

Report on visit of Prof Katie A. Siek, SICSA Distinguished Fellow

Katie Siek visited from 1 June 2010 – 30 July 2010. During June 2010, she was based in the Glasgow Interactive Systems Group at the University of Glasgow, but also visited National Health Services Edinburgh, the Social Informatics Group at the University of Edinburgh, and the University of Edinburgh. In Glasgow, she primarily worked with Prof. Stephen Brewster and Dr. Marilyn McGee-Lennon discussing the needs of older adults in medication management. They also discussed the potential for digital pen and paper (e.g., Livescribe pen with programmed paper) interfaces for receiving medication information. During her time in Glasgow, she also worked with Dr. Marilyn McGee-Lennon to coordinate interviews with 10 older adults to learn about how they organize and share personal health information. Interviews took place at the University of Glasgow, in a home in Edinburgh, in a home in Kilwinning, and a public hall in the Isle of Arran. Prof. Siek is currently analyzing this data for later publication.

Dr. Siek gave an overview of her research when she visited the University of Edinburgh on the two occasions. Prof. Siek was hosted by Dr. Mark Hartswood to attend the informal Social Informatics group meeting - a great place to discuss tangential research and other ideas. When she visited the University of Edinburgh (hosted by Prof. Steve Renals), she got to meet with researchers after her talk to discuss other possible collaborations. She also had the opportunity to meet with Prof. Claudia Pagliari from the Centre for Population Health Sciences to discuss Personal Health Record (PHR) initiatives in Scotland. Prof. Siek visited National Health Services Edinburgh twice (hosted by Alan Hyslop and Vanessa Gaskell) – the first time to discuss PHR initiatives in the United States; the second time, she was able to provide an expert opinion on three Health initiatives NHS is currently pursuing.

During the month of July 2010, Prof. Siek collaborated with the Centre for Rural Health, University of Aberdeen in Inverness and the dot.rural project at the University of Aberdeen. In addition, she visited the University of Dundee and the University of Stirling. Prof. Siek collaborated with Prof. David Godden from the Centre of Rural Health to submit her study ethics paperwork to the NHS ethics board in March 2010. Unfortunately, NHS ethics alerted them at the end of June that although the ethics paperwork was approved, Prof. Siek did not have the appropriate disclosure paperwork to conduct the research. Prof. Siek has worked with Prof. Godden to submit this study as a Masters thesis project in the School of Public Health or as a Senior thesis for medical students. Prof. Siek will continue to work with Prof. Godden to identify a student in the fall and then meet with the student during the spring while the student collects the data. Prof. Siek and the student will each use the data for their own analysis.

Prof. Siek gave an overview of her research when she visited the University of Dundee (hosted by Prof. John Arnott) and met with researchers to discuss their work. She continues to discuss the potential for television interactions and the technical needs of older adults with Dr. Mark Rice and Wendy Moncur. Prof. Siek met with Prof. Mario Kolberg at the University of Stirling to discuss his work on the MATCH project and his experiences with creating digital pen and paper interfaces.

Additionally, Prof. Siek gave five talks during her two-month visit. About 15 people (from at least one other university) attended the first talk at the Glasgow Interactive Systems Group Seminar on 3 June 2010. The second colloquium talk on 25 June 2010 at the University of Edinburgh was attended by at least 30 people from multiple departments within the university. The third colloquium talk on 8 July 2010 at the University of Dundee was attended by about 15 people. The fourth talk on 9 July 2010 at dot.rural at the University of Aberdeen was video-casted to the Centre for Rural Health at the University of Aberdeen in Inverness – approximately 15 people attended the talk. The fifth talk on 16 July 2010 at Centre for Rural Health at the University of Aberdeen in Inverness was attended by approximately 15 people.