The Board of Directors has approved a slate of nominees to present to the membership for election to the Board for 2010-11. The new officers' terms begin at the close of the Annual Conference April 21.

The election is conducted electronically using Web-based survey software to verify and count results. All primary (voting) institutional representatives will receive an e-mail announcement containing instructions. You can review candidates and their platforms online before casting your vote. Ballots must be cast electronically or postmarked by Friday, February 12. Vote only once as duplicates will be disqualified.

If you have questions about eligibility to vote, or if the person designated as your campus's primary representative has left him or her position during the past year and no new voting rep has been named, please contact Michele West at 859/278-3338, ext. 222, or mwes@acuta.org. The candidates are:

**President-Elect**
- Joseph E. Harrington, Director, Network Services, Boston College

**Director-at-Large**
- Richard W. Besch, Director, Applications/Systems Technology Support Group; Project Manager Banner/Luminis Systems, Texas A&M Corpus Christi
- Matthew V. Fuoco, Director, Telecommunications & Networking, The University of Kansas Medical Center
- Walt Magnussen Ph.D., Director for Telecommunications, Texas A&M University
- Mark Reynolds, Interim Director ITS CNS, BICSI RCDD, University of New Mexico

Serving on ACUTA's Board of Directors provides opportunities for professional and personal growth. It requires a commitment on the part of the individual as well as the institution for which he or she works. All of these nominees are to be commended for their willingness to serve the association as Board members.

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As I was thinking about this article and what I might want to say, I kept thinking this has been a tough year—I really need a break. This naturally led me to think of the holiday season. I really did not want to wait until Christmas to start celebrating. So, I did a little research on holidays in December. It looks like to me December is a good month for celebrating and remembering.

December 1: Krampus (German Holiday)
December 4: Wear Brown Shoes Day. There you go.
December 5: Bathtub Party Day. After all, there’s going to be a lot of celebrating this month.
December 6: St. Nicholas Day. A Greek bishop whose reputation for selfless gift-giving made him the inspiration for Santa Claus.
December 7: National Cotton Candy Day. Originally marketed as Fairey Floss (no points scored with the American Dental Association)
December 7: National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Still a day of infamy.
December 8: National Brownie Day. For chocolate lovers everywhere.
December 8: Take it in the Ear Day. There’s a holiday in which I will not be participating
December 8: Bodhi Day (Buddhism). Recalls the day when the Buddha achieved enlightenment.
December 8: Eid al-Adha. The Festival of Sacrifice
December 10: Human Rights Day
December 12: Poinsettia Day. Everyone needs a flower
December 13: Ice Cream Day. I think this would be a much bigger hit if it moved to summer.
December 13: Violin Day
December 21: Forefathers’ Day. December 21, 1620 was the day the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock.
December 21: Hanukkah (Chanukah). Celebrated with 8 days of gifts
December 21: Winter Solstice — the darkest and shortest day of the year
December 23: Festivus (for the rest of us). Thanks, Seinfeld!
December 25: Merry Christmas!
December 26 to January 1: Kwanzaa, a week-long holiday which honors African heritage.
December 27: My Parents’ Anniversary. Not a holiday for you, but it was a pretty good day for me.
December 27: National Fruitcake Day. I hope this didn’t have anything to do with my parents’ anniversary...
January 1: New Years Day. Time to start all over again!

It has been a tough year, but a good one for ACUTA and myself. I would like to wish all of you a Happy December. Enjoy your holidays!


Multi-Event Discount: Attend More in 2010 and Save More!

We hope you heard our big news about great discounts when you attend multiple events. If not, here’s one way ACUTA is responding to the current climate of budget cuts.

Any attendee from a college or university will be eligible for discounts based on how many events they attend in 2010. The discounts get better as the number of events you attend increases: 20% discount for the 2nd event, 30% discount for the 3rd event, and a whopping 50% discount on the 4th event!

When you register to attend the Winter Seminar in New Orleans, you become eligible for 20% off your registration for any other event in 2010. You get all the proven benefits and advantages of being at the Winter Seminar, but you’ll also receive a 20% discount on any future 2010 ACUTA event. For example, ACUTA members could use it to save $130 off the early registration fee for the 2010 Annual Conference. The second event registration makes you eligible for 30% off your third event, and if you can make it to all four of ACUTA’s face-to-face educational events in 2010, the fourth one will be half price.

