The W.R.I.T.E.R. Project

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The WRITER Project

This poster describes an umbrella project which will have many research directions and outputs. Ultimately the aim of this research is to:

- monitor industry trends with regard to Information and Communications Technology (ICT) jobs, job vacancies and skill sets.

- monitor ICT curricula in schools and tertiary institutions.

- inform ICT educators and employers of emerging trends with a view to preparing students for future employment and supplying industry needs.

- compare trends across various regions in New Zealand.

- compare trends in New Zealand with other countries.

- Align course content and develop programmes in line with industry trends.

To achieve the above, a web application with a database back end will be set up on a secure server hosted at Waiariki.

Stage A:

1) The development of a front end web application to handle on-line questionnaires. This will be supported by a database, at the back end, that will allow storage and processing of the collected data input by company representatives. This will involve:

a) research and analysis leading to categorising ICT sector jobs.

b) research into the skill sets currently sought for each job category.

c) preparation of the questionnaire.

d) preparation of the data model.

2) Contacting a very large number of companies through various group email lists (approx 50,000).

3) Analysis of data entered on-line by the company representatives to:

a) categorise industries.

b) determine the number of companies in each category.

c) determine the number of existing jobs in each category.

d) compare this data across regions within New Zealand.

Stages B and beyond:

Further questionnaires will be prepared and results analysed and published on the web site and at future conferences.

Note:

An accompanying poster **Categorising ICT Sector Jobs** describes research done by the team which will be used in creating the on-line questionnaire to initially populate the WRITER database.

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