

# **University of Babel**

creating an environment for love, peace and happiness



Group A(Ipha)

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# Introduction

Welcome to the University of Babel.

Here you can read our research and concept about creating a organization which helps students communicate better. We do this by learning them about other cultures and hope that this will lead to better understanding of each other and thus better communication.

During the project we also used a blog for keeping up with the process, which you can find on <a href="idss2008-a.blogspot.com">idss2008-a.blogspot.com</a>. Further we used a wiki to have a central place for all documentation, you can read this on <a href="universitityofbabel.jottit.com">universitityofbabel.jottit.com</a>.

In this document you can find the final documentation of our project, this can also be viewed on the project website at <a href="https://www.universityofbabel.org">www.universityofbabel.org</a>. The concept is created on the IDSS2008: Interaction Design Summer School 2008 held in Istanbul, Turkey.

# **Project**

A short introduction into our project with:

- · the assignment;
- · the deliverables;
- our goal;
- and our targetgroup.

# What is the assignment?

The projects is called **the poetics and dynamics of text** and is inspired by Ottoman calligraphy. It is the supersvisors goal to inspire us with calligraphy and with that give a starting point to the project. We have to create an interactive project inspired by calligraphy. Later on the summerschool the subject calligraphy drifted away and we were focussing on the interaction.

## What are the deliverables?

In the end of the summerschool we have to give a presentation about our project. For this presentation we also need to create:

- a **website** explaining the concept including information about the process, the final product and the team;
- a poster to explain the prototype / concept;
- a prototype which can be experienced by at least one supervisor;
- and a storyboard (on 1 A4) explaining what is experienced for the people that can't experience it.

The following deliverables would be nice but are optional to produce:

- a **project document** with all the information about the research, the implementation, the final product and our prototype;
- and a domain name for our website.

# What is our goal?

The goal of the University of Babel is to let students communicate in a better way by teaching them about other cultures.

In the current world not all people learn about other cultures. They grow up in their own culture, in their own country and hardly get in touch with other cultures. Because people immigrate we can see a little bit of the other culture, we think. But this way of learning is not good because it lacks the environment.

The goal of the University of Babel is about starting a conversation between cultures and students and their point of view on the world. We let students send messages to other universities to teach others about their way of living. We weave the environment back in via

the teachers on the university so the messages actually have a meaning and can get understood.

In this way students will learn the multiple layers of a culture instead of only the outside of it. This knowledge is important to understand another persons point of view. With this knowledge students will be able to communicate better with people from other cultures. Thus we create an environment at the universities which supports students in reaching their goals. One of those goals might be solving the problems of the world. This is possible because people can understand each other. This is what we call *love*, *peace and happiness*, which is what we hope this will lead to.

This way we also release the stress between the different countries and cultures, native people and the immigrants inside a country get to know each other. We also build bridges between the universities and let the students of the different countries work together on projects and get to know more people.

## For whom is it meant?

The University of Babel aims at setting up a network for communication, create material for universities and support the universities in setting up the project.

The main users will actually be students; they will be using the medium to communicate with others. These are people who want to be free in what they explore, what they learn. They are young and are exploring how to communicate with other people of their age.

Another group we will support are the teachers. They have knowledge about their profession and can teach that to students. The teachers need to know or to research the background -the environment- about the messages that go around in the university. We support these teachers in the same way we help the students. We let them communicate with other people of their age and interest; the teachers from other universities. Because they also learn about other cultures and get to see other point of views they can learn how to help their students in a better way.

# Research

We've done research on different topics. This research is covered in different topics on this page.

- · bacteria;
- language and alphabet;
- primer;
- · and towers.

## **Bacteria**

Well, how dó we use bacteria to spread personal messages between students? The easiest way out is saying that bacteria will spread them selfs from human to human and eventually will end up on the receiver of the message. Bacteria actually have a way of communicating with each other, called *quorum sensing* [1]. This is used to coordinate a decentralized group, like bacteria. But how could we ever make sure that every bacteria (the whole message) reaches the correct receiver? And what will happen if it reaches the wrong one? Apart from that, the message might take way too long.