More information can be found online at www.acuta.org/22700. (Note: The multi-event discount is available only to paying institutional attendees. The discounts are only good for 2010 ACUTA events, are provided to individual attendees, and are non-transferable within the institution.)
Surely you saw all the news items about a month ago regarding the 40th anniversary of the first Internet message. Quite a year, 1969. Moon landing, New York Mets winning the World Series, Woodstock, and the birth of the Internet. But while three of those events may be the best remembered, it is the one least remembered that had the greatest impact on America and the world.

No one back then—not even the writers for Star Trek—could have possibly anticipated what would eventually unfold from a simple attempt to link computers. Universities, of course, were the midwives and pediatric care nurses for the birth of the Internet, just as colleges and universities lead the way in technology adoption and refinement today.

Is there anything on the horizon today with the potential for anywhere near the impact that the Internet has had on our lives? We’ve already had the Rise of the PC and the Rise of the Wireless Device in the interim, both of which are closely tied to the Internet’s ascendancy. The PC was essential to broadening the “audience” for the Internet, and wireless devices let us take the Internet anywhere.

A couple of things come to mind in terms of large-scale effects in the future, although we have doubts that even they would be anywhere near the Internet scale. One is unified communications (UC) and the other is the PAN, the personal area network.

UC, which we’ll define here as a convergence of all communications, fosters collaborative work, more “aware” communications among individuals, and the ability to work at any time from anywhere, and eliminates many of the existing barriers to contact among members of teams, employees, and other groups that need to be connected. UC has the potential to alter the way work is done and the ways people interact in the workplace. It won’t happen tomorrow or even five years from now. Rather, we see an evolution in which people will someday look back and not be able to imagine how anyone ever worked effectively otherwise.

A PAN is an environment in which devices (think Bluetooth headsets as one example) with low-powered radios will communicate with other devices within a small radius, maybe 25 feet. Your PAN would involve elements of presence (making sure friends and colleagues know where you are) or environment (adjusting temperature, lights, music, etc., to your entry into a cubicle or a room) as well as commerce, communications, and more. While some of this would be purely personal, there is real workplace potential as well. Like iPhone apps, if you can conceive of a PAN app, someone can create it.

Do you see any other Really Big Thing out there? We’d like to hear your thoughts.

As always, if there are specific topics you would like to see covered in this space,
Nominate Now for 2010 ACUTA Ruth A. Michalecki Leadership Award

Thanks to PAETEC for sponsoring this award.

The ACUTA Awards Committee is pleased to invite nominations for the 2010 Ruth A. Michalecki Leadership Award, recognizing an outstanding leader among the membership.

The person selected for this award:
- Engages in activities that have produced results directly benefiting the ACUTA organization and/or the broader higher education community
- Motivates and fosters collaboration to accomplish goals, objectives, and the mission of their institution while demonstrating exceptional leadership qualities
- Actively participates in and promotes the education, professional development, and mentoring of other professionals
- Demonstrates initiative—the ability to take charge by creating or developing a program, project, or activity that impacts the community
- Demonstrates leadership in the information communications technology industry

We encourage you to nominate someone by completing the nomination form online at www.acuta.org/relations/downloadfile.cfm?DocNum=436. There you will also find a listing of previous recipients and their accomplishments.

Deadline for nominations is January 22. Nominees must be representatives of ACUTA institutional member schools or corporate affiliates, or associate members.

Board Report November

The Board of Directors met on November 4. The August and September 2009 financial statements were reviewed and approved. Jay Gillette from Ball State University was reappointed to the Journal Editorial Board, and members of the Program Committee who agree to moderate at least seven hours of sessions at the Annual Conference will have their registration fees waived.

The Board approved a proposal to offer a discount on 2010 events to institutional members who attend multiple events. The Board also reviewed and approved a proposal from the Young Professionals Subcommittee to hold a networking reception for young professionals at the 2010 Annual Conference.

