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eNEWS

From the President

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The Future Looks Bright

Nominate for
ACUTA Ruth A. Michalecki
Leadership Award
See page 6

Last week, I had the good fortune of being invited to the annual International Telecom-
munications Education and Research Association (ITERA) conference to judge a student
paper competition. We've mentioned ITERA before, but in case you don't remember,
ITERA is an association of universities and colleges that have undergraduate and gradu-
ate degree programs in telecommunications. Three teams were in the final round of the
competition. They were from Ball State University, Murray State University, and Western
Michigan University.

The competition centered on a mythical university called "Cool U" that was being creat-
ed from the family fortune of the owners of the ever popular "Cool Drink." Specifications
for the proposed campus were provided to the teams, who were tasked with establishing
an IT environment that would lure the best of the best in terms of faculty and students.
The project was to include a plan that specified both infrastructure and applications. Af-
ter completing the written report requirement, finalists were asked to make a 15-minute
presentation to a panel (seven people representing academia and industry), after which
the teams were asked tough questions.

One of the papers opened with a quote from Arthur Clark: "Any sufficiently advanced
technology is indistinguishable from magic." The campuses described in these papers
bore that observation out. One of the other teams grounded their research by describing
the habits of the average student. Some notable facts taken from the book *Connecting to
the Net.Generation: What Higher Education Professionals Need to Know About Today's
Students* (Junco and Mastrodicasa, 2007) cited by this paper were:

97% own a computer

76% use Instant Messaging (15% are online 24x7)

34% use the Internet as their primary source of news

28% own a Blog

75% have a Facebook account

The technology proposals themselves were well researched and documented. The net-
work designs included three-tier architectures (core, intermediate, and access), blade
servers, software distribution system, SANs for storage, firewalls, IDS and other secu-

In This Issue

rity subsystems. Their reports included information about the availability and cost of commercial Internet and Internet2 access as well as information about broadband service providers and VPN server architecture for the off campus students and faculty.

One application cited was RFID cards used for security, attendance, paying for meals, and controlling room temperature based upon the number of room occupants. Other applications included text messaging for student collaboration, and emergency event notification, campus Kiosks, VoIP display phones with XML based messaging systems, IPTV for video on demand and even a high definition auditorium that served as a lecture hall during the day and movie theater at night.

I will not mention here which of the three groups won the competition; suffice it to say that there were no real losers in this group. Overall, the quality of the papers and presentations were comparable to those of many consulting firms. They were just lacking the operational experience, but that will come with time. In this group, I met the future telecommunications leaders that will support the next generation's communications needs. Hopefully, I even got the opportunity to meet some future ACUTA leaders. I have seen the future and the future looks bright.

● ●

Board Report
March

Riny Ledgerwood
San Diego State Univ.
ACUTA Secretary/Treasurer
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The Board of Directors met by conference call on March 3 and approved the following:

- The Conflict of Interest Policies effective at the close of the 2008 Annual Conference. The purpose is to inform volunteer leaders about what constitutes a conflict of interest, assist them in identifying and disclosing actual and potential conflicts, and to help ensure the avoidance of conflicts in the conduct of the Board of Directors and ACUTA committees.

- The Prize Giveaway Policy effective immediately, beginning with the 2008 Spring Seminar. The policy basically asks the exhibitors to be mindful of what to give away and the attendees what to receive based on their organizational rules and guidelines regarding prize acceptance.

- To provide complimentary registrations for the members of the Program Committee at the Annual Conference if they sign up to moderate at least eight hours of educational sessions.

- The Booth Contest, which will take place at the Annual Conferences only, beginning with the 2008 Annual Conference. The main reasons are to provide recognition to the companies who are creative with their booths, to bring a little fun into the exhibit hall, and to increase the interaction that the attendees have inside the exhibit hall.

- The appointment of Amy Floyd, AT&T, filling a vacancy in the Vendor Liaison Committee with term ending at the close of the 2009 Conference.

