

## EE Student's 'Practical Guide' Seminar Series

### "Thinking Outside the Box: How to Survive Peer Pressure"

SSL 150 (outside and North of Seaver Science Library)

Friday, November 21, 2008

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

All EE students welcomed!

**\*Pizza will be provided by the EE Department.\***

Abstract: Graduate students, particularly international students, face a number of challenges as they settle down. This seminar will offer informal discussion of many opportunities on campus as well as in our department for academic success and enrichment. It will also offer a perspective on "thinking outside the box" for research success. This involves understanding and identifying constraints that are useful (and those that are not), building up research confidence, and mastering old ideas while being open to developing and applying new ones.

## SPEAKERS



Michael J. Neely received B.S. degrees in both Electrical Engineering and Mathematics from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1997. He then received a 3 year Department of Defense NDSEG Fellowship for graduate study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received an M.S. degree in EECS in 1999 and a Ph.D. in 2003. During the Summer of 2002, he worked as an intern in the Distributed Sensor Networks group at Draper Labs

in Cambridge. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Communication Sciences Institute (CSI), within the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Southern California. His research interests are in the areas of stochastic network optimization and queueing theory, with applications to wireless, satellite, mobile ad-hoc networks, and switching systems. Michael received the NSF Career award in 2008. He is a member of Tau Beta Pi and Phi Beta Kappa.



Viktor K. Prasanna is Charles Lee Powell Chair in Engineering and is Professor of Electrical Engineering and Professor of Computer Science at USC. He is the executive director of the USC-Infosys Center for Advanced Software Technologies (CAST). His research interests include High Performance Computing, Parallel and Distributed Systems, Reconfigurable Computing, Network Computing and Embedded Systems. He received his BS in Electronics Engineering from the Bangalore University, MS from the School of Automation, Indian Institute of Science and Ph.D in Computer Science from the Pennsylvania State University. He is the Steering Committee Co-Chair of the International Parallel & Distributed Processing Symposium (IPDPS) [merged IEEE International Parallel Processing Symposium (IPPS) and Symposium on Parallel and Distributed Processing (SPDP)]. He is the Steering Committee Chair of the International Conference on High Performance Computing (HiPC). During 2003-'06, he was the Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Transactions on Computers. He was the founding chair of the IEEE Computer Society Technical Committee on Parallel Processing. He is a Fellow of the IEEE and the ACM. He is a recipient of the 2005 Okawa Foundation Grant.