In addition, the Board reviewed and approved a proposal from the Membership Experience Committee to remove the limit on the number of named members at institutions. This new structure reflects a trend toward openness and will enable us to reach more people at institutions.

Ms. Semer reported on behalf of the Secretary/Treasurer that ACUTA's investments are continuing to perform well, and the annual audit was scheduled in late November. In addition, planning is underway for phase two of the ACUTA committee reorganization, and several new committees and subcommittees will be introduced in 2010.

Corinne Hoch presented the report and recommendations of two task forces that she had chaired. The first studied the financial and organizational impact of current benefits for Past Presidents, and no changes were recommended. The second task force studied the minimum qualifications for election as an ACUTA officer or director-at-large, and several changes were recommended. The Board adopted several required qualifications for these positions, effective for the 2011 elections. No changes will be in effect for the current round of nominations and elections, and members will have ample time to become familiar with the new requirements before they go into effect in 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeri A. Semer, Executive Director

Happy Holidays from the ACUTA Staff!

Jeri Lori Donna Amy Michele Pat

Aaron Lisa Tom
News from the FCC

The news continues to be dominated at the FCC by the National Broadband Plan and in Congress by Health Care Reform. These two major issues are preventing much progress on any other issue, and it is expected that this will continue for a while longer. As an example, the tentative agenda for the next FCC open meeting on December 16 has a National Broadband Plan (NBP) Status Report as its only agenda item. The November open meeting agenda included a NBP status report and a report and order related to siting of wireless facilities as needed for deployment of wireless broadband services.

However, as reported last month, the FCC has been looking at a few other issues including network neutrality. This has caused Senator John McCain to introduce a bill, called the Internet Freedom Act, to block the FCC from making network neutrality the “Law of the Land.” While the bill is unlikely to move forward, it shows that there is interest in Congress in becoming involved in the issue. The FCC did not take any action on the issue in November.

The FCC is also looking at special access fees as to whether there is adequate competition and if the fees are justified. Not surprisingly, AT&T and Verizon have claimed that there is extensive competition and that no action should be taken. Others claim that the fees are too high and that there is a lack of competition. This will be a significant issue down the road, and it will probably take years before we see a change—if any.

The FCC also has reported that a fraud case is being pursued against 26 individuals who were attempting to steal millions of dollars by incorrectly using the video relay service (VRS) to make calls. It turns out that it is profitable to offer VRS, and the individuals were making calls even when none of the parties involved needed the service. It may be tempting for nonlegitimate customers at ACUTA member institutions to use relay services such as the VRS, and we should take note of this action and advise our customers to not abuse these services.

FTC Action against Blue Hippo

At the Federal Trade Commission, they have taken action again against Blue Hippo, a company that finances the purchase of personal computers and other consumer electronics by establishing a payment plan and delivering the electronics after 13 successive payments. It is claimed that the electronics were either delivered late or not at all. Individuals who have had issues with this company should contact the FTC.

More on the USF Bill

In Congress hearings have been held in the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee in charge of telecom issues on a draft USF bill that would cap the size of the fund while at the same time increasing its scope to include funding of broadband. The draft bill also directs the FCC to undertake a study of contribution methodologies. This effort is similar to legislation that has been talked about for years. However, it appears that there may be more interest now in moving the bill forward. At the same time, there are significant concerns by members of the subcommittee which include a concern as to whether the bill would adequately support broadband access by rural residents and whether the funding caps are adequate.

For Canadian ISPs

Lastly there is a Canadian news item. The Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has adopted a set of Internet Traffic Rules that allow ISPs to use management practices but limits the conditions under which they may be used and also establishes safeguards that the ISPs must follow. ISPs must be transparent about the use of traffic management practices, must use traffic management only to address a defined need, and must not discriminate or be preferential.

