

BU software expert launches new book at international conference

A book which helps organisations implement global software development strategies and manage virtual teams will be formally launched at the world's premier conference on Global Software Engineering.

Software Testing and Global Industry: Future Paradigms (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2009) by software development expert, Dr Valentine Casey from Bournemouth University (BU), features extensive research and industry based case studies. The work demonstrates the best approaches to implement and manage globally distributed software testing and development.

The book will be officially launched by Professor Anthony Cahill, on Wednesday 15th July, 2009 at the 4th IEEE International Conference on Global Software Engineering (ICGSE 2009). This year's conference will be held at the University of Limerick, Ireland, and attracts academic and industry experts and practitioners from all over the world.

The book launch event is sponsored and supported by Lero - The Irish Software Engineering Research Centre.

Today software development has truly become a globally sourced commodity. This trend has been facilitated by the availability of highly skilled software professionals in low cost locations in Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Far East.

Many organisations have embraced this strategy hoping to leverage the opportunities it provides and take advantage of the benefits of establishing operations close to emerging markets. However, distributing software development is a complex task and should not be embarked on without due consideration and preparation.

Dr Casey, from BU's Software Systems Research Centre, has carried out extensive research into all aspects of the software development life cycle. His book identifies risks and proposes effective solutions to companies who are considering / continuing to outsource software development.

“Software testing plays a key role in delivering high quality products and is a labour-intensive, complex and expensive activity. Global Software Development (GSD) testing to-date has been perceived as a well defined task that is relatively straightforward and lends itself to being outsourced or offshored,” explained Dr Casey.

“My book demonstrates that testing in a GSD environment is not necessarily a simple activity and is prone to be negatively impacted by all the factors associated with distributed software development. While the primary focus of the work is testing it is also the culmination of 10 years’ GSD research. The book is therefore of particular relevance to those interested in off-shoring or outsourcing all or part of their software development process.

“My research provides practical solutions which can be utilised to address these important issues in the wider software community as it specifically considers the establishment of virtual teams and their efficient and effective operation. Its particular strengths are that while it is a scholarly work it is industry based and practical,” continued Dr Casey.

Notes to Editors:

1. BU is the UK’s Number One New University (first place among all institutions that became universities since 1992) according to The Guardian University Guide 2009 & 2010 (www.guardian.co.uk/education).
2. In the 2008 [Research Assessment Exercise](#) (RAE) BU is the fourth most improved university in the UK for the quality of its research (according to *Times Higher Education*).

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