Scientists managed to program bacteria to react on each other by sensing a chemical change in some of them and then emit light in a certain color [2]. In this way they could create some sort of information visualization; the bacteria could produce a color pattern showing an icon of the chemicals they were sensing. If we would be able to create such a system then we might be able to write messages using bacteria. But for personal messages we would still need to find out how to transmit the bacteria to the recipient.

Other solutions might be using insects insead of bacteria like the American army does [3] or creating an OLED display like a petri dish on which we could coordinate bacteria more easily [4].

#### Sources

- 1. Quorum sensing [ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quorum\_sensing ]
- 2. Programmable cells [ <u>www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/04/050427201634.htm</u> ], turning bacteria into living computers (article in nature)
- 3. Pentagon plans cyber-insect army [ news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4808342.stm ]
- 4. OLED [ simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organic\_light-emitting\_diode ]

Below are some other sources not mentioned in the article.

- The bacteria has its own light [ www.biocrawler.com/encyclopedia/Bioluminescence ]
- Genetically altered bacteria for data storage [ <u>www.doaj.org/doaj?</u> <u>func=abstract&id=271094</u> ]
- The game of life [ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conway's Game of Life ]
- Bacteria in art, the aesthetic microbe [ <a href="petaclancy.com/\_root/080706.pdf">petaclancy.com/\_root/080706.pdf</a> ]
- Dattoo, the body as information platform [ <a href="www.frogdesign.com/case-study/dattoos.html">www.frogdesign.com/case-study/dattoos.html</a> ] via liftthink blog [ <a href="liftlab.com/think/nova/2006/11/14/dna-tatoo-datoo/">liftlab.com/think/nova/2006/11/14/dna-tatoo-datoo/</a> ]

# Language and alphabet

The idea is that all the universities that are part of the University of Babel use one common language so that all the messages can be easily sent and understood by all students and teachers. The uttermost importance is that the language is easy to understand. Therefor such a common language has to befound. Research showed that there are already a number of artificial languages such as Esperanto, Interlingua or Ido.

According to research on the internet of all artificial language communities the one with the most speakers is the Esperanto Community, therefor we decided to use Esperanto for the University of Babel. Although the language used will have new letters to make it more international.

Partners for the teaching of the language will be: Universal Esperanto Portal [1] and Lernu [2]. We used Gooru [3] for translitering the text into the Geeorgian alphabet.

## **Alphabet**

An alphabet is a standardized set of signs to display parts of a spoken language - it may be pictographic and display a whole picture as a symbol for a specific thing, it may be phonographic and display one sign for a syllable or ideally just one sign for a single phoneme. (A phoneme is the smallest posited structural unit that distinguishes meaning in a language.)

One language in which one phoneme is represented by one sign is the georgian Alphabet, which therefore would be an ideal choice for the University of Babel.

#### **Letters**

Letter	Name	IPA
δ	an	/α/
δ	ban	/b/
δ	gan	/g/
Q	don	/d/
9	en	/ɛ/
3	vin	W
r	zen	/z/
တ	t'an	/t <sup>h</sup> /
0	in	/i/
3	kan	/k²/
ლ	las	/1/

Letter	Name	IPA
9	man	/m/
6	nar	/n/
o.	on	/ɔ/
3	par	/p'/
ป	žan	/3/
რ	rae	/r/
Ն	san	/s/
Ů	tar	/t'/
უ	un	/u/
9	p'ar	/p <sup>h</sup> /
ქ	kan	/kʰ/

Letter	Name	IPA
ღ	ḡan	/ɣ/
g	qar	/q'/
6	šin	/ʃ/
В	č'in	/tʃ/
в	c'an	/ts/
9	jil	/dz/
$\mathfrak{F}$	cil	/ts'/
<b>3</b> :	čar	/tʃ'/
ь	xan	/x/
χ	j̃an	/dʒ/
3	hae	/h/

This would be an example for a written text in the georgian alphabet:

ღმერთხი შემვედრე, ნუთუ ქვლა დამხხნახ ხოფლიხა შრომახა, ცეცხლხ, წყალხა და მიწახა, ჰაერთა თანა მრომახა; მომცნეხ ფრთენი და აღვფრინდე, მივჰხვდე მახ ჩემხა ნდომახა, დღიხით და ღამით ვჰხედვიდე მზიხა ელვათა კრთომახა.

