

## HCI AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### Dennis Mann



My motivation for returning to school as an older, non-traditional student was to find a way of applying myself to the issues facing today's end users of interactive media. Once I had the opportunity to experience Dr Faiola's classes, beginning in 2003, I realized that the successful completion of this program would give me the skills and tools to achieve my career goals. As I have recently completed my undergraduate degree in New Media and look forward to commencing my Graduate studies in HCI, it is with the highest regard that I share how I have benefited from the concepts and insights of Dr. Faiola in my undergraduate classes and Capstone project.

Dr. Faiola's teachings were instrumental to my Undergraduate Capstone research, providing the framework with which I successfully developed and implemented an ongoing commercial endeavor that came to me through the IUPUI Solution Center. His concepts and practices for building and refining User Requirements were the baseline of my project. These concepts were also significant in the achievement of multiple promotions in my full-time career. From the development of better business requirements to the continuing enhancement of our software testing methods, my employer and I have been extremely pleased with the return on our investment, and would highly recommend the HCI program and Dr. Faiola as an excellent choice for anyone considering this emerging field of study.

Moreover, as for inspiration, my experiences with Dr. Faiola have led me to become a:

- Charter Member of the Indiana Chapter of the Usability Professional's Association (UPA),
- Member of the Association for Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group for Human-Computer Interaction (SIGCHI)
- Moderator for the ACM's SIGCHI CHI Jobs Listserv (bringing me in contact with HCI professionals from around the world),
- President of the IUPUI Student Chapter of ACM, and
- Leading advocate for Usability at Eli Lilly and Co.

My future goals are to complete the HCI Graduate Program at IUPUI, and upon my initial retirement from Eli Lilly and Co, establish a nationally recognized Usability Consulting firm. I steadfastly believe that the IUPUI School of Informatics and Dr. Anthony Faiola are the right people in the right place at the right time to assist me in this endeavor. I highly recommend him to the review committee for tenure.

#### **Dennis Mann**

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#### **Area of Intended Thesis:**

Hierarchical Needs Assessment Tool for Usability Testing Justification