Panel

Pervasive Computing: Is the Devil in the Details?

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The scientific and technical challenges of realizing pervasive computing are likely solvable – devices and environments are increasingly “smarter”, invisible, autonomic, and enabling. But, what of the societal implications of the emergence of pervasive computing? Have our lifestyles been improved or our consciousness diluted as a consequence of pervasive computing? Does the Intelligent “X” pose safety challenges? Are we amassing data from pervasive systems to serve society or mining it for intrusive purposes? Does pervasive computing introduce sustainability challenges as devices incorporate increasing numbers of components? Are there human and social dynamic characteristics that are ripe for/in danger of government regulation? And, what of the increasing complexity of such systems that transcends our ability to understand and predict performance, reliability, and safety in critical applications? How do we build trust?

These panelists, sponsored by the USA’s National Science Foundation (NSF), Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE), will explore these and other topics and engage the audience in thought-provoking discussion about the impacts and side-effects of pervasive computing.