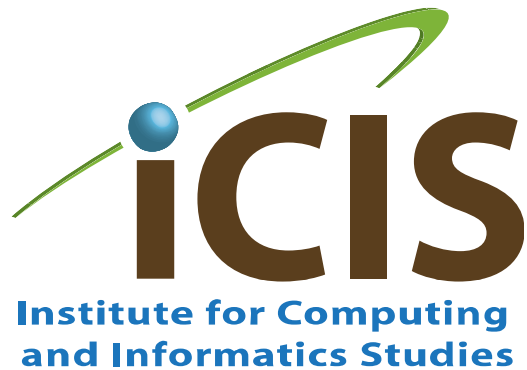


Service Provider Perspectives in the Evolving Information Age

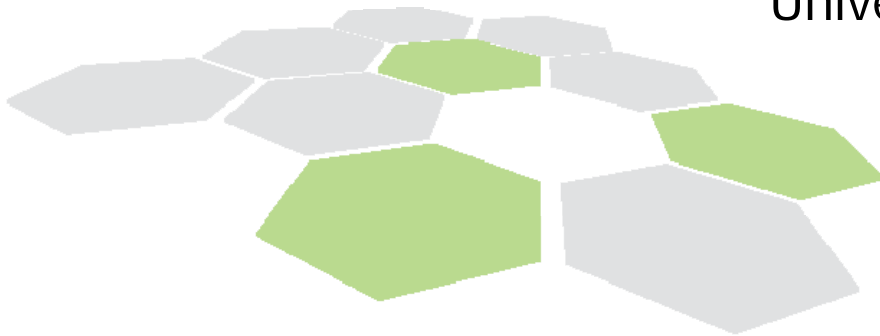


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Sponsored by:

Automated Information Processing Laboratory
Electrical and Computer Engineering Department
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez (UPRM)

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Abstract

Communications service providers have long been pursuing the golden vision to provide anytime, ubiquitous access to any media. Content service providers seek to expand their reach through novel distribution tactics and channels. With ever-decreasing hardware costs, providers' operational expenditures have far surpassed capital expenditures, and information management has been taking center stage. The coupling of affordable computing with the advent of the Internet has introduced historic disruptive changes in the information industry: anyone can now produce and distribute content; network footprints of consumer information continue to expand; consumers feel empowered to demand higher utility at less cost. These changes have brought about the nascent convergence of historically distinct service provider markets pressured to operate with leaner costs while seeking new revenue-generating sources. Industry partnerships between content providers, network providers, and device manufacturers are today's norm. Communication service providers seek growth by introducing new delivery models, access to new media content, customized content services, and novel business models.

This talk will shed light on key challenges service providers and technology vendors face in competitively meeting the communication needs of an increasingly global, wireless, and information-saturated society. Leading activities in the communications industry will be presented, highlighting a sampling of Bell Labs research efforts in wireless networking, a key technology driver for future communications.

Bio Sketch

Sandra Ramos Thuel received a B.S. degree in Computer Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, in 1986, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, in 1988 and 1993 respectively. Since 1993 she has been a Member of Technical Staff at Bell Laboratories, in Holmdel, New Jersey, having been part of AT&T, Lucent Technologies and now part of the recently merged Alcatel-Lucent. Her main research interests are mobility management, broadband wireless voice and data networking protocols and architectures, advanced routing and router architectures, quality of service, scheduling and resource management.

Her early research work on real-time systems is now in routine use for building avionic control systems at Honeywell. She is a communications industry veteran, with extensive experience in many data and voice networking technologies. She has published her work in books and leading conferences in the areas of mobile communication and real-time computing and is the co-inventor of various patents on networking technology. She has served leading IEEE conferences via program committee and chairing roles and balances her career with caring for her three children .