The Strategic Plan discussions are currently underway by Committee Chairs, Board Liaisons and ACUTA staff. They will submit proposed action items to the Board for funding consideration.

The recent membership recruitment campaign has gone very well. So far we gained 17 new institutional members as well as 4 corporate members directly attributable to this campaign.

Respectfully submitted,
Riny Ledgerwood, Director
Communications and Computing Services
San Diego State University

Campus Safety Legislation Mulled In Wake of Fatal Shootings

Raymond H. Thrower, Jr.
President, International Association of Campus
Law Enforcement Administrators

The tragic mass shootings at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007 placed campus public safety in the national spotlight. In the months after the shootings, Congress began crafting legislation to provide greater federal support for campus public safety. The School Safety and Law Enforcement Act of 2007 is currently making its way through Congress. A House-Senate conference committee will ultimately resolve different versions of this legislation adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

Some provisions of this bill would clearly strengthen campus safety. These provisions include grants to colleges and universities for campus public safety equipment and training, creation of a National Center for Campus Public Safety, and equity in federal death benefits for officers killed in the line of duty at private institutions.

However, one provision of the bill has generated widespread opposition among higher education associations, including IACLEA. The House version of the bill contains a provision that would require colleges and universities to notify the campus community within 30 minutes in the event of a campus emergency,. While this proposal is well-intentioned, it is impractical and counterproductive to the goal of issuing timely and accurate warnings during emergencies.

Let's examine some of the problems with this legislation. First, there is no definition in the legislation of the term "emergency," which gives the U.S. Department of Education wide latitude to define the scope of an emergency when it writes regulations to guide institutions. Our experience with the Department of Education in other Clery Act related guidance leads us to believe they will not be timely or responsive in clarifying this provision. It took the Department 16 years to publish a handbook with guidance on Clery Act compliance. We are extremely concerned that the Department will treat this new provision in much the same manner, leading to confusion and counterproductive activity for many years.

Secondly, the provision, as drafted, requires a 30-minute notification of an emergency occurring on the campus involving an immediate threat to students or staff, in or on non-campus buildings or property, and on public property. Many campuses are spread out with facilities that are located within a larger community. For instance, UCLA has administrative offices miles from campus that would be considered a part of the campus under the definition of this provision. UCLA has an administrative unit in a building they share with a bank. An armed bank robbery could trigger a campus emergency alert for an incident that is neither near the campus nor an imminent threat to students. Public spaces are also included in the definition. Events at Riverside Park could trigger alerts at Columbia University or a bomb threat at Fenway Park in Boston would impact and perhaps trigger notification at universities and colleges in the surrounding area.
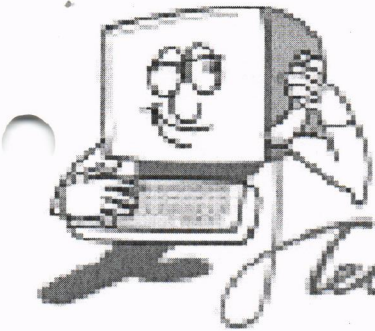
Third, the potential for abuse is high. Prank threats are treated seriously by campus public safety officers, and that seriousness could translate into needless lost classroom time, needless confusion and fear, and a desensitization of the campus community toward real emergency threats. Campus leaders may err on the side of notification in passing along to the campus community a report of an emergency, since 30 minutes may not give adequate time for officers to investigate and verify whether a reported emergency is real or a prank.

Fourth, the 30-minute time frame may work in some instances, but it may be far too short a period in other cases where the situation evolves as emergency responders assess and gather information about a specific incident. Each emergency is unique. Protocols are different and appropriate responses may differ for every campus incident. A rigid, inflexible time frame for notification does not recognize the unique and rapidly changing nature of critical incidents on college campuses.

