

EE Student's 'Practical Guide' Seminar Series

Thinking 'Interdisciplinary'

SSL 150 (outside and North of Seaver Science Library)

Friday, March 7, 2008

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

All EE students welcomed!

Pizza will be provided by the EE Department.

Abstract: The lines between traditional academic disciplines are blurring as engineers, scientists and other researchers work together to address major societal challenges and scientific questions. Research teams at USC are involved in large scale projects addressing issues such as climate change and energy, biomedical nanoscience and its applications, computational and systems biology, and the use of technology to enhance the education, health and well-being of children. Electrical engineers have a major role to play in these and other multidisciplinary projects. We will discuss our experience in multidisciplinary research focusing on the challenges and rewards of this mode of research, as well as practical questions such as training for graduate students and postdocs, sources and mechanisms for funding, and the impact of interdisciplinary studies on obtaining faculty positions and tenure. This will be an informal meeting and we look forward to a lively dialog with those attending.

SPEAKERS



Prof. Richard Leahy is a Professor of Electrical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering and Radiology at the University of Southern California. He was Director of the USC Signal and Image Processing Institute from 1997-2003. Dr. Leahy is a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and was general chair of the 2004 IEEE International Symposium on

Biomedical Imaging (ISBI). He has published over 200 papers in the field of biomedical signal and image processing. His research interests lie in the application of signal and image processing theory to biomedical imaging problems. His research involves the development of methods for anatomical and functional imaging with applications in neuroimaging and molecular imaging using PET, MRI and EEG/MEG.



Prof. Shrikanth (Shri) Narayanan is the Andrew J. Viterbi Professor of Engineering and holds appointments as Professor of Electrical Engineering and jointly in Computer Science, Linguistics and Psychology at the University of Southern California. Prior to USC he was a researcher at AT&T Bell Labs and AT&T Research in New Jersey. At USC, he is a member of the

Signal and Image Processing Institute and directs the Signal Analysis and Interpretation Laboratory (SAIL). The focus of his research group is on human-centric signals and systems modeling including applications in speech, audio, video and biomedical domains. Shri Narayanan is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, and is a recipient of several academic honors including a 2005 best paper award from the IEEE Signal Processing society and a Mellon Award for Excellence in Mentoring. Research papers co-authored with his students have won several best student paper awards at major IEEE venues. He has published over 250 papers and has fifteen granted/pending U.S. patents.