

Update on TEC 2006



By Glenn Gundermann



The Toronto Users Group for System i5 (TUG) is proud to present TEC 2006, our 13th annual Technical Education Conference, entitled: "Education for an On Demand World".

You Can't Win if You Don't Play

That's what they say with lotteries and you can also change it to apply to everything you do. If you take your career seriously, you need to stay current, and there is no better way than to attend TEC 2006. You have to prioritize things in your life — as you can read in the sidebar ("Priorities of Life"). Somewhere in this list of priorities is your need for education.

You Must Make the Time

There is no better time than right now to attend to your education needs. There will never be a better time. It might be month-end or some other equally important task at work that needs to be done, but this is even more important. If you make a list of all the new items that have been added to the iSeries platform, I'm pretty certain you will agree that you have not kept up to date.

We Have What You Need

Take a look at the TEC brochure (included with this magazine and on-line at www.tug.ca/TEC). You will see what I mean. From the two days of sessions, you will undoubtedly find many topics of interest to keep you more than busy. Thankfully, all attendees will receive a CD of all session handouts so you won't have to be in seven sessions at the same time. Yes, you read correctly... we have seven sessions running at all times!

Conference Highlights

In addition to the many technical sessions, we have a whole track dedicated to professional development including project management, negotiation skills, presentation skills, an update on Sarbanes-Oxley, and more. We have a great Vendor Showcase on Day 1 for you to see the latest products and services from iSeries vendors while enjoying the hors d'oeuvres. Feel free to invite your coworkers and boss, since this is not an exclusive event for attendees only. For the IT executives



in your company, we have **Dr. Frank Soltis** speaking at our Executive Breakfast on April 18. This is a must-see. Speaking on his visions for the System i5, Dr. Soltis will look at some of the future hardware and software technologies that might appear in the System i5 over the next few years. Looking into the future, he will explain how different programming models will be used and how this will impact System i5 applications programmers. A separate registration is required for this event. Our keynote speaker on Day 2 is **Malcolm Haines**. This luncheon is included with your conference registration. We also have IBM Certification testing on Days 1 & 2. Check our Web site for a list of tests available. The cost is only US\$95, which is less than half price for most these tests.

The hands-on labs are at the IBM Toronto Lab on Day 3. There is no extra charge for this event but there is limited space so be sure to register early when you arrive at the conference.

Thank You Sponsors!

This conference would not be possible if it were not for the support of the many companies who's logos appear on this page. Of special mention is the fabulous support we get from our **Program Sponsor: IBM Canada Ltd.** Just to mention a few of the items they provide for us: registration laptops and printers; many of our speakers; the IBM Toronto Lab for our lab day; brochure mailings; and the TEC Committee shirts ...plus I'm sure there are items I'm forgetting. Of special note is our own dedicated IBM liaison, **Stephen Quan**, who takes time from his busy TechLine duties to assist TUG throughout the year. We would also like to thank **Alison Butterill** for her help in arranging speakers, and **Elaine McFarlane** (IBM System i5 Marketing Events Coordinator), as well as the rest of the incredibly helpful team at IBM.

In Summary

If you want to be prepared and capable of taking on new projects, you need to attend TEC 2006. I hope to see you there.



Glenn Gundermann (our TEC 2006 Committee Chair) is an independent software developer and consultant. He can be reached at gundermann@tug.ca.

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TEC 2006

Education for an On Demand World



Keynote Speaker Malcolm Haines

Malcolm Haines plays an active role on iSeries marketing in Somers, New York. He worked on the iSeries since long before its announcement and on all of the predecessor Rochester systems. **Frank Soltis**, in his landmark book *Fortress Rochester*, refers to Malcolm as "one of the most creative people in IBM." Malcolm speaks about the iSeries and marketing at events all over the world.

TEC 2006 — April 18-19 Sheraton Parkway North York, Toronto, Canada. Two days of top speakers and topics, plus a bonus day of hands-on sessions at the IBM Toronto Lab, April 20.

"I'm the i in i5"

Over 40 speakers presenting 75+ sessions, Vendor Showcase, reduced cost IBM certification, CD handouts, executive breakfast, and much more...

Prices:	Early Bird	Regular	1-Day
TUG Member	\$745	\$795	\$445
Non-Member	\$845	\$895	\$495

Canadian dollars

Contact us to register:

(905) 607-2546 or
(888) 607-2546
Fax: (905) 607-2547
Email: admin@tug.ca
Toronto Users Group
for System i5™



Priorities of Life

A philosophy professor stood before his class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly he picked up a large empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks, approximately 2" in diameter. He then asked the students if the jar was full? They agreed that it was.

Next, he picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles, of course, rolled into the open areas between the rocks. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He again asked the students if the jar was full. They responded with a unanimous "yes".

The professor then produced two cans of beer from under the table and proceeded to pour their entire contents into the jar — effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

As the laughter subsided, the professor said, "Now, I want you to recognize that this is your life. The rocks are the important things — your family, your partner, your health, your children — things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else — the small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out dancing. There will always be time to work, clean the house, give a dinner party and fix the garbage disposal."

"Take care of the rocks first — the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

At that point, one of the students raised her hand and asked what the beer represented. Smiling, the professor replied, "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of beers."

(Author unknown)

