

Engineering/Physics/Materials Science/Technology Seminar Series!!

Dr. Usha Varshney,
Program Director
ECCS Division

Title:

**"Our World is Engineered: Engineering at the
National Science Foundation"**

Abstract:

NSF is the funding source for approximately 20 percent of all federally supported basic research conducted by America's colleges and universities. In many fields such as mathematics, computer science and the social sciences, NSF is the major source of federal backing. NSF's goals--discovery, learning, research infrastructure and stewardship--provide an integrated strategy to advance the frontiers of knowledge, cultivate a world-class, broadly inclusive science and engineering workforce and expand the scientific literacy of all citizens, build the nation's research capability through investments in advanced instrumentation and facilities, and support excellence in science and engineering research and education through a capable and responsive organization. This presentation will involve an overview of NSF Mission, Vision and Strategic Outcome Goals, NSF Organizational Structure, and FY 2009 Budget, followed by a description of Research and Education Themes and various Programs and Initiatives in Engineering and its Divisions. The presentation will conclude with a brief discussion on salient features of "Winning" proposals.

Bio:

Dr. Usha Varshney is Program Director in the Division of Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems (ECCS) in the Directorate for Engineering at the National Science Foundation (NSF). From 2004 to 2008 she served as Division Director and Acting Division Director for ECCS. In 2003-2004, she was a Legislative Fellow in the United States 108th Congress, and a ComSci Fellow in the U.S. Department of Commerce Science and Technology Fellowship Program. She joined NSF in 1997 as Program Director of Electronics, Photonics and Device Technologies, and of Integrative Systems. From 1985 to 1997, she served variously as Director of Research, Senior Research Scientist, Research Scientist and Magnetics Design Engineer in industry. She is a Fellow of IEEE and a Fellow of AAAS. She has authored numerous publications, is an inventor on seven patents, and is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions.

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