Editor’s Message

Dear SIGCOMM Members,

This is my first issue as editor of CCR, and I’d like to begin by thanking my predecessor, Roch Guerin. Roch’s tremendous effort and high editorial standards have left CCR in wonderful shape, and it’s both a real pleasure to step into the enterprise he has left behind, and a distinct challenge to succeed an editor that has done such a great job!

I’d also like to acknowledge and thank CCR’s four area editors, Andrew Campbell, Ramesh Govindan, Balachander Krishnamurthy and Klara Nahrstedt, for their critical role in the continuing evolution of CCR. I’m convinced that without them this job would simply be impossible, and I very much look forward to working with them in the future.

This month, in addition to our regular complement of technical papers, CCR is publishing the executive summary of a report from the US National Research Council titled “Broadband: Bringing Home the Bits”. The NRC is the research arm of the US National Academy of Science, Academy of Engineering and Institute of Medicine, with the mission of undertaking thoughtful, rigorously peer-reviewed studies of topics across the scientific and engineering spectrum. This study examines the technologies, economics, policies, and strategies associated with broadband connectivity and offers recommendations aimed at fostering its deployment. Unlike most NRC studies, which are performed at the request of an outside agency, the NRC’s Computer Science and Telecommunications Board initiated this report internally in an effort to understand the hows and whys of broadband deployment and use.

ACM SIGCOMM, together with (US) DARPA, (US) NSF, Hewlett-Packard, Intel, Interval Research, WorldCom, Sun Microsystems, Texas Instruments, and Qwest, provided financial sponsorship for this project. The report has been widely influential within the government and policy communities, and has been recommended as an “outstanding contribution to the national broadband discussion” by Michael Powell, the chair of the US Federal Communications Commission. I hope you find the summary interesting. More information about the NRC may be found at http://www.nas.edu/nrc/, about its Computer Science and Technology Board at http://www.cstb.org, and about this report at http://www.cstb.org/project_broadband.html.

Finally, a brief mechanical note. CCR has been produced in the past using the traditional production path of camera ready copy, litho plates, and so on. We’re now beginning the transition of CCR to an all-electronic production path. When complete, this should both shorten the printing cycle and noticeably reduce the costs incurred by the SIG, but it may also require some slight revisions to the paper preparation and submission guidelines. More information will be available on the CCR website http://www.acm.org/sigcomm/ccr as the process evolves.

John Wroclawski
CCR Editor