

Dr. Sharon Laskowski at HFES Potomac Chapter Meeting on February 21

Help us continue to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of HFES!

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2007

Speaker: **Dr. Sharon Laskowski**, The National Institutes of Standards and Technology

Topic: ***“Developing Standards for the Usability and Accessibility of Voting Systems”***

Where: **Positano**

4940 Fairmont Ave. (three blocks from the Bethesda Metro Station on the Red Line)
Bethesda MD 20814 (parking garages are across the street and also around the corner)
301-654-1717

Schedule: **6:00** pm—networking with Dr. Laskowski and others

6:30—dinner: order off the menu; each person pays their own.

(for menu info, go to <http://www.epositano.com/dinnermenu.html>)

7:30—coffee/tea and dessert, *courtesy of the Potomac Chapter*.

(If you prefer, you can skip dinner and come at 7:30 pm for complimentary coffee/tea and dessert!