

Call for Papers

'Pocket Labs 2016'

**Special Session @ 2016 International Conference
on Interactive Mobile Communication Technologies and Learning (IMCL2016)
San Diego, CA, USA, October 17/19, 2016**
<http://imcl-conference.org/imcl2016/>

Pocket Labs (or Lab in a bag/pocket, Lab at home, etc.) are a very promising opportunity especially for part-time students for managing their study efforts and time. Here, Pocket Labs are meant to be hardware units (e.g. Digilent's Analog Discovery 1 and 2, National Instruments' myDAQ or myRIO, but also open microcontroller platforms such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi), in combination with software management and programming tools, which enable students to do a reasonable part of their time-consuming work at home and – even more important – at a self-defined time.

Besides Online Labs, Pocket Labs are predestinated to be a promising platform for enforcing technology-enhanced as well as mobile learning. Especially at Universities of Applied Sciences, where practical work is a big issue, they help keeping the practical part of the entire study program high enough. Moreover, students get motivated by doing practical work at their own pace, thus providing a higher level of student satisfaction.

According to National Instruments' Academic group, a quite large number of Universities and institutes already have experience in using their products. Analog Discovery, myDAQ and myRIO are offered at special discounts for students as well as teaching staff, and the software for controlling the systems is either free (Waveforms, or NI ELVIS 4.00) or is available at – even for students – affordable price (e.g. LabVIEW student edition).

The special session 'Pocket Labs' invites original papers (full/short/poster submissions) focusing on best-practice examples as well as a collection of experiences concerning the use of Pocket Labs, in the ideal case covering a broad variety of hardware and software solutions. Papers should cover most of (but are not limited to) the following topics:

- **Hardware:** Which platform is used (and why), what are the (yearly) financial efforts for providing it? Is there one single platform used or more?
- **Ownership:** Will the Pocket Lab belong to the students after finishing their projects or courses or will they have to return it to the University?
- **Lectures:** Which lectures make use of Pocket Labs? What is the total number of courses in the program that use them? Which topics can be covered?
- **Software:** Which tools (programming languages, measurement apps) are used in combination with Pocket Labs? Are they open source or commercial?
- **Feedback:** What were the student's opinions? Was it possible for them to define at least a part of their workload themselves?

Special sessions, held in parallel with the general conference, are an integral part of the conference. Special session papers are required to meet the same standards as papers in the general conference and are published in the same conference proceedings. Articles submitted to 'Pocket Labs 2016' will follow the Conference Submission System (<https://www.conftool.net/imcl-conference>) and presented papers will appear in the IMCL2016 proceedings, published by IEEE and listed in IEEE Xplore.

'Pocket Labs' Special Session Chairs:

- **Yacob Astatke**, Interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies, School of Engineering, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland, E-mail: yacob.astatke@morgan.edu, webpage: <http://dryacobastatke.com/>
- **Thomas Klinger**, Professor, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences (CUAS; Fachhochschule Kärnten), Villach, Austria, E-mail: t.klinger@fh-kaernten.at, webpage: www.fh-kaernten.at

'Pocket Labs' Program Committee:

- **Mario Bochicchio**, Università del Salento (mario.bochicchio@unisalento.it), IT
- **Ken Conner**, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (connor@rpi.edu), USA
- **Thomas Fischer**, Fachhochschule Campus Wien (thomas.fischer@fh-campuswien.ac.at), AT
- **Christian Madritsch**, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences (c.madritsch@fh-kaernten.at), AT
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- **Friedrich Praus**, Fachhochschule Technikum Wien (friedrich.praus@technikum-wien.at), AT
- **Werner Schwab**, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences (w.schwab@acoustics.at), AT
- **Andreas Sumper**, UPC Barcelona (andreas.sumper@upc.edu), SP

Important Dates:

13 May 2016 - Submission of complete papers for special sessions and the main conference

10 Jun 2016 - Notification of acceptance

12 Sep 2016 - Author registration deadline

12 Sep 2016 - Camera-ready due

17 Oct 2016 - Conference Opening

Please submit your proposals via: <https://www.conftool.net/imcl-conference/>

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