



National Capital Region Chapter of the
ACM Special Interest Group on Computer Human Interaction

Battle of the Bulge: The usability of fisheye visualizations

Presented by Dr. Carl Gutwin, University of Saskatchewan

Monday February 23, 2004 at **Adobe Systems Canada** in Ottawa

What?

Although fisheye views and other distortion-oriented presentations have long been showpieces of information visualization, they have not found their way into common usage. A few minutes' experience with one of these systems suggests a reason why: although they are visually striking, they are also strikingly awkward. In this talk, I will review a research program that set out to determine whether fisheye views can be usable tools for viewing information and interacting with data, or whether they are a hopeless case, an infoviz trinket that should be returned to the mantelpiece whenever the real work starts.

Who?

Dr. Carl Gutwin has undergraduate degrees in English literature and Computer Science, and received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Calgary where he worked on issues of group awareness in real-time distributed groupware. Dr. Gutwin is currently Associate Professor of Computer Science at the University of Saskatchewan, and holds a Canada Research Chair in Next-Generation Groupware. His research covers a variety of topics in HCI and CSCW, including information visualization, the usability of distortion-oriented visualizations, groupware architectures, groupware performance, and the development of discount evaluation techniques for multi-user systems.

When and Where?

The meeting takes place on Monday February 23, 2004 at 7:00 PM in the Rideau 2 Conference Room at **Adobe Systems Canada** in Ottawa (please enter at link between the two towers), located at 785 Carling Avenue (near Dow's Lake, between Rochester and Preston streets) Ottawa, ON K1S 5H4 Canada.

- Free parking available on site after 6:00 PM; entrance is on Rochester St.
- **Bus routes 6 and 85** pass in front of the Adobe Systems Canada office on Carling Ave.
- **Bus route 3** stops on Preston St. at Carling Ave., near the Adobe Systems Canada office.
- **Bus route 4** stops on Bronson Ave. at Carling Ave., near the Adobe Systems Canada office (10-15 minute walk).
- The **O-Train** stops at Carling Station; you can walk east long Carling Ave. from the station (3-5 minute walk).

Note: All attending will be required to register with security. Please arrive 5-10 minutes earlier to allow for registering.

The meeting fee is \$5 for non-members and free for CapCHI members (\$20/year). Membership is for the session period (September 2003-September 2004) - anyone can join!

Refreshments will be provided for the meeting.