

NEW EDUCATION NORMAL WEBINAR SERIES

A CTE-STEM 2021 PRE-CONFERENCE WEBINAR

ENGAGING STUDENTS WITH COMPUTATIONAL THINKING—OFFLINE AND ONLINE

14 MAY 2021, FRIDAY

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (GMT +8) | ZOOM ONLINE

ABSTRACT

The Computer Science (CS) Unplugged project gives teachers physical activities away from computers—offline—that engage students with ideas in computational thinking. Over the last year we've had considerable constraints on what physical activities can be done with students, with many classes needing to be run at a distance, forcing teachers and students online. This has created an opportunity to re-invent CS Unplugged activities so that they work in a variety of constrained situations. In turn, this gives us cause to reflect on what Computational Thinking is about, and in particular, how “unplugged” activities relate to computation. In this talk we will dig down to the fundamental ideas in computation, and look at how they can be brought to life for students, online and offline. This includes looking at the important connection between “unplugged” learning and “plugging it in” through programming.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY



Prof Tim Bell

Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering,
University of Canterbury,
Aotearoa (New Zealand)

Tim Bell is a professor in the Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering at the University of Canterbury, Aotearoa (New Zealand). His main research interest is computer science education. His “Computer Science Unplugged” project, which introduces students and teachers to computer science without using computers, is widely used internationally, and its books and videos have been translated into over 20 languages. In 2018 he received the Association for Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education “Outstanding Contribution to Computer Science Education” award. He has been actively involved in the design and deployment of Digital Technologies as part of the New Zealand curriculum. He is also a qualified musician, and performs regularly on instruments that have black-and-white keyboards.

MODERATOR

Prof Looi Chee Kit
Professor, Learning Sciences
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Register by 11 May 2021
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