მზე უშენოდ ვერ იქმდებიხ, რათგან შენ ხარ მახა წილი, განაღამცა მახ ეახელ მიხი ეტლი, არ თუ წბილი!

მუნა გნახო, მადვე გხახო, ბანმინათლო ბული ჩრდილი, თუ ხიცოცხლე მწარე მქონდა, ხოკვდილიმცა მქონდა ტკბილი!

#### **Sources**

- 1. Universal Esperanto Portal [ webkids.free.fr/esperanto ]
- 2. Lernu [ en.lernu.net ]
- 3. Gooru [ gooru.de ]

## **Primer**

The Primer is a digital interactive book made with nanotechnology. The Primer teaches woman how to gain confidence, defend them selfs and different sorts of social skills.

The Primer tells the stories about the real-life of the owners environment, for example the dolls the girl plays with and (fairy)tales to learn about life.

The Primer adapts to the learning pattern and speed of the reader. Mostly by changing the story as you read. When the reader questions parts of the story or doesn't understand them the Primer dynamically changes the story to explain those parts.

Every Primer has a real person behind it. A real person playing parts of the book. This is like a guardian angel.

#### **Sources**

- 1. Book *The Diamond Age* by Neal Stephenson
- 2. The Diamond Age at wikipedia [ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Diamond\_Age ]
- 3. Complete review: "[an actor] narrates the story, which itself adapts to how the reader reacts to the material." [ www.complete-review.com/reviews/stephenn/diamond.htm ]
- 4. Cyberpunk project [ project.cyberpunk.ru/idb/thediamondage.html ]

#### **Towers**

- Images of synagogues [ commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Synagogue ]
- Hindu temples [ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu\_temple ]
- Images of mosques [ commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Mosque ]
- Christian churches [ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian Church ]

# **Concept**

The University of Babel is about communication between students in Europe. Students will learn about others cultures by sending messages to other universities and other students individually. The University of Babel isn't a physical university, it is an organization which helps universities in setting up the communication with others.

In this document we will lay out this concept. For this document you need to have some understanding of what an *environment* means to understand things.

The concept exists of a BabelLanguage, BabelBacteria, a BabelTower, a BabelWall, a BabelArm and a BabelPrimer. Messages will be spread between universities in Europe. Students can read an write these messages where teachers will give the necessary information about the environment of the message. Students and teachers can also send personal messages via the same medium.

## **BabelLanguage**

The students and teachers from the universities use a common language to communicate with each other. This language isn't connected to a country so nobody might be offended when their language isn't chosen or when it is used in a wrong way when it is chosen. Therefore we use Esperanto to communicate between the different people. The Esperanto is written in the Georgian alphabet instead of the Latin alphabet for the same reasons as for choosing the language. The Georgian alphabet also has the advantage of having a letter for every phoneme, a so called phonemic orthography.

#### **BabelBacteria**

The languages are not written using ink, we use bacteria to display and write the messages. When writing a message you don't use any pen(cil) but BabelBacteria. You dip your finger in a cup of BabelBacteria and write on you arm, see BabelArm. After writing you wash your hands in a cup with water. This is needed so the BabelBacteria won't get on any surface when not writing as it could be confused with text.

The BabelBacteria which are used for writing will spread the message to the BabelTower. They do this by giving the message to another BabelBacteria close. This way the message travels on the ground and walls towards the BabelTower. As is it too complex to handle multiple tasks the BabelBacteria them self don't travel, only the message travels from BabelBacteria to BabelBacteria.

Furthermore there are read-only bacteria which are programmed to organize in a certain pattern and change color to display the messages. These can not be used for writing and are living on the BabelWalls and BabelArms.

### **BabelTower**

The BabelTower -not to be confused with the Tower of Babel- is a tower placed in top of a university. This tower is changed according to the culture of the country and university and is inspired by religion. In most Western countries this tower might look like the tower of a church, in Arabic countries it will be more like a minaret.

The BabelTower will take care of the communication between universities by sending and receiving messages to and from other BabelTowers. This communication can go via sound for close universities or via GSM signals for longer distances. Furthermore the BabelTower will communicate with bacteria inside the university to display messages on BabelWalls and BabelArms.

All messages received by the BabelTower from its own students and teachers will be processed by a redaction first. This is to make sure no garbage messages get send or personal messages get send out as general messages by accident.

