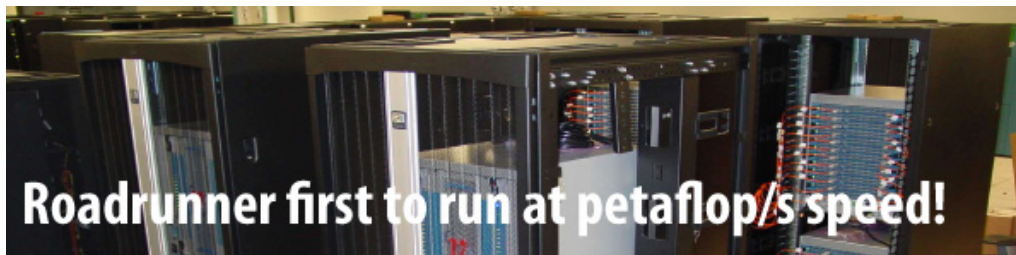


# IEEE Computer Society Meeting

## See the World's Fastest Supercomputer



**CONTACT/RSVP : Robin Burk: [Robin.Burk@usma.edu](mailto:Robin.Burk@usma.edu)**

**DATE: Tuesday, July 15th**

**TIME: 5:00 PM**

**LOCATION: IBM Main Plant, IBM Road (Rt. 9 & Spackenkill Overpass), Poughkeepsie**

**COST: FREE but RSVP required by July 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**ABSTRACT:** Tour the world's fastest supercomputer, Roadrunner, a PetaFlop system built for Los Alamos National Labs.

In a test run on May 27, the Roadrunner supercomputer, built by IBM with funding from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) for Los Alamos National Laboratory, achieved a long-sought supercomputing goal: performing more than a thousand trillion operations per second, or petaflop/s. A "flops" is an acronym meaning floating-point operations per second. One petaflop/s is 1,000 trillion operations per second.

Roadrunner is the first supercomputer to use a hybrid processor architecture, which is based on both Opteron X64 processors from Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) and the IBM Cell Broadband Engine™ (Cell BE) processing elements.

Roadrunner will be housed at NNSA's Los Alamos National Laboratory. The laboratory worked collaboratively with IBM, the manufacturer, for six years to deliver a novel computer architecture that can meet the nation's evolving national security needs. The result has redefined the frontier of supercomputing, not only by crossing the one petaflop threshold, but also by introducing a new paradigm for the future.

Roadrunner is also rated as very energy efficient (green) (performance/watt).

For more information, see <http://www.lanl.gov/roadrunner/>

**Directions:** The IBM Poughkeepsie plant is located at the intersection of Route 9 and Spackenkill road in Poughkeepsie. Meet at the lobby of Bldg 12 (under the Big Clock).

**An RSVP is required by July 10<sup>th</sup> so passes can be obtained. Please indicate whether or not you are a US citizen (citizenship not required, but needed for the form to arrange passes).**

# Mid-Hudson Section Summer Dinner Recap



Dr. Leah Akins gives a dynamic presentation to an attentive audience



Dr. Ravi Todi, IEEE Mid-Hudson Section member, assists Ms. Valerie Suter in displaying the competition mat for last year's FLL competition.

The Mid-Hudson Section held its annual summer dinner at the River Terrace Restaurant in Beacon on June 24<sup>th</sup>. We had a record attendance of 45 members and guests who shared a terrific meal and a great presentation by two very dynamic speakers: Dr. Leah Akins Department Head, Department of Engineering, Architecture, and Computer Technologies, Dutchess Community College and Mrs. Valerie J. Suter, Curriculum Supervisor for Science and Engineering, Arlington School District. They gave an interesting and informative presentation on the First Lego League (FLL) activities in the Hudson Valley.

FLL is an academic “sport” that is growing rapidly in this area, from just a few teams a couple years ago, to over a dozen last year and even more teams expected in the coming year. There was an unofficial tournament held at DCC last February which was so successful that the FIRST organization has granted it official status for next year. IEEE helped sponsor the event last year and has committed to continue to provide sponsorship next year. We also need judges, since the event will be larger next year: there will be a qualifying round of four tournaments prior to the “official” qualifying tournament.

## **Important dates:**

**September 17, 2008:** Informational meeting for coaches

**January 2009:** Preliminary tournaments at Unionvale Middle School, Van Wyck Middle School, Mahopac Middle School, and Marist College.

**February 28, 2009:** FLL official tournament at Dutchess Community College

## **For more information:**

[www.myspace.com/midhudsonfll](http://www.myspace.com/midhudsonfll) Mid-Hudson FLL site with pictures of past events, information and registration for next year's events

<http://www.firstlegoleague.org> FIRST Lego League's website with information about the challenges and the national tournament, held in the spring at the Georgia Dome.

<http://www.usfirst.org/> The US FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) website, the parent organization of FLL.