

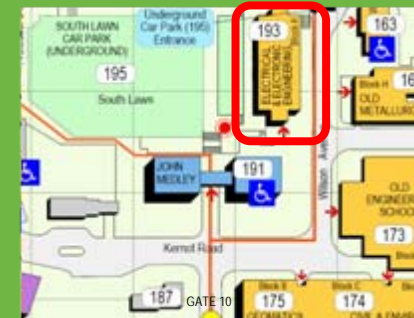
Details available online at http://nicta.com.au/nicta_events/big_picture

National ICT Australia invites you to the Victoria Research Laboratory Big Picture Seminar Series Monday December 8, 2008

The talk will be followed by light refreshments and an opportunity to meet the speaker.

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR THIS FREE EVENT
RSVP to vr1ss@nicta.com.au by Friday 28 November, 2008

Public Parking is available at an hourly rate at the University Square car park. Enter via Bouverie Street. Local street parking is also available.



When: 4-5pm, Monday December 8, 2008

Where: Brown Theatre, Electrical & Electronic Engineering (Building 193), University of Melbourne, Parkville

Professor Ian Foster, Director of the Computation Institute, Argonne National Laboratory and University of Chicago

Computing Outside the Box

ABSTRACT: The past decade has seen increasingly ambitious and successful methods for outsourcing computing. Approaches such as utility computing, on-demand computing, grid computing, software as a service, and cloud computing all seek to free computer applications from the limiting confines of a single computer. Software that thus runs "outside the box" can be more powerful (think Google, TeraGrid), dynamic (think Animoto, caBIG), and collaborative (think FaceBook, myExperiment). It can also be cheaper, due to economies of scale in hardware and software. The combination of new functionality and new economics inspires new applications, reduces barriers to entry for application providers, and in general disrupts the computing ecosystem. I discuss the new applications that outside-the-box computing enables, in both business and science; the hardware and software architectures that make these new applications possible; and the economic and legal dimensions of outside-the-box computing.

BIOGRAPHY: Ian Foster is Director of the Computation Institute, a joint institute of the University of Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory, where he is also the Arthur Holly Compton Distinguished Service Professor of Computer Science and an Argonne Distinguished Fellow. He received a BSc (Hons I) degree from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, and a PhD from Imperial College, United Kingdom, both in computer science. His research deals with distributed, parallel, and data-intensive computing technologies, and innovative applications of those technologies to scientific problems. Methods and software he has developed underpin many large national and international cyberinfrastructures. Dr. Foster is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the British Computer Society. His awards include the British Computer Society's award for technical innovation, the Global Information Infrastructure (GII) Next Generation award, the British Computer Society's Lovelace Medal, R&D Magazine's Innovator of the Year, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Canterbury.