#### **BabelWall**

Inside the university the walls or boards are used to display the messages. BabelBacteria live on the BabelWalls and show the message when told so by the BabelTower. BabelWalls can be used for general messages or messages about a certain subject.

General messages might be displayed in the university restaurant, the central hall or the cinema. These general messages might be about news from other universities and countries, festivals going on, etc. These general messages are displayed for one minute each to the multiple messages can be displayed.

BabelWalls are also used as boards for a certain subject. Teachers teach students around these BabelWalls about a certain subject. The teacher can give some keywords or a certain subject and then only messages around those words will be displayed on the BabelWall. The messages on these BabelWalls are displayed for one minute each, but the teacher can postpone the disappearing of the message and can freeze a message on the BabelWall.

#### **BabelArm**

The interface for writing messages is the BabelArm. You can write messages using the BabelBacteria on the outside of the BabelArm. The message you write here gets transmitted to the BabelTower which in turn sends it out to all universities. On the other universities this gets displayed on a BabelWall.

The BabelArm can also be used to write personal messages. When writing on the inside of your arm you can send messages to other students or teachers. These messages have a personal nature and are not meant for public viewing. The message will be send using the same techniques but will only be displayed on the BabelArm of the recipient.

The BabelArm consists of a kind of petri dish on nano scale which is wrapped around your arm. This petri dish can be taken off your own arm so can disable receiving messages of you don't want to, for example when you are sleeping. You need to take it off when showering or washing your arms.

On the outside of your BabelArm you can write a general message with the BabelBacteria, you'll see the message appearing directly where you write. After each line -when you arm is full- you touch your elbow to send that line. A special bacteria on that spot will recognize the message and send it to the BabelTower and then the message will disappear from your own arm. You can immediately start writing on your arm again and in this way send multiple lines of text. When you want to erase a part of the message you can wipe it out with a part of your finger or hand which isn't dipped into the BabelBacteria.

Writing on the inner side of the BabelArm will transmit a personal message. The writing will be

the same as the general message with the only difference that you have to write the name of the person you want to send it to after the message. This name needs to be followed by the name of the university the person is in case that this is not your own.

Read-only BabelBacteria live on the inner side of your BabelArm where they wait to receive a signal from the BabelTower. When a personal message is received they will display the message on the inner side of your BabelArm.

#### **BabelPrimer**

As not everyone can read the BabelLanguage yet we need something to learn this. Therefore we have the BabelPrimer, a digital book learning the reader to read and write in the BabelLanguage. The BabelPrimer is a digital book in a physical form which dynamically adjusts to the readers knowledge and questions using nanotechnology.

All the students and teachers get a BabelPrimer as long as they need it to learn the BabelLanguage. During the implementation phase people can write and read in their native language. This will then first be translated into Esperanto and transliterated into Georgian by the BabelTower. This causes the system to work a little bit slower in this implementation phase.

#### **Teachers**

The teachers in the university have a very important role in this whole process. The environment of the messages is lacking because the messages is transmitted to the other university with another culture. The teachers -or supervisor- will help the students here by explaining the environment or the background stories behind the messages.

# **Moving onwards**

## **Media companies**

The universities can also receive messages from media companies and include them in the messages. Here it is also very important that the teachers provide the environment / background story. Media companies also can receive messages from the universities and broadcast them on different channels like tv, radio, newspapers, etc.

#### Gods and Me's

The gods which are in the clouds have their idea about how people should live. This is the **Me** [1] of the gods. They can send this Me to the universities where the teachers again provide the environment.

Jan told us about Chicada [2], a bug from the Brazilian forest which some people believe produces sounds to activate trees to act in a certain way.

## Sources

- 1. Me's at wikipedia [ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Me (mythology) ]
- 2. Chicada at Flickr [ www.flickr.com/photos/tags/chicada ]

# **Scenario**

Armagan Kösecioglu from the Kadir Has University in Turkey is in room Z01 working on a project about calligraphy. He is working together with students from the Mälardalen University in Sweden. Armagan wants to send a sentence to the Swedish students explaining where the word calligraphy comes from.

Armagan dips his right index finger in a cup of bacteria standing on his table and starts to write on his left arm. Armagan can already read and write BabelLanguage and thus starts to write the following message:

Etime la vorto kaligrafio ..