For More In-Depth Coverage of Legislative & Regulatory Issues:
ACUTA members may read about the latest developments in telecommunications- and Internet-related issues in the most recent Legislative and Regulatory Update, an electronic newsletter prepared monthly by ACUTA's government relations counsel. http://www.acuta.org/relations/DownloadFile.cfm?docNum=309
Who, or what, is BICSI? BICSI is a professional association supporting the information transport systems (ITS) industry with information, education and knowledge assessment for individuals and companies. BICSI serves more than 23,000 ITS professionals, including designers, installers and technicians. These individuals provide the fundamental infrastructure for telecommunications, audio/video, life safety and automation systems. Through courses, conferences, publications and professional registration programs, BICSI staff and volunteers assist ITS professionals in delivering critical products and services and offer opportunities for continual improvement and enhancement of professional stature. BICSI's worldwide headquarters is in Tampa, Florida, and you can find more information at www.bicsi.org.

One question always comes up regarding to BICSI's stand on licensing. BICSI is on record as being 100 percent in favor of licensing. BICSI does, however, want the licensing to be based upon education, training and job experience. It is not in favor of licensing that is based on a particular association's registration/certification program or membership in a particular union. All BICSI has ever stressed is that a level playing field should exist for all individuals who strive for a particular license. BICSI feels that knowledge is to be paramount in getting the license, and not membership.

The 2009-2010 legislative sessions are shaping up to be banner sessions with regard to bills put forward and bills passed. As we wind down in the first year of the present session, I have found some significant changes in the bills this year versus previous sessions. On a state and federal level, Broadband and Wireless deployment leads my list of tracked bills with over 500 different bills put forward in 2009. The expansion of the infrastructure and making it available to everyone who resides in a particular state seem to be the main themes of the individual bills.

These bills are followed very closely by the Green Building Initiatives segment of bills. My database currently has over 375 bills that refer to the Green Building Initiative.

A lot of BICSI members and their companies are very interested in the Licensing of Photovoltaic Installers. It seems that when one segment of the industry slows down, there is always another segment opening. I have also been getting a lot of questions regarding the stimulus funds. From what I have read, and in answer to the questions that I have been asked, the 7.2 billion dollars in stimulus funds is expected to enter the telecommunications marketplace in the last quarter of 2009 and in early 2010.

Many ask what states are the most active states for legislation that BICSI members would have a direct interest in. Well, in 2009, just about every state had a bill or bills that would impact our members. Since this was the first year in a two-year session, some states had very significant bills put forward; but due to more pressing issues, these bills failed because the state's legislature ran out of time and the bills failed because of adjournment. I tracked these bills with the sponsors, and in most cases, the bills will come up again in 2010. California was my most active state. The bills put forward there range from a bill that was passed and signed by the governor making it a misdemeanor for a person to engage in the business or act in the capacity of a contractor without actually having a license, to several e-waste bills that could have a direct impact on how our members conduct their business in the future.

Massachusetts was another state that my members and I tracked with a great deal of interest. For the past several sessions, a "Telecommunications Professionals" licensing bill has been introduced in the Senate and the House. The title of the bill suggests only Telecommunication professionals should be licensed, but under the definition in the bill it would impact everyone doing a wide variety of job functions. The definition currently reads, "Telecommunications - any inherently power-limited system, including fire warning or security, involved in the sending or receiving at a distance voice, sound, data, or video transmissions. This definition shall also include the placing, installing, repairing, maintaining, altering, servicing or testing of any cables or telecommunications equipment on poles, in manholes, vaults, buildings, or in central switching offices. This defini-

continued on page 7
tion shall also include cabling infrastructure and products that transport voice, video, audio, sound, and data signals in a commercial or residential premises; and products that capture and display or otherwise annunciate signals, including those that send signals to other applications up to the point of convergence of such applications. For now, these bills are still pending and will be at the top of my list for monitoring in 2010.

Overall, BICSI’s Governmental Relations effort is aimed at supporting our members in the work that they do. We don't propose legislation, and we also do not tell our members how to feel about a particular bill. I monitor the bills and notify our affected members in a particular state of the bills’ contents, and we leave the rest up to the process. 2009 was a busy year, but 2010 is shaping up to be even busier.

Richard E. Reed, RCDD (Registered Communications Distribution Designer and OSP (Outside Plant Specialist), is a BICSI Past President and currently the BICSI Governmental Relations consultant. Contact him at dread@bicsi.org.

