CDS Distinguished Colloquium Spring 2021 Series

11:30AM to 12:30PM
Thursday, March 18, 2021

Zoom Webinar ID: 998 2943 6376
Passcode: 357363

"Networks Capable of Change"

Abstract: The early designers of the Internet fostered tremendous innovation by leaving much of the network's functionality to the programmable computers at its periphery. Unfortunately, the *inside* of the network has been much harder to change. Yet, changing the network is important to make the Internet more reliable, secure, performant, and cost-effective. The networking research community has struggled for many years to make networks more programmable. What has worked, and what hasn't, and what lessons have we learned along the way? This talk offers my perspective on these questions, through a 25-year retrospective of research on programmable networks, focusing on my own research experiences as well as reflections on major trends in the field. The talk advocates a sort of "ambitious pragmatism" that approaches an ambitious long-term goal (a programmable network infrastructure) through smaller, pragmatic steps while keeping an eye on the prize..

Jennifer Rexford
Princeton University

Bio: **Jennifer Rexford** is the Gordon Y.S. Wu Professor of Engineering and the Chair of Computer Science at Princeton University. Before joining Princeton in 2005, she worked at AT&T Labs—Research. Jennifer received her BSE degree in electrical engineering from Princeton University, and her PhD degree in electrical engineering and computer science from the University of Michigan. She served as the chair of ACM SIGCOMM from 2003 to 2007. Jennifer received the ACM Grace Murray Hopper Award, the ACM Athena Lecturer Award, the NCWIT Harrold and Notkin Research and Graduate Mentoring Award, the ACM SIGCOMM Award, and the IEEE Internet Award. She is an ACM Fellow, an IEEE Fellow, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Sciences.

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