

Press release

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PRACE Task Leader Tim Stitt wins HPC Open Education Cup 2008–2009

Tim Stitt from CSCS, Switzerland has won the "Parallel Programming Models and Languages" category of the HPC Open Education Cup 2008–2009. He was also awarded the prize for Best Overall Module. Tim Stitt is the task leader of PRACE's education and training programme.

The winners of the 2008–2009 Open Education Cup were announced by Connexions, in cooperation with the Ken Kennedy Institute for Information Technology at Rice University. The competition, introduced during the SC08 conference, challenged educators and researchers to produce open access education and training modules on various aspects of high performance computing. The winners, Tim Stitt, Ph.D., of the Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS) and **Kenneth Leroy** Busbee of Houston Community College, each received \$500 cash prizes.

Tim Stitt is the category winner for "Parallel Programming Models and Languages." His module, 'An Introduction to the Partitioned Global Address Space (PGAS) Programming Model', impressed the judges as a cogent description of an important programming methodology. "We were very appreciative of the quality of his explanations, and particularly liked the up-to-date material about the Asynchronous PGAS languages at the end of the module," said **Jan Odegard**, the Open Education Cup leader. Stitt's winning module can be found online at <http://cnx.org/content/m20649/latest/>. Stitt is the author of seven Connexions modules and one Connexions collection.

Tim Stitt was also awarded the prize for Best Overall Module for his module "An Introduction to the Partitioned Global Address Space (PGAS) Programming Model." The prize for the award is an Nvidia C1060 card. "In terms of clarity, content, and topicality, this module stood out from the rest," said Odegard.

PRACE's training and education programme aims to prepare and initiate a sustainable and comprehensive European HPC education and training programme encompassing summer schools, winter schools, training workshops and training material.

The Open Education Cup initiative was sponsored by BP, WesternGeco, Nvidia, Total, Sun and Chevron.

More information: For more information about PRACE's training and education programme, please visit <http://www.prace-project.eu/hpc-training>, or contact Tim Stitt (tstitt@cscs.ch). More information about the Open Education Cup can be found at <http://openeducationcup.org>, and a listing of material associated with this first competition can be found at <http://cnx.org/lenses/hpcopenedcup/material>.

About PRACE: The Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe (PRACE) prepares the creation of a persistent pan-European HPC service, consisting of several tier-0 centres providing European researchers with access to capability computers and forming the top level of the European HPC ecosystem. PRACE is a project funded in part by the EU's 7th Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° RI-211528.