Web Seminar:
“IMS: The Future of Fixed Mobile Convergence”

December 16
1:30-3:00 p.m. EST

Special thanks to Apogee for sponsoring this Web Seminar

ACUTA is very pleased to offer this web seminar on a very timely topic. Attendees at ACUTA’s recent Fall Seminar held in Portland were very complimentary of a presentation by Walt Magnussen of Texas A & M University. In particular, they said that he offered just enough technical information, along with a visionary perspective. ACUTA asked Walt to update his presentation and to make it available via web seminar.

Presenter: Walt Magnussen (Director for Telecommunications - Texas A&M University) also serves as Associate Director for the Academy for Advanced Telecommunications and Learning Technology, an Adjunct Faculty Member at Texas A&M University, and the Co-Director for the TAMU VoIP Internet2 Technology Evaluation Center (ITEC).

Topic: IMS or the IP Multimedia Subsystem is the architecture that has been designed to allow integration between applications running on campus networks and the cellular carriers’ networks. IMS promises to allow Quality of Service for specified applications, support customer authentication and transmit billing information. This session will describe the standards bodies behind the architecture, major components of the architecture, the current status of carrier implementation, and steps campuses can take to get ready for it. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions via phone and live chat.

Registration Fee: ($89 for ACUTA members; $129 for non-members) includes registration for your site with no limit on the number of people who can participate on your speaker phone and one Internet connection. Seminar handouts will be available on the ACUTA website as a PDF document prior to the seminar.

More information is available at www.acuta.org, or contact Michele West to register at mwest@acuta.org or 859/278-3338 x222. Direct questions regarding content to Donna Hall, ACUTA Manager of Professional Development, at dhall@acuta.org.

Follow Corporate Members on Twitter

As the new social networking tools become more ubiquitous, we see more and more practical applications developing. For example, Twitter has a new feature where you can group the people you follow into lists. You might put all your co-workers on one list, all your family on another, and so on, so that you can just look at the one list to see only posts from those people.

ACUTA now has a growing list of corporate members we are following on Twitter. Institutional members are encouraged to “follow” the list, which includes only those companies that support ACUTA by being corporate affiliates. Get the latest product or service information, learn about personnel changes, and stay up-to-date on all the posts from our corporate members.

The list is available at http://twitter.com/ACUTA/acuta-corporate-members. You will need to sign-in in order to have the “Follow this list” option show up.

Corporate members, be sure to let us know if you are on Twitter so we can add you to the list. E-mail Amy Burton at aburton@acuta.org.
Frequently, vendors, associations, governmental bodies, and others provide white papers and other informational documents which are announced through a variety of media sources. While some admittedly have a certain slant or opinion, others are quite objective; however, they often contain valuable information. Below are links to selected documents.

- UNT/Pepperdine - Demand-Side Programs to Stimulate Adoption of Broadband......What works (excellent!): http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1492342
Winter Seminar
January 24-27 • Sheraton New Orleans
Track 1. IP Utopia: Where Are We?
Track 2. Managing Change in an IT World
High-Quality Educational Sessions, One-on-One Time in the Exhibit Hall, and the Absolute Best in Professional Networking!
Register by December 18 and SAVE!
www.acuta.org

Bring Fall Seminar to Your Desktop
If you couldn’t make it to Portland for the Fall Seminar, or if you were there but want to share it with colleagues who were not, “attend” the following eight sessions from your very own desktop.

1. Stanford Technology and Business Model for Converged Communications
2. Straight Talk about Project Management
3. WiFi Access for Campus Guests
4. Looking at ICT Funding with a Fresh Eye
5. Strategic Ways to Address Today’s Funding Challenges
6. LSU’s Organizational Efficiency Review
7. Integrating Cellular, Wireless, Messaging and VoIP at Sewanee
8. Bringing 802.11n to the Dorms

For $189 (member), or $219 (non-member), or $99 (student) you can purchase a CD/DVD of the sessions in a high quality Windows Media video format that can play right on your laptop or desktop computer. Benefits include:

- Nine hours of high quality video and audio on a single CD/DVD disc
- Handouts included on same disc in Adobe Acrobat PDF format
- No Internet connection required for viewing video
- Portable and accessible for long-term viewing and review
- Can be copied to any portable device that accepts Windows Media video files

Order your copy today by going to the ACUTA eStore at http://www.acuta.org/fallvideo

Get Connected: ACUTA Connections
ACUTA Connections is our new blog that’s designed to provide another avenue of connection among the ACUTA Board, committees, staff and members. In this space, individuals can share their thoughts about ICT in higher education—the technology, services, people and the association.