Finally, the provision substitutes an arbitrary number (30 minutes) for the sound judgment of campus executives, who have the training and experience and are in the best position to determine what is a legitimate emergency and how it should be communicated to the campus community. We know of no other law enforcement entity in this country that is micromanaged by federal mandate to the extent that it must conform to an arbitrary standard in responding to a crisis.

Higher education associations are working diligently on new initiatives and legislative proposals to enhance the safety and security of U.S. college and university campuses. IACLEA applauds Congress for its leadership in addressing the need to strengthen public safety on U.S. college and university campuses. IACLEA stands ready to assist in that effort by offering practical and rational solutions to enhance emergency preparedness and response.

Raymond H. Thrower, Jr., is the Director of Safety & Security at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. He is the 50th President of IACLEA, an association that represents and advances campus public safety for its 1,300 institutional members and more than 2,000 individual members.

Kevin Tanzillo
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We'll Ask Again: Is This a Phone You Want on Your Network?

That's the question we raised in this corner last August, not long after the iPhone stormed the market. At the time, it redefined "cool," and frankly, it still may be redefining it. Not being particularly cool in the first place, I'm not really the one to judge that.

And like an Apple-shaped snowball rolling downhill, gaining momentum and heft at the same time, the iPhone continues to be a consumer favorite—as well as an issue when it comes to enterprise networks. The question in the headline may end up merely a moot point, since whether you want it there or not, the iPhone will be part of your network. Way back in August, our advice was to start planning how to handle the iPhone, and we hope you followed that, because the urgency is increasing.

To its credit, Apple understands the reluctance of the people who run the networks to open them up to devices that are so much beyond their control. Security and management are serious issues, and the latest moves by Apple reflect that.

Last month, Apple introduced a number of new iPhone features that address the needs of enterprise users. For one, iPhone users now can gain access to Microsoft Exchange ActiveSync, which will deliver secure e-mail, contacts, calendars, and global address lists. This also enables IT departments to establish password policies, set up virtual private network settings, and even wipe out data on any iPhones that are lost or stolen.

Also, Apple says the iPhone will soon support a secure Cisco VPN protocol designed to guarantee highly secure IP-based encryption. These changes would seem to directly address the most serious arguments that experts have directed against the iPhone in terms of its applicability and utility to enterprise networks.

The latest "upgrades" will be part of a software revision that also includes an iPhone software development kit, which will aid developers in creating new, and presumably enterprise-oriented, applications for the device.

So it looks like the incorporation (or infestation, depending on your point of view) of the iPhone into enterprise networks is an inevitability. The good news is that it now appears that the unit itself and the intelligence contained within it are moving in the right direction. So when it happens, at least you'll end up connecting a device that's considerably more friendly than it might have been at one time.

As always, if there are specific topics you would like to see covered in this space, please let me know via e-mail at kevin@duxpr.com.

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12th Annual Strategic Leadership Forum

"Planning and Funding for Increasing Service Demands"

The 12th Annual ACUTA Forum for Strategic leadership in Communications Technology will take place July 14 and 15 during the ACUTA Annual Conference in exciting Las Vegas, Nevada. This two-day program has become a must-attend gathering of individuals with strategic and leadership responsibilities for communications technology in higher education.

This year's Forum will consider the topic "Planning and Funding for Increasing Service Demands." Increased service demands pose significant challenges including planning, prioritizing, funding, and more. The Forum will explore in depth the ways various campuses are approaching these issues and provide the opportunity to learn from others' experiences.

Forum attendees are invited to attend all ACUTA Conference sessions, including the keynote address and general sessions each day, plus breakouts on Wednesday and Thursday. Registration also includes all social events and other networking opportunities.

For more details or to register, visit the website at http://www.acuta.org/?2066.

D C Update
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The Aftermath: Was it March Madness on the FCC court?

The 700 MHZ spectrum bidding is over and the big winners have been announced. Verizon Wireless was the winning bidder in the 22 MHz band (C block). AT&T was the other big winner at $6.6 billion, and the third leading bidder was Qualcomm Inc. at $1 billion.

FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin reported that the auction raised $19.592 billion. (These revenues are to be allocated for the support of public safety initiatives and the digital television transition.) "As a result of the 700 MHz auction, there is the potential for an additional wireless 'third-pipe' in every market across the nation. Additionally, 99 bidders, other than the nationwide wireless incumbents, won 754 licenses—representing approximately 69% of the 1090 licenses sold in the 700MHz auction." Chairman Martin also reported that Verizon Wireless has made a commitment to open its entire network to devices and applications of consumers' own choosing.

Not everyone was happy with the outcome of the sale. FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein noted, "It's appalling that women and minorities were virtually shut out of this monumental auction. It's an outrage that we've failed to counter the legacy of discrimination that has kept women and minorities from owning their fair share of the spectrum. Here we had an enormous opportunity to open the airwaves to a new generation that reflects the diversity of America, and instead we just made a bad situation even worse. This gives whole new meaning to 'white spaces' in the spectrum."

Another Match: FCC vs. Comcast

It appears that Comcast has agreed not to arbitrarily block certain applications on its network. FCC Chairman Martin announced; "I hope that the negotiations to which Comcast commits today will result in a solution that preserves consumers' ability to access any lawful Internet content and applications of their choice. That ability is fundamental to preserving the open marketplace and innovation that characterizes the Internet." (http://hraunfoss.fcc. gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-281165A1.doc)

The Commission will remain vigilant in ensuring that consumers have the ability to access the lawful content of their choice on the Internet." There will be another hearing on April 17, 2008, on this matter.

More Stats

FCC Data on local telephone competition and high-speed services for Internet access are now available online. Below is just a tasting of the statistics available if you're interested. For additional stats, you may review at the following links: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-280942A1. pdf and http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-280904A1.pdf

• Mobile telephony service providers reported 238.2 million subscribers at the end of June 2007, which is 21 million, or 10%, more than a year earlier. About 7% of these subscribers were billed by mobile telephony service resellers.

• There was at least one CLEC serving customers in 82% of the nation's Zip Codes at the end of June 2007. About 98% of United States households resided in those Zip Codes. Moreover, multiple carriers reported providing local telephone service in the major population centers of the country.

• High-speed lines increased by 22% during the first half of 2007, from 82.8 million to 100.9 million lines in service, following a 27% increase, from 65.3 million to 82.8 million lines, during the second half of 2006. For the full twelve-month period ending June 30, 2007, high-speed lines increased by 55% from 65.3 million to 100.9 million (or 35.7 million lines) compared to a 54% increase, from 42.5 million to 65.3 million lines (or 22.8 million lines), in the twelve-month period ending June 30, 2006.

• Of the 100.9 million total high-speed lines reported as of June 30, 2007, 65.9 million served primarily

residential end users. Cable modem service represented 50.6% of these lines while 37.5% were asymmetric DSL (ADSL) connections, 0.2% were symmetric DSL (SDSL) or traditional wireline connections, 1.7% were fiber connections to end-user premises, and 10.0% used other types of technology including satellite, terrestrial fixed or mobile wireless (on a licensed or unlicensed basis), and electric power line.

• Advanced services lines, which deliver services at speeds exceeding 200 kbps in both directions, increased by 16% during the first half of 2007, from 59.8 million to 69.6 million lines, compared to a 17% increase, from 51.1 million to 59.8 million lines, during the second half of 2006. For the full twelve-month period ending June 30, 2007, advanced services lines increased 36% from 51.1 million to 69.6 million (or 18.5 million lines).

The Sky Does Have Limits

On March 27, 2008, the FCC ordered an Amendment to Part 76 of the Commission's Rules, Implementation of the Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act of 1999; Local Broadcast Signal Carriage Issues and Retransmission Consent Issues. This order became necessary to allow DirecTV and Echostar time to become compliant within a four-year timeframe after the digital transition, with benchmarks that must be met at the end of each year to offer full local HD carriage.

