Microsoft technologies. There are separate awards for the developer and IT Pro communities. GITCA is very pleased to congratulate Ashwin Kini on receiving the Best IT Pro Community Contributor for 2010 award. Further his user group, Mumbai IT Pro User Group, received the Most Improved User Group award.

Computing Society of India (CSI) Joins GITCA

Yet another prestigious organization has joined GITCA. They join the ranks of such as [CIPS](#), [CSSA](#), [ChinaValue](#), [NPA](#), and [IP3](#). Formed in 1965, the CSI has been instrumental in guiding the Indian IT industry down the right path during its formative years. Today, the CSI has 66 chapters all over India, 381 student branches, and more than 60000 members including India's most famous IT industry leaders, top scientists, government and academics. GITCA is working with Microsoft India and the CSI – Education Directorate on an ambitious program to bring computer literacy to the masses in India.

NPA Professionalism Awards

GITCA is pleased to support the NPA Professionalism Awards. Please click [here](#) to see this year's winners and learn from what made them "winners".

Microsoft News

GITCA is pleased to support the Office 2010 and SharePoint 2010 launch which occurred on May 12th. Please see the home page of the GITCA website (www.GITCA.org) for information on how you can download evaluation copies and find out more.

Stephen Ibaraki Interviews of Prominent People in the Industry

Dr. Art Pyster is a Distinguished Research Professor in the School of Systems and Enterprises at Stevens Institute of Technology, and the Deputy Executive Director of the Systems Engineering Research Center (SERC).

[Kelly Gotlieb](#), "the" internationally renowned pioneer in computing, talks about his work as the Co-Chair of the ACM Awards Committee.

[Dr. Netiva Cafori](#), Distinguished Scientist, Educator, Author, Artist, Leader, Activist, shares her insights into computing, education, the global condition, the future of technology, and career and life lessons.

[Dr. Kishore Swaminathan](#), Chief Scientist Accenture shares his insights and research into effective leadership, developing talent and creativity,

rethinking business systems, essential global overall trends, drivers for organizational success, business needs and strategy, the future of technology, skill needs, and career lessons.

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