

Educational Matters

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Welcome to the first Educational Matters Column in 1997. I wish all readers that this year will turn out to be one of major professional achievements. It would be nice if not much will distract us from doing our best in teaching and research. In particular, I wish us the absense of political and economic disaster, of terror and war (even if I know that this will be an unfulfilled dream for many parts of the world). From my editor's point of view, 1996 was a successful year because I got a few offers of contributions in answer to my repeated general requests. Thanks to the colleagues who helped in this way to keep the column existing. I would appreciate if the flow of contributions (from small notes to sophisticated essays) will further increase in 1997.

In this issue, you can find a report on the on-going project INFORMATICA FEMINALE that started in 1994. The note describes the conception of a summer university for women in computer science. The realization requires some financial support which is not yet guaranteed. But there is some hope that the proposal will be finally accepted and properly funded in this year. The project was initiated and is carried on and pushed forward by a group of women at the University of Bremen consisting mainly of the three female authors of the paper. I have the pleasure to participate in the project and to support it as much as possible – a very interesting experience for a theoretical computer scientist.

Enjoy the reading. And if you have something suitable for the column, do not hesitate to send it to me.

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