Improving the Accessibility of Computing Enrichment Programs

SIGCSE 2012

Two Fundamental Questions

- **Inclusion:** How do we make computing enrichment programs more welcoming and inclusive for participants with disabilities?

- **Accessibility:** How do we make the software and hardware tools used in computing enrichment programs accessible to participants with disabilities?

Outcomes

- **Action Plans**
  - What needs to be done
  - Who will do it

- **White Paper**
  - Submitted to SIGCSE Inroads Magazine
  - Sent to creators of enrichment tools

Agenda

1. Introductions (10 minutes)
2. Presentations by organizers on their successful enrichment programs involving students with disabilities (60 minutes)
3. Break (15 minutes)
4. Parallel Discussions (40 minutes)
   a) Including students with disabilities into enrichment activities
   b) Improving the accessibility of enrichment tools that may be currently inaccessible for some students (e.g. Scratch seems to require vision)
5. Summary of Discussions (40 minutes)
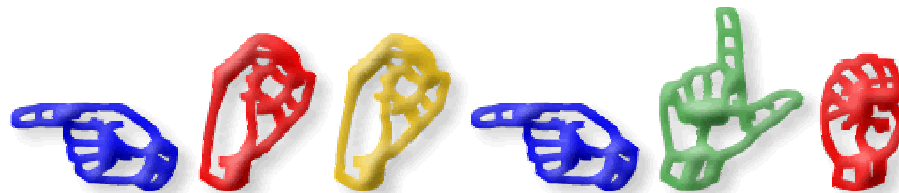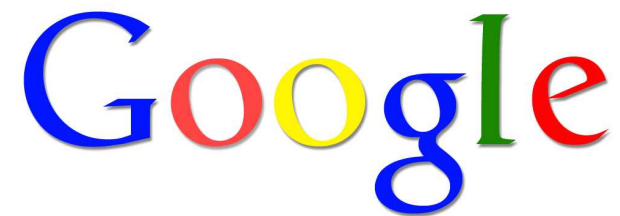6. Action plans (15 minutes)

Hints on making the Workshop Accessible

- Before speaking identify yourself.
- Describe pictures on slides.
- Pause to allow people to read slides themselves.
- Read slides too.

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Acknowledgements

Introductions

- Speakers
  - Richard Ladner, University of Washington
  - Karen Alkoby, Gallaudet University
  - Jeff Bigham, University of Rochester
  - Stephanie Ludi, Rochester Institute of Technology
  - Daniela Marghitu, Auburn University
  - Jeffrey Wilson, U. of Southern Illinois, Edwardsville (Substituting for Andreas Stefik)

Participants

- Sean Mealin, North Carolina State
- Suzanne Balik, North Carolina State
- Matt Stallman, North Carolina State
- Elissa Olsen, NTID
- Joe Stanislow, NTID

Computer Science Unplugged

- National Federation of the Blind Junior Science Academy 2008, 2009
- Sorting Algorithms

Other Programs

- DO-IT Scholars Program 1994-2005
- Vertical Mentoring Workshop for the Blind in STEM 2006
- Summer Academy for Advancing Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Computing 2007-2012
- Saturday Computing Experience 2011-2012
- National Federation of the Blind Youth Slam and Junior Science Academy 2008-2011.

Questions?