Focus of the Symposium

Creative decision-making lies at the heart of much professional work; indeed seems to be the driving force behind it. Most conspicuously, perhaps, creative decision-making manifests itself in the design and planning professions, but it may also be crucial to other, apparently quite different fields, such as management, medicine and psychiatry.

In his influential book *The Reflective Practitioner. How Professionals Think in Action* (Basic Books, New York, 1983), Donald Schön showed how successful professional work often depends on acute awareness of one’s own working process (‘reflection-in-action’), and a readiness to seize new opportunities that arise unexpectedly (‘listening to the situation’s back-talk’). These competencies, Schön argued, are characteristic of masterful performance, whereas the ‘technical rationality’ promulgated under the Positivist tradition of science, and the well-defined (scientific) methods associated with it, are of limited applicability for much of professional practice.

Even so, we can assume that decisions made in professional practice are not based on whimsical ignorance. On the contrary, they must be informed by knowledge. Although Schön would probably agree, his focus is not on the nature and use of the knowledge on which creative decision-making is based. But that is what we shall focus on in this symposium.

Topics and Authorship

Questions that may be addressed in submitted papers include but are not limited to the following:
• **Conceptual fundamentals:**
  what do we mean by ‘decision-making’, ‘creative decision-making’ and ‘knowledge’?

• **Knowledge–decision relationship:**
  in what sense are decisions ‘informed’ by knowledge?

• **Classification of knowledge:**
  what kind(s) of knowledge is (are) involved in creative decision-making?

• **Creativity:**
  does the creativity of decisions depend on the (kind of) underlying knowledge?

• **Pragmatics:**
  how, and to what extent, can relevant knowledge be captured, recorded and reused in future decision-making?

• **Technology:**
  what role, if any, does, could, or should information technology play in such handling of reusable knowledge?

• **Methodology:**
  what methods are suitable for exploring the role and nature of knowledge (possibly including ‘tacit knowledge’) in creative decision-making?

To encourage discussions that may lead to inter-disciplinary cross-fertilisation, it is highly desirable that authors of the papers represent a variety of disciplines – for example:

• **Research disciplines:**
  artificial intelligence, design research, economics, knowledge management, philosophy, psychology, sociology, …

• **Professional disciplines:**
  architecture, engineering, management, medicine, product design, …

### Call for Papers: Procedure & Important Dates

Papers are solicited within the scope outlined above. All submitted material must be in English. The submission-review-publishing procedure will be as follows:

**Submission of paper proposal by April 5, 2002.**

Potential contributors to the symposium submit a paper proposal including title of paper, author(s) and author affiliation(s), an approximately 200-word long abstract summarising expected contents of the paper, with a clear indication of its main contribution (‘main point’, ‘message’, or ‘thesis’), and up to 6 keywords. Optionally, a synopsis (annotated table of contents) may be added, but the entire proposal should not exceed 1 page.

**Review of proposals.**

Proposals will be judged with respect to their relevance to the symposium, scholarly quality, originality, and potential for discussion.

**Notification by April 17, 2002.**

Notification on the outcome of the proposal evaluation. [NB: discount on registration fee if paid on or before May 1st; see registration info on the InterSymp web site.]

**Submission of draft papers by June 17, 2002.**

Authors of accepted proposals submit full draft papers for presentation at the symposium. As the papers should be accessible to readers from other disciplines than the author’s, the style should be as non-technical as the subject allows, without compro-
missing reasonable scholarly standards. Papers should be brief and to the point, and their length and formatting must comply with the Guide for Authors available at the InterSymp web site. In particular, the 5-page limit should be observed (authors of papers beyond 5 pages incur a page fee for each additional page; see registration info on the InterSymp web site).

Review of draft papers.
Draft papers will be refereed for publishability. Revisions may be requested; in some cases as a prerequisite for publication.

Symposium.
The draft papers are presented and discussed. Because of the tight schedule, pre-conference proceedings will not be available. Instead, authors are encouraged to bring 20 pre-prints of their draft paper for distribution at the symposium.

Production of final papers.
Authors revise their papers according to (1) requests from the symposium chairman, if any, and (2) any relevant ideas generated by the presentation and discussion of the paper at the symposium.

Submission of final papers by **August 30, 2002:**
- Two hard-copies of the correctly formatted and camera-ready paper with artwork (if any).
- Diskette with electronic version of paper (preferably MS Word), exactly matching the hard-copies.
- A filled-in and signed Copyright Surrender Form (available from the InterSymp web site).

**Addresses**
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Paper proposals by e-mail; draft and final papers by paper mail.

Registration form and payment should be sent directly to the Conference Chairman:

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