An incredible amount of productive and meaningful activity is going on at many levels in ACUTA. Each of our committees and subcommittees has an ambitious agenda, and they are tackling an amazing number of projects to benefit our members. A variety of groups are creating exciting new programs to meet the goals in our strategic plan (see http://www.acuta.org/7688) and innovate to meet the changing needs of our members.

Visit the ACUTA website periodically to read our blog postings and peruse the other resources that are available to you. Please don’t hesitate to respond with your own thoughts and suggestions as to what ACUTA should be doing to help you succeed, and how the association can provide the information and professional support that you need in this challenging time.

Welcome New Members

Corporate Affiliate Members

COPPER MEMBERS

SunTronic LCD, Fremont, CA ........................................ http://www.suntroniclcd.com
SunTronic's GS product line, featuring innovative all-weather sunlight-readable LCD technology, provides the highest quality sunlight readable image available in an outdoor environment. SunTronic industrial-grade outdoor displays have exemplary resolution and brightness.


Telemate.Net Software is a global leader in providing scalable network monitoring and security products. Our goal is to support the requirements of technology resources by developing products that offer full automation, the highest level of reliability, and the lowest cost of ownership.

Check It Out: Press Releases, Job Postings, RFIs/RFPs and Special Deals

The ACUTA website is a useful tool for communicating with other members, whether you've got some exciting news to share, a position to fill, or a project for which you need a vendor. Check the website for the latest postings frequently. Here are items that have been posted since our last eNews.

PRESS RELEASES

- Aastra Unveils Contact Center Platform for “Special Agents”
- Gustavus Adolphus College Protects All on Campus With Enhanced 911 from Amcom Software
- Mutare Expands Voicemail-to-Text Offering with Fully-Automated, Behind the Firewall Solution
- Inova Solutions offers easy-to-read eBook explaining mass notification requirements of HEOA amendments
- e2Campus is First Alert System to Offer Single Sign-On with Shibboleth
- Chloride ManageUPS® CIO Software Provides e-mail Alerts of UPS Infrastructure Status via Mobile Devices - Anywhere, Anytime
- The University of Arizona Partners with Sprint to Offer Discounted Pricing Plans and Eco-Friendly Products and Programs to Students, Staff
- Exinda Releases Next Generation Platform
- Interactive Intelligence and RightNow to Release Integrated Software Solution for Improved Customer Interaction Management
- University of Pennsylvania Contacts over 53,000 People in Record Time with MiR3’s Mass Notification and Response Platform
- snom and ESTOS Partner to Deliver Unified Communications and CTI to VoIP Phones
- 911 ETC and Atmelco Announce Agreement
- Brady Worldwide, Inc. releases updated version of NetDoc Cable Management Software

JOB POSTINGS

Help your colleagues who are looking for work! Send job postings to http://www.acuta.org/Dynamic/Jobs/ where it will list the jobs we have now and offer a link to post a job.

- Communications Systems Engineer, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY.
- Manager, Infrastructure/Communications, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA.

RFIs/RFPs

No new RFIs/RFPs have been posted this month.

SPECIAL DEALS!

In addition to these new announcements, some previously posted Special Deals are still available at http://www.acuta.org/72293

- Special ACUTA Pricing Offer from CommuniTech Services, Inc.
- BridgeWave Communications: Special End-Customer Offer (Expires: 12/31/09)
- Aastra: Special Offer to Nortel Customers (Expires: 12/31/09)
- PowerDsine 2009 Grant Program: 35% Discount for ACUTA Members (Expires 12/31/09)

In Memory

Nancy Kinchla passed away November 2. Nancy was one of the first women to participate in New England Telephone’s management training program. She joined Harvard University in 1990, and retired as the Director of Communications this year. Her obituary can be seen at http://www.mcnamaraparrell.com/pages/obit.php?id=376.