DirecTV is expected to launch their D-11 satellite in mid March 2008 and the D-12 satellite in 2009. These satellites will expand high-def capacity for local and national channels, but it will be necessary to launch one more satellite. According to FCC Chairman Michael Copps, "Some of this new capacity will be used for national HD service and some will provide local HD service via spot beams. The spot beams for these satellites (D-11 and D-12) have all been designed and cannot now be changed. "Thus, DirecTV asserts—and EchoStar makes a similar case—that it must design, build, and launch at least one additional satellite in order to comply with today's HD mandate—hence the four-year timetable." (http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-08-86A3.doc)

The Committee will examine U.S. readiness for the nationwide transition from analog television broadcasting to digital television (DTV) broadcasting.

With the transition less than a year away—set for February 17, 2009—the hearing will focus on consumer awareness, the role of broadcasters and the FCC, and the status of the NTIA converter box program.

Tate Appointed to Federal-State Joint Conference on Advanced Services

FCC Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate was appointed to serve as Federal Chair of the Federal-State Joint Conference on Advanced Services. Commissioner Tate commented; "In this role, I will reach out to states, consumer advocates, and industry providers across all platforms to preserve and advance the principles set forth by Congress."

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Nominate Now for ACUTA Ruth A. Michalecki Leadership Award

The ACUTA Awards Committee is pleased to invite nominations for the 2008 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 communications technology industry

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

Deadline for nominations is April 25. Nominees must be representatives of ACUTA institutional member schools or corporate affiliates, or associate members.

ACUTA extends appreciation to PAETEC for sponsoring this award again this year.

Info Links

Randy Hayes
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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.

- Benton – Universal Affordable Broadband for All Americans:
  http://www.benton.org/benton_files/BroadbandForAll.pdf
- FCC 2006 International Circuit Status Report (Released Feb. 08):
  http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-280335A1.pdf
- Connected Nation – Economic Impact of National Broadband:
  http://connectednation.org/economic_impact_study/
- RERC – Wireless Needs for Those With Disabilities: Summary--
  http://www.wirelessrerc.org/news/publications/first-report-findings-of-the-survey of-user-needs-sun
  Full Report: http://www.wirelessrerc.org/publications/publication_files/SUN_analysis_1-11-08_%28LB%29.pdf
- European Regulators Group – International Roaming Update:
  http://erg.ec.europa.eu/doc/publications/erg_07_85_intl_roaming_rep.pdf
- WPF: Medical Identity Theft...The Info Crime That Can Kill You: Executive Summary 2006:
  http://www.worldprivacyforum.org/pdf/wpf_exsum_medidtheft2006.pdf
- Pew: Degrees of Access...Internet, Cell, and Home Broadband:
  http://www.pewinternet.org/ppt/PIP_thermometers.ppt
- Mackey: Cellular Taxation Report: 2004 Report:
  http://www.kse50.com/frameset.php?contentPage=briefing.php
  2008 Updated Report:
  http://files.ctia.org/pdf/MackeyExcessiveTaxesFeesWireless_2_18_08.pdf
- FCC – En Banc Hearing - Broadband Net Mgmt. Practices: Video Webcast:
  http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/mt022508v.ram
- PGP – U.S./U.K. Cost of a Data Breach—2007:
  http://www.pgp.com/downloads/research_reports/ponemon_reg_direct.html
- USIIA – Broadband Deployment to Rural America:
  http://www.usiia.org/pubs/Rural.pdf
- 911 Industry Alliance – 2008 Report on U.S. Emergency Net: Summary:
  http://www.911alliance.org/Summary%20of%20report-2-29-08.pdf
  Full Report: http://www.911alliance.org/9IA_Health_of_US_911%20_2_.pdf
- Pew Report – Mobile Access to Data and Information:
  http://pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Mobile.Data.Access.pdf
- Phoenix Ctr – Broadband Net Mgmt...Can Providers Be Trusted:
  http://www.phoenix-center.org/pcpp/PCPP32Final.pdf
- Duke University – Is the Technology Worker Gap a Farce?
  http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1081923#PaperDownload
- Pew Report – Broadband Adoption...Patterns, Behaviors, etc:
  http://www.pewinternet.org/presentation_display.asp?r=236
- AT&T – "Traffic Pumping" Presentation to the FCC:
  http://www.neca.org/wawatch/wwpdf/031208_5.pdf
- CRA – Preliminary Survey Results on CS Grads in US:
  http://www.cra.org/wp/index.php?cat=19
- FCC – High-Speed Services for Internet Access as of June 2007:
  http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-280906A1.pdf
- EU – 13th Report on Implementing Telecom Regulatory Package:
  http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/policy/ecomm/library/communications_reports/ annualreports/13th/index_en.htm