The letters appear on his arm as he is writing with his index finger. Now his arm is already full but the message isn't finished yet. Armagan touches his left wrist and the text disappears from his arm. He continues with the rest:

.. estas kunmetajo el du ..

But again his arm is full. He repeats the same process of touching his wrist and starts over with the last two lines of the sentence:

- .. grekaj vortoj: kalos esta ..
- .. bela kaj grafos esta skribo.

He touches his wrist one more time, the text disappears and he dips his finger in a cup of water standing next to the cup with bacteria. He now continues to work on his animation which he has to finish before 13.00. Hurry..

The bacteria on his arm spread the message via other bacteria on the ground and walls in the university towards the minaret on top of the building. There the message will get send via GSM signals to Sweden.

The Christian church tower on top of the Mälardalen University receive the GSM signals. The tower then activate bacteria on the wall in a room. These bacteria start to order them selfs in a pattern.

Andreas Bernstein from the Mälardalen University is sitting in room L354 with other students working on a project about calligraphy. The walls around him display a script with round letters. This gives a nice atmosphere in the room.

Suddenly the text on one of the walls start to disappear and a new text comes up. Andreas looks at the wall and reads the text. It comes from the Turkish university which is participating in the same project. The text reads (in a Georgian alphabet):

Etime la vorto kaligrafio estas kunmetajo el du grekaj vortoj: kalos esta bela kaj grafos esta skribo.

Andreas now knows that the word calligraphy comes from the Greek words *kallos* and *graphos*, which means "beauty writing".

# **Prototype**

For the IDSS2008 presentation we create the BabelBacteria, the BabelWall and BabelArm. The BabelTower is not interesting for our current project as we want to focus on the interaction with the students. The BabelLanguage also isn't that interesting as there already is a suitable language for our purpose.

# **Implementation**

#### **BabelBacteria**

We use finger paint as the BabelBacteria. You dip your finger in a cup of finger paint, write on your BabelArm and when you're finished you can wash your fingers in a cup with water.

#### **BabelWall**

The BabelWall is made out of large pieces of cardboard. On these cardboards we write with marker pen a message in Esperanto:

Etime la vorto kaligrafio estas kunmetajo el du grekaj vortoj: kalos esta bela kaj grafos esta skribo.

But then using the Georgian alphabet. This message from the Turkish university is send to the Swedish university during the presentation.

#### **BabelArm**

The BabelArm is created using aluminum net covered with newspaper paper, foil plastic and cotton. You can write on this arm with the BabelBacteria (finger paint).

For the experience during the presentation we're using only the foil plastic to write on and read from.

### Research

We decided to focus on the bacteriaprocess which lead me to the idea of making a prototype. As the bacterias are going to be shown on the arm, the first thing I had in mind was making an arm-prototype. I used an ironfence to create the shape and secondly I covered it with newspaper and plastic foil to make it more compact. The last layer was made of cotton. On the inside of the arm a calligraphic message was written with fingerpaint which we decided to use. We bought different kinds of colors. As this calligraphic text is suppose to show up as a personal message a removal bit of cotton was used to make the message appear.

#### Writing with species

We also tried another way for creating a message which was the act of writing with spices. I tought that it visitally refers to bacteria and its spreading on the arm. It wasn't that good though because it was difficult to write with it and nobody could see the message so we skipt it.

# Picture of the arm-prototype





# **Usability testing**

In trying to make a person feel the experience of getting a message we did a user-experience test wrapping the plastic foil around my arm and writing a message on it with the fingerpaint. I choose a person for receiving it. Then we took off the plastic foil and run of to wrapp it on the receivers arm who read the message. It worked!

We made a video [1] for the usability test.

## **Sources**

1. Usability test video [ video.google.nl/videoplay?docid=-1613519873559369599 ]

# **Feedback**

# Feedback from supervisors, Tuesday morning (8th of July)

We got a first round of critique from the supervisors.

• There are too many different things, so choose! For example cut the communication between universities. Mainly focus on the things that the user can interact with.

We already cut the communication between the universities and two of the extra's (gods and media companies). We might also need to cut on the communication between the towers and the bacteria and between the bacteria for personal messages. Then we can focus on the interaction of the user when writing and reading messages.

