Tim O'Reilly to be keynote speaker at 2011 Summit

STC has selected Tim O'Reilly to be this year’s Honorary Fellow and Keynote Speaker. Tim is the CEO and founder of O'Reilly Media, thought by many to be the best computer book publisher in the world. O'Reilly Media also hosts conferences on technology topics, including the O'Reilly Open Source Convention, the Web 2.0 Summit, and the Gov 2.0 Summit.

“Tim O'Reilly is one of the most highly regarded thought leaders in our industry,” said Phylise Banner, chair of the Honorary Fellow committee, “and it is with pride that we welcome him to the Society with the rank of Honorary Fellow.” Added Conference Manager Alan Houser, “He is the perfect keynote speaker for the Sacramento Summit.” STC President Hillary Hart agreed, commenting that, “Tim’s appearance at the Summit recognizes the value technical communicators bring to ‘spreading the knowledge of innovators.’”

The 2011 Summit in Sacramento, CA, from 15-18 May, is the place to be in technical communication. Join STC and Tim O'Reilly, and go for the gold with the STC Summit!

Book review

Presentation zen: simple ideas on presentation design and delivery by Garr Reynolds (2008)

Reviewed by Jeanette Evans

Author Garr Reynolds is a presentation designer and communications specialist. He is also creator of a popular website on presentation design and delivery. If you go to his site, http://www.presentationzen.com/, you can see if there is something there for you.

If you get the book, you may find, as I did, that the book exceeds expectations. The book is striking. Some of the page presentations made me gasp, but maybe I’m getting overdramatic about my appreciation for page layout.

The site and book encourage thinking creatively about the design and delivery of presentations. Simpler presentations may be better presentations.

This book and the article on effective presentations in a recent issue of Technical Communication are making me think differently about presentations.

Hmmm... four words per slide — could that really work? Then again, death by Microsoft Powerpoint is not a good thing.

Alternatives to the NEO STC competition

Our chapter will not be sponsoring a competition this year. If you are interested in submitting, you are welcome to submit to other chapter’s competitions.

Competition deadlines are posted on the STC competitions page.

Upcoming submission deadlines include Toronto STC: December 3. See their competition page for details.

If you see information on other competitions, please forward the information to newsletter@neostc.org. We try to catch all the announcements, but extra eyes are helpful!

STC elections coming soon!

STC Elections will open on 8 March 2011 and conclude on 30 March 2011.

The 2011 slate of candidates can be viewed here: http://notebook.stc.org/election.

Talk of the town

Trish Olesky Spayer reports that on October 14, Amy Vogt helped to present a membership webinar to STC chapter and SIG leaders. She talked about all the innovative ideas we have and gave other leaders great ideas. In doing that, she helped put Northeast Ohio STC in the spotlight as an awesome chapter. Trish, the STC Director and CAC Co-Chair, wants to thank Amy for doing a great job and for helping with this Leaders Resource webinar. Great job, Amy!

Jeanette Evans and Sandy Moses had an article on project management accepted for publication in Intercom. Congratulations! We look forward to seeing it in a future issue!