



National Capital Region Chapter of the
ACM Special Interest Group on Computer Human Interaction

Supporting Casual Interaction between Intimate Collaborators

Presented by **Saul Greenberg**, Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary

What?

Over last decade, there has been mounting interest in how groupware technology can support electronic interaction between *intimate collaborators* who are separated by time and distance. Saul and others in his group are researching and producing prototypes exploring the nuances of electronic casual interaction including:

- How we can enrich on-line opportunities for casual interaction by providing the group with a rich sense of awareness of others: who is around, what they are doing, and what they are working on;
- How awareness information is presented at the periphery, where it becomes part of the background hum of activity that people can then selectively attend to;
- How people can seamlessly and quickly move from this awareness into conversation and actual work;
- How others can overhear and enter into ongoing conversations and activities;
- How the same opportunities work for a mix of co-located and distributed collaborators;
- How we balance distraction and privacy concerns.

Who?

Saul Greenberg, a professor in Computer Science at the University of Calgary, is an active researcher in Human Computer Interaction (HCI) and Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW). Notable technologies produced by his group include Groupkit (a groupware toolkit) and TeamRooms (a room-based groupware environment now commercialized as TeamWave Workplace). He is the author/editor of several HCI and CSCW books, has numerous publications, serves on several journal editorial boards, and has a high service involvement in both the ACM CSCW and CHI conferences.

Samples of Grouplab work and papers are available at
<http://www.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/grouplab/>

Where and When?

The meeting takes place on Monday, May 14, 2001 at 7:00 pm in the Conference 2 Boardroom at the Nortel Skyline location.

Directions and a map can be found at www.capchi.org

Note: All attending will be required to register with security. Please arrive 5-10 minutes earlier to allow for registering. The meeting fee is \$5 for non-members and free for CapCHI members (\$20 / year).