

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers

Rock River Valley Section Meeting

NIUNet Fiber-Optic Communications Network

When: Thursday, March 31, 2005

Where: Rock Valley College, Technology Center

I-90 to Riverside Blvd., exit and go West to Mulford Rd. Go South to first light, turn East into RVC. Follow road to left to last building on right.

Agenda

6:00 PM Social
6:30 PM Dinner
7:30 PM Presentation

Program

The subject of the presentation will be NIUNET, an ultra-fast, fiber-optic communications network that extends next-generation technology currently available only at research facilities in Chicago to the rest of the region.

The network consists of a 175-mile fiber-optic loop that is expected to aid research and economic development efforts throughout the western suburbs and northern Illinois region. It should advance health care technology, benefit area schools, and keep high-tech jobs from leaving the region for more "connected" communities.

The three-year NIUNet timetable calls for creation of a network stretching from DeKalb to Batavia to Naperville along I-88, connecting into Chicago, the I-WIRE network, Argonne National Laboratory and other national research networks through the connection at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia. NIUNet would then loop back along I-90 to Hoffman Estates and west to Rockford before heading south along I-39 to Rochelle and back to DeKalb. In the end; municipalities, schools, hospitals, research facilities and other potential NIUNet partners could be connected to dozens of other high-speed networks worldwide.

Development of the first phase is under way. It includes links from NIU's campus in DeKalb to its Naperville campus and the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Speakers

The presentors will be Walter Czerniak the NIU Associate Vice President for Information Technology and Herb Kuryliw, Chief Network Architect.

Walter is responsible for a \$22 million division, 175 full-time and 200 part-time staff, providing central computing, telecommunications, networking, printing and copying services, lab management and information systems support for the university. Responsibilities include: leadership, planning, management and coordination in applying information technology to all aspects of the institution's educational, administrative, research and outreach activities.

Herbert is responsible for the implementation of high speed networks used for research advancement, administration resources, and academic initiatives. Currently involved in the design of the advanced regional research network in Northern Illinois named NIUNet. Responsibilities include creating partnerships with local governments, research facilities and private companies in sharing the costs of network infrastructures promoting the design of advanced networks in the Northern Illinois region.

Meal/Reservations

Dinner choices will include Chicken Breast or a Vegetarian selection. Please make your dinner reservations by calling Ginger at 815-394-5696 or by sending her an e-mail (ginger.spinasanta@hs.utc.com). Cost is \$7.00 for members, \$5.00 for students, and \$15.00 for non-members. Please include your name, phone number, e-mail address, and IEEE member number. Meeting alone is free and begins at 7:30.

Note

The meeting is open to the general public. You need not be an IEEE member. Guests are welcome. However, please call to enable us to make appropriate arrangements.