- · What happens when washing your hands?
- Maybe take a look at OLED displays instead of bacteria. OLED displays will also be affordable in a few years.
- Maybe Peter Hoffman could inspire us. He created a bacteria painting.
- The OLED and the painting from Peter Hoffman could be combined to some agar-agar display?
- Take a look at the Game of Life.
- We need to get the poster finished at Thursday at 17.00.

# **Conclusions**

Yeah! Some feedback from our self.

## **Andreas**

After two weeks we're finally done with the project!

The topic Calligraphy was to me unknown. The project was for me not quite clear at the beginning and I think meybe it wasn't suppose to be it either. I quickly learned that being on time in Turkey (according to Swedish being on time) doesnt't exsist. After the brainstormingpart I learned a bit more about the topic which made it easiier to continue. I didnt feel that I had problems in working in a group even tough I felt that some of the communications lead to misunderstandings. I've never worked on a projekt together with people from mixed countries. For me it was interesting and it's always good trying to improve my english. The project went on quit fluently and the feedback from the teachers was needed. The second week was the actual workingpart and it was a bit stressy in the end. The schedule was good planned but for the next time I think the being- on time-thing should be more seriously taken. My overall view of the project is positive tough.

# **Armagan**

I'm so happy to finish this project in those summer days. Finally...

I worked in a lot of international groups before and made a lot of project together with the many kind of teams but they were really professional teams about working .But the school thing is my second. But this time the problems were too many and nobody tried to solve them properly. That wasn't good motivation for me. Although some of these things, I had fun to being together with another brains and cultures also. I like to meet different perspectives because it is needed for me to develop my skills. I learned so many things about their lives, cultures, knowledges and the perspectives also...

And now, I'm so tired, sleepless, my eyes in pain, have a headache which is make me stressful, I will say goodbye to my friends and team members this evening, then go back to sleep for two days contuniously:)

Well, nice to meet you my team-mates and hope to see you again.

Bye

# **Birgit**

## ... working in an international team ...

discussing in a group can sometimes be hard anyway because everyone has a different view on a topic and thus it is difficult to describe what is on one's mind. talking in a group of people who are from different cultural backgrounds makes such a discussion even harder. but still on an overall view i felt that i could still express myself and say what i wanted. we also had fun while trying to explain ourselves. :) although i guess we all sometimes had the feeling that

things weren't going right... but i guess in the end it all turned out fine.

## ... the project ...

the idea was inspired by calligraphy, the kadir has university building as well as our backgrounds as young interaction designers - couldn#t be any better I guess - the output therefore is a highflying concept with a down to earth prototype. I had fun working on the concept together with the others. researching, trying out the prototype was a good experience ...

## ... calligraphy ...

understanding otoman calligrahy within two weeks is impossible i guess but i think we got some understanding otoman calligrahy within two weeks is impossible i guess, but i think we got some insight on it, so if we want we can go from here - getting into the topic and then just so soon let go again was hard for some ... but i think we were able to manage

## Lode

What a great two weeks. It started with calligraphy officially, but quickly the projects made a shift to communication in any way, so did ours. Personally I also made this shift, which was great to experience. The past few months I've been more and more thinking about communication and also encountered a lot of situations in which it played an important role. And then came this project.

I really liked working with Andreas, Armagan and Birgit and all the other cultures they brought in to the project. Not only social cultures but also the way everyone looked at calligraphy, interaction, communication, group processes, etc.

In the last two working days I tried some things out in getting a good working atmosphere. I created a post-it wall which I saw on some blog some time ago and creating this conclusions page. The post-it wall is a reverted todo-list, you put everything you're done with on a post-it and on the wall. The wall is in front of you during the work so it motivates you with all the work you've already done. For me it worked really great and I'm going to create one at home to:)

My part was doing research about bacteria, writing out the concept, writing a user scenario, giving the mid-presentation and helping in the final presentation, making the website and filling the blog with the process, which the others also did of course. I liked the documenting part a lot, I find it relatively easy to write and I like to write in a way everyone understands, I hope I also succeeded in that :) Further the presentation went very well too and I like telling a story in a funny and physical way to people. At last the blog was very great to do, it helped me get things out of my mind and on paper and in that way also creating structure to my thoughts.

