

# Informatics for All

## – A European Initiative

Enrico Nardelli, Informatics Europe and Università di Roma "Tor Vergata" Michael E. Caspersen, It-vest – networking universities, Denmark

European Computer Science Summit Gothenburg, Sweden, 8th October 2018

# Agenda

### Informatics for All: The Strategy

- Background
- Content
- Recommendations

### Discussion

- Content & Recommendations
- Political action & Communication action

### • Why this? – We need your help!

- How can we help bring this forward in various countries?
- How can we establish political (inter-)action with national ministries?
- What can we do together/individually?
- Recruitment of members to WG on Informatics Education
- Interface between K-12 and university (entrance requirements)

## Joint ACM-E and IE White Paper (2018)

### **Informatics for All** The strategy

ACM Europe & Informatics Europe February 2018



### Contents

#### **Executive Summary**

1. Introduction 3		
1.1 The Committee on		
European Computing Education		
1.2 Case Studies		
1.2.1 Initiatives in the US		
1.2.2 Initiatives in the UK4		
2. Informatics for All		
2.1 Initiative Statement5		
2.2 Two-tier strategy at all educational levels 5		
2.2.1 Specialisation6		
2.2.2 Integration6		
2.3 A Grand Educational Challenge6		
3. Curriculum matters		
3.1 Findings from CECE report7		
3.2 Curriculum considerations7		
3.3 Comments on Digital Literacy		
4. Teachers		
4.1 Availability of teachers9		
4.2 Preparing teachers9		
5. Research 10		
5.1 Curriculum		
5.2 Teaching methods and tools		
5.3 Teaching the teachers 11		
6. Towards Implementation 11		
Acknowledgements		

# CECE Report (2017)



### **Informatics: First Contact**



### Recommendations

Informatics (3) Digital literacy (3) Teacher training (2)

## **Digital Competences in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**



# <sup>2013</sup> 2014 2015 2015

The White House Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 30, 2016

0 🏞

WH .gov

## Weekly Address: Giving Every Student an Opportunity to Learn Through Computer Science For All

Weekly Address: Giving Every Student an Opportunity to Learn Through Computer Science For All

# In the new economy, CS is not an optional skill, it is a basic skill, right along with the three R's

https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/01/30/weekly-address-giving-every-student-opportunity-learn-through-computer

# Informatics New aspect of 'bildung' New basic competence for all



## Reading Writing Informatics Mathematics

Mathematics is (primarily) the language of science Informatics is (becoming) a language of all subjects

# CS for All

# **Informatics for All**



### **Computer Science For All**



JANUARY 30, 2016 AT 6:05 AM ET BY MEGAN SMITH

### **CS For All**

Computer Science for All is the President's bold new initiative to empower all American students from kindergarten through high school to learn computer science and be equipped with the computational thinking skills they need to be creators in the digital economy, not just consumers, and to be active citizens in our technology-driven world. computer science (CS) is a "new basic" skill necessary for economic opportunity and social mobility.

AROUT



What Is CSforAll?

A 🖸 🖸

I CONSORTIUM I RESOURCES I EVENTS I CONTACT

The CSforAll Consortium is a hub for the national Computer Science for All movement that works to enable all students in grades K-12 to achieve CS literacy as an integral part of their educational experience.



## Informatics for All

A similar joint effort by a coalition of the major informatics organisations in Europe



**VFORMATICS** 



# **Informatics for All Group**

Chair Wendy Hall **ACM** Europe Judith Gal-Ezer Andrew McGettrick **Informatics Europe** Enrico Nardelli Michael E. Caspersen CEPIS **Bob McLaughlin** Austeja Trinkunaite Advisor **Bobby Schnabel** 

# Two-tier strategy:

# Informatics

- as subject (specialisation)- in all subjects (integration)

[ at <u>all</u> educational levels ]

# Specialisation

Current change in public perception of Informatics:

"a useful tool and infrastructure to facilitate numerical, administrative and industrial processes"



"ubiquitous and a driver of innovation and development in all fields (professions, school subjects and research areas)"

# Integration

Like professions and scientific fields, all school subjects are gradually transformed because of Informatics.

