featuring today's keynote speaker:

**Scott Shenker**

Scott Shenker received his degrees, in theoretical physics, from Brown University (Sc. B.) and the University of Chicago (Ph. D.). After a postdoctoral year at Cornell's physics department in 1983, he joined Xerox’s Palo Alto Research Center. He left PARC in 1999 to head up a newly established Internet research group at the International Computer Science Institute (ICSI) in Berkeley. Scott's research attention has wandered over the years, ranging from computer performance modeling and computer networks to game theory and economics. Most of his recent work has focused on the Internet architecture and Related issues.

Today at 9:00 he will deliver his keynote on:

The Data-Centric Revolution in Networking

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**Emerging Database Research In East Europe**

*by Bernhard Thalheim*

VLDB'2003 attracted and supports a good number of database researchers from Central and Eastern Europe. The workshop “Emerging Database Research in East Europe” was planned as a "come-together" event for those participants of VLDB 2003 funded by the VLDB 2003 Eastern Europe Initiative. One of the goals of VLDB 2003 is to acquaint young database students and scientists from the East with their colleagues from the same region and from all over the world, to foster a viable database community in the East and to strengthen an atmosphere of partnerships between that community and researchers from the rest of the world. The workshop offered a unique opportunity to gain a broad overview of all the database research in the Eastern countries. The workshop also served as a first step into a network of relationships between aspiring researchers from the East and experienced researchers from the Traditional VLDB community.

The 31 short presentations reflected and surveyed the database research activities in Poland, in the Baltic states, Belorussia, Ukraine, Russia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Serbia and Montenegro. Research in East Europe is currently concentrated mainly on three main topics:

1. Web service pattern (exchange protocols, mediation architecture, service specification, consistency, functional requirements, integration of services, service infrastructure)

2. Database technology (Approaches aiming in enhancing database services, business processes, techniques for development of integrated database systems, query optimization, filtering, enhancements for XML, advanced spatial, multimedia and image databases, workflows)

3. Applications of computer science to information systems (agents, formal concept theory, data mining, developing adaptable systems, sharing, soft computing, ontologies)

In his welcoming remarks the General VLDB 2003 Chair, Peter Lockemann, took the opportunity to thank the institutions that contributed toward the funds: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Günther-Schroff-Stiftung, Klaus-Tschira-Stiftung, s d & m software company and VLDB Endowment.

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This year's edition of the VLDB Conference is the first one to be accompanied by a PhD Students' Workshop. Out of 35 submissions, 17 presentations have been selected by an international committee for presentation during the one-and-a-half days starting this afternoon on 14:45h at the Freie Universität Berlin, Computer Science Department. Would all participants please make sure to plan for the travel time (of approx. one hour) between the Conference site (Humboldt Universität) and the Workshop location.

Travel instructions

Take Bus 100 or 200 (Zoolog. Garten) in front of the university main building, change at S-Bahn station Unter den Linden and take the S1 (Potsdam) to Steglitz. From there, take Bus 183 (Königin-Luise-Str./Clayallee) to Arnimallee. From there, cross the street and enter Arnimallee. A small path on the left leads to the Computer Science Building (Takustraße 9). For a more detailed map see <http://www.inf.fu-berlin.de/pics/MathInf.jpg> or the conference message board.

!!! Closing Session !!!

today 13:30 Audimax

A closing session today 13:30 in the Audimax has been added to the program. One good reason for attendance is the chance to win one of three tickets to the VLDB 2004 in Toronto.

Proceedings

There are a few proceedings left that are available at the conference office for EUR 35 each.

LeMO: Living Museum Online

Some people asked about the URL of the Living Museum Online demo. It can be found on the Web site of the German Historic Museum, see <Http://www.dhm.de/lemo/>.

The VLDB 2003 organizers wish you

Good Bye

We hope you did enjoy the VLDB 2003 and your stay in Berlin. We thank all sponsors, organizations, and contributors who made this conference possible. Good bye, have a safe trip home and see you next year in Toronto!