It feels strange to leave this group after these two weeks. It is so much fun to be together with this group with different interests but also the common interest in interaction. I'm glad that there are some plans about visiting each other in the coming periods. Personally I think about studying for half a year at the university in Sweden.. We'll see.

Thanks to my team members! I hope to see again you some time in life!

# **Team & contact**

We're Andreas, Armagan, Birgit and Lode, all placed in group A.

# **Andreas**



• Firstname/lastname: Andreas Bernstein

· Date of birth: 2nd June 1983

· City/country: Ronneby, Sweden

School/university: Mälardalen University

• Faculty/department: IDT

• E-mail: andreas\_bernstein@hotmail.com

• Mobile-phone: +46 733 809 664

#### **Professional interests**

Illustration

## Skills/specialization

Information design, graphical layout

## Other personal info you want to share

I'm also interested in classical music and listen a lot to it. I get a lots energi from it!! As a person I'm usually quite happy and I like to spend time with friends and meet new people.

# **Armagan**



• Firstname/lastname: Armagan Kösecioglu

• Date of birth: 29th April 1982

• City/country: Istanbul, Turkey

School/university: Kadir Has University

• Faculty/department: Advertisement

• E-mail: armykoo@hotmail.com

• Mobile-phone: +90 506 86 48 143

### **Professional interests**

Designing posters, businesscards with graphical programs like photoshop and freehand in leisure times. Working in a construction company as an advertisement and marketing manager.

Working in an ice company as a salesman at Istanbul...

#### Skills/specialization

Design with adobe photoshop and macromedia freehand, using machitosh properly, making pop-ups and banner adv. by using macromedia flash mx. Use all ofiice programs like word, excel and powerpoint...

## Other personal info you want to share

I like to search everything which I wonder in the world, traveling other countries to learn their culture, taking pictures with my camera and stock them all. I like different kind of music like soundtracks or the world ethnic musics. Like to play different insturments especially percussion. I believe the team work has a rhythm and all team members must catch the rhythm. Because of that I try to find the music of all team which I'm in. I like to meet new people to learn how many different brain we have in the world. I mean the different perspectives are important for me. Swimming, reading, playing, talking and listen music, playing games, friends and the social activities together, working different jobs especially the part time ones, walking in the mornings at the weekend, go to cinema and theatre, especially the theatre, playing theatre as a player with my best friends from theatre club at university. Go picnic with my family and the friends etc....

# **Birgit**



Firstname/lastname: Birgit Flesch

Date of birth: 12 July 1978

City/country: Graz, Austria

• School/university: FH JOANNEUM - University of Applied

Sciences

• Faculty/department: Media- and Interactiondesign

E-mail: birgit.flesch.mid07@fh-joanneum.at

• Mobile-phone: +43 650 87 11 680

#### **Professional interests**

I would like to work with film somehow, maybe the Austrian film festival in Graz ...

#### Skills/specialization

• • •

#### Other personal info you want to share

addicted to film, travelling, swimming, language, karate and having fun:)

## Lode



• Firstname/lastname: Lode Claassen

• Date of birth: 24 January 1985

· City/country: Alkmaar, Netherlands

· School/university: Utrecht School of the Arts

• Faculty/department: Interaction Design

• E-mail: contact page

• Mobile-phone: +31 6 57 157 653

#### **Professional interests**

I like to observer people, how they act, what they do, and why they do something. This results in a interest for usability and creating user-friendly artifacts. I also find joy in knowledge transfer in any way; teaching others what I know, documenting what I did and researching what others discovered, writing about this process and in this way give my knowledge back to the community.

## Skills/specialization

I'm pretty good creating web-thingies in xhtml, css, php and mysql. Thus designing a user interface, let users put content up, collect this data, and represent it somewhere else in another way to the viewer. I'm not skilled in computer design (as in graphics), I can draw (with a pencil) but not with the computer. I have a lot of knowledge of virtual 3D environments (MUVE's), mainly of the Active Worlds software.

## Other personal info you want to share

Listening to music is important! A bit of everything; Eels, Enya, Iggy Pop, Ladytron, Manu Chao, Massive Attack, Matrix, Philip Glass, Ravi Shankar, St. Germain, Vangelis, and many more. Further I like cycling or walking or 'being' in the nature. In my spare-time I teach pupils how to create school projects in a virtual 3D world and I like to spend some time in these worlds myself to.