

PATT-21 Call for papers

Theme: Research on Teaching and Learning Technology and Engineering in a Multidisciplinary Context

The theme of the ITEA 2009 Annual Conference is “Delivering the T & E in STEM”. For an international audience this can be translated into: how to teach about technology and engineering in the context of a curriculum domain in which science, technology, engineering and math are brought together. There are similar ambitions with similar names in other countries. It has continuously shown to be a challenge to create such a learning area in which the constituting domains are really interrelated. Many times, each of the components remains easily visible. There are all sorts of reasons for this. It seems like there is a certain disciplinary ‘incommensurability’ that hampers real connections, just like water and oil do not mix naturally. Also there are various barriers in the school tradition and in organizational issues. Because the success of STEM (or whatever equivalent name is used outside the USA) is apparently by no means to be taken for granted, research studies can be a valuable contribution to find out where the barriers are and how they can be overcome. Such studies can be both theoretical (seeking out the nature of the contributing disciplines) and empirical (trying out in classroom how to deal with the barriers).

PATT is an international community of technology education colleagues (researchers, teacher educators, teachers, etc.) who are interested in educational research as a support to developments in technology teaching. PATT is open to all. There is no membership. PATT sessions at the ITEA Annual conference can be attended by all conference participants. Registration for PATT includes registration for ITEA and offers special advantages, such as getting the PATT papers before the conference. Proceedings of previous conferences can be found at the ITEA website.

Paper proposals can be sent to prof.dr. Marc J. de Vries (m.j.devries@tudelft.nl) or through ITEA’s conference website. Deadlines are the same for PATT-21 and for the ITEA Annual Conference. Registration only through ITEA.