Register today for ACUTA's 37th Annual Conference

July 13-17

Las Vegas, Nevada

Welcome New Members

Institutional Members

College of Mount St. Joseph, Cincinnati, OH. T1
Keith Weber, CIO (513/244-4350) .... keith_weber@mail.msj.edu

Hill College, Hillsboro, TX. T2
Jessie White, CIO (254/582-2555).................................... jwhite@hillcollege.edu

Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, OK. T2
Randy Miller, Telecom Supervisor (918/495-7977) .... ramiller@oru.edu

Touro College, New York, NY. T4
Mark Shor, CIO (212/463-0400) .... mark.shor@touro.edu

University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK. T3
Julie Larweth, Exec. Officer, Info Tech (907/450-8380) .... julie.larweth@alaska.edu

Webster University, St. Louis, MO. T5
Ronald Simpson, IT System Admin. (314/968-5990) ....simpsoro@webster.edu

Corporate Affiliate Members

BRONZE MEMBERS

Intrado,Inc., Longmont, CO... http://www.intrado.com
Mary Boyd, VP, Govt. & External Affairs, 325/356-2121
For 25 years, telecom providers, PSOs and government agencies have turned to Intrado for
emergency communications needs. A global provider of integrated data and telecommunications
solutions, Intrado provides the core of North America's 9-1-1 infrastructure and a wide range of
safety and mobility offerings.

COPPER MEMBERS

LEIGHTRONIX, Holt, MI... http://www.leightronix.com
Jeff Possanza, Dir. of Marketing, 517/694-8000
With over 25 years experience in specialty video equipment design and manufacturing,
LEIGHTRONIX is recognized as an industry leader with expertise in digital video, television
automation, on-demand video, and remote equipment control.

Talk-A-Phone, Chicago, IL .... http://www.talkaphone.com
Samuel Shanes, Chairman of the Board, 773/539-1100
Talk-A-Phone is a communications manufacturer based in Chicago. We have been providing
communication solutions across the globe for over 65 years.

Check It Out:
Press Releases
Job Postings
RFIs/RFPs

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

- Graybar Introduces new Security Catalog
- Mohawk announces the Addition of Eagle Marketing to their Sales Force

JOB POSTINGS

- IT Project Manager, University of Tennessee -Infrastructure, Knoxville, TN.
- Network Engineer / TIS, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN.
- Director, Technology Services, Division of Student Affairs, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- Security Analyst, ITS - Network Services, Cedar Falls, IA.
- Senior Windows Systems Administrator, Ohio University, Athens, OH.
- Senior Programmer Analyst, George Washington University, Washington, DC.
- Assistant Director Data Center, The George Washington University, Ashburn, VA.
- Telephone Engineer, Ohio University, Athens, OH.
- Junior Telecom Systems Engineer, University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA.

Post your RFPs! ➤

RFIs/RFPs

No new RFIs/RFPs submitted since last report. Be sure to post your RFIs/RFPs to the ACUTA website.
Contact Aaron Fuehrer (afuehrer@acuta.org) for details.