IAI Student Chapters

IA students are interested in their professional development, but have difficulties finding outlets. This is where the IAI Student chapter can fill a need. One of the difficulties with forming a student chapter is that many of the students are also professionals, who work in various locations and various time zones, with irregular commitments. This necessitates that meetings be held virtually. The meetings should encourage live interaction, but also allow for others to view at a later date. This will accommodate the highest number of potential members.

How should IAI chapters be formed?
- The IAKM program at Kent State University would take the lead as the founding student chapter. Officers would be chosen to help plan and facilitate meetings.
- The Kent State chapter would recruit students from different programs throughout the country by sending out messages on the IAI listserv and other relevant listservs, such as SIGIA and IxDA.
- As membership grows on other college campuses, other local chapters will be formed.
- There should be a web presence for the IAI student chapters, including a global IAI student page and individual chapter pages. This web presence could include student profiles, employment opportunities, mentors, and master's projects.

How will meetings be held?
- Meetings will be held virtually and be recorded for playback at a later date. If it is deemed useful or productive, there would be physical meetings, perhaps biannually, or in conjunction with the Summit.
- Technologies used should include voice as well as visual presentation. They should also allow for interaction with the members. (The current thought is to use dimdim presentation software along with a telephone conference call or a similar technology.)
- Other technologies should be explored such as Skype (which has a utility for screen sharing), Second Life and WebEx.

What sort of programs?
- Monthly virtual meetings will include book discussions and talks by leaders in the industry.
- A mentoring program between the IAI and the student chapters would be created where students could get advice from people in the industry, find internship opportunities, and garner ideas for student projects.

Long term goals…
- As more chapters are formed meetings would be held in two tiers, local and national/international.
- International chapters should be included in the long term goals.
- Local chapters would host events for their individual chapters, while bigger events would be hosted on a rotating basis to include all IAI chapters. The bigger events would include discussions from big names in the field. One idea is to have all IAI student members read the same book and then participate in a joint meeting with the author for a discus