For many years people have spoken about the impending convergence of those networks that evolved from the public switched telephone network (PSTN), the Internet and the diverse media used to deliver broadcast video. It finally appears as if the trend is about to be realized but there are still many different views on what form the converged network will take. While the traditional telco industry has its sights set on the IP multimedia subsystem (IMS), the proponents of the next generation Internet have other ideas. The Net Neutrality debate has raised the question of who will control and who will really derive revenues and profits from the converged network of the future. In this talk, we will review technology enablers for the converged network and examine the major questions that are shaping this evolution.

About the Speaker: Donal O’Mahony graduated with 1st class honours in Engineering from Trinity College Dublin in 1982. After a brief career in industry at the Sord Computer Systems (a Japanese microcomputer startup company) in Tokyo where he worked as a researcher on new microcomputer operating systems and at IBM in Dublin, he re-joined Trinity College as a lecturer in Computer Science in 1984. At Trinity, he built a research group working in areas such as network architectures, protocols and computer security. He is the author of two books and over 60 papers in these areas. Prof. O’Mahony is a fellow of Trinity College and was a Fulbright fellow at Stanford University in 1999. In July, 2004 he led a team to establish the Centre for Telecommunications Value-Chain Research (CTVR), a major multi-university research centre involving over 100 active researchers working closely with a network of industrial partners including Alcatel-Lucent (Bell Labs). He is now full-time director of this centre.