

December 2003

Panel Session on IS 2002.6 (IS 97.6) Networks and Telecommunications

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Recommended Citation

Gorgone, John; Case, Thomas; and Urbaczewski, Andrew, "Panel Session on IS 2002.6 (IS 97.6) Networks and Telecommunications" (2003). *AMCIS 2003 Proceedings*. 400.
<http://aisel.aisnet.org/amcis2003/400>

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PANEL SESSION ON IS 2002.6 (IS 97.6) NETWORKS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Chair

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The panel will discuss a different IS 2002.6, the Networks and Telecommunications course. Presenters and audience will discuss how they structure and teach the course, texts or readings, projects, project evaluations, lessons learned, tools used, tricks to be more effective and possible cross-university collaborations. Based on IS 2002, the course title, scope and topics follow.

Course: IS'02. 6 – Networks and Telecommunication (Prerequisite: IS'02.4)

SCOPE: This course provides an in-depth knowledge of data communications and networking requirements including networking and telecommunications technologies, hardware, and software. Emphasis is upon the analysis and design of networking applications in organizations. Management of telecommunications networks, cost-benefit analysis, and evaluation of connectivity options are also covered. Students learn to evaluate, select, and implement different communication options within an organization.

TOPICS: Telecommunication configurations; network and Web applications; distributed systems; wired and wireless architectures, topologies and protocols; installation, configuration and operation of bridges, routers, switches and gateways; network performance tuning; privacy, security, firewalls, reliability; installation and configuration of LAN and WAN networks; monitoring of networks; management of telecommunications, and communications standards.

A major focus of this panel discussion will be the difficulties involved in balancing telecommunications training and education. Actual software tools are some of the best teaching/learning aids that educators have in a variety of IS courses including Networks and Telecommunication. Educators, however, must be wary that the course does not become merely a training program in a specific technology that may soon be outdated. Specific strategies for creating a balance between training and education in the Networks and Telecommunications classroom will be discussed. Approaches will be identified that allow students to see course concepts in action without making a direct preparation for a specific vendor certification exam.