Through digital models, subjects can be learned in novel and more engaging ways, computational approaches will open doors to new dimensions of understanding and expression and radical new ways of learning subjects.

# Recommendations



- R1: All students must have access to ongoing education in Informatics, preferably from primary school...
  - R2: Informatics curricula should reflect the scientific and constructive nature of the discipline...
  - R3: Informatics courses must be compulsory and at least on a par with courses in STEM disciplines...
- R4: All teachers at all levels should be digitally literate...

Curriculum

Teachers

Research

- R5: Informatics teachers should have appropriate formal education...
- R6: Higher education institutions should provide encouraging programs...
- R7: Ministries should [...] establish national or regional centers for PD...
- R8: Intensive research of three different facets, curriculum, teaching methods and tools, and teaching the teachers is needed to successfully introduce Informatics into the school system

# Informatics on a par with courses in STEM disciplines



# Informatics **at least** on a par with courses in STEM disciplines

[Informatics on a par with Mathematics]

# Two Challenges for our Community

# To clarify and set direction (outward)

To deliver (inward)

# **Our Grand Educational Challenge**

## **Expansion of Informatics (think math)**

Educational level	<b>Integration</b> (in subjects/programmes)	<b>Specialisation</b> (as subject/programme)
Higher	-	
New type	of researc	ch group?
Informatic	s Education	Research

Curriculum 

Teachers (food chain)
Research

# Wider role of Informatics in universities

## Research Study programmes

Working Session on Wednesday afternoon





We represent over 120 university departments and research institutes to set the pace for Informatics research and education in Europe.

## Keynote @ ECSS 2015

Shifting Identity in Computing: From a Useful Tool to a New Method and Theory of

Science

# PAUL S. ROSENBLOOM

# ON COMPUTING THE FOURTH **GREAT SCIENTIFIC** DOMAIN-

# The Fourth Scientific Domain

### Technical, natural and health science

Nature can be understood – measured and weighted Study and manipulation of nature

### **Humanities**

Study of humankinds cultural products and languages

### **Social sciences**

Study of society and organisations

PAUL S. ROSENBLOOM

### ON COMPUTING THE FOURTH GREAT SCIENTIFIC DOMAIN

## **Informatics/Computing**

The world (the real and the imaginary) is computable Study and construction of (prototypes for) computationelle structures, processes, artefacts and systems

Rich relations to and implications for the three classical scientific domains

# Computational X, for X =

Education **Economics** Psychology Chemistry History (Molecular) Biology Linguistics **Physics** Archeology Musicology Ethnography Theology Literature Law Journalism **Social Science** 

# Computational skills in all study programmes, e.g.:

**1. Problem framing** From wicked to tamed problems

### 2. Data and data processes

Collect, create, analyse, manipulate, transform and visualise data

### 3. Modelling and simulation

Design, construct and evaluate computational models

### 4. Computational problem solving

Algorithmic thinking, programming, computational abstractions

### 5. Systems thinking

Understand, describe and define complex systems in terms of phenomena and their relations

# Next steps

### Wider role of Informatics in Universities

Research and study programmes Working Session on Wednesday afternoon

### **PISA (OECD)**

Mathematics: Computational Thinking (a hook) Sciences: Physical, Life, Earth and Space, <u>Digital</u>

### An event in Brussels (early 2019)

Representatives from EU, industry, academia, teacher organisations, ...



# **Discussion**

### Content & Recommendations

- Curriculum
- Teacher Education
- Informatics Education Research
- Two-tier strategy at all educational levels

### Political action and communication actions

- National level
- European level

### We need your help!

- How can we help bring this forward in various countries?
- How can we establish political (inter-)action with national ministries?
- What can we do together/individually?
- Recruitment of members to WG on Informatics Education
- Interface between K-12 and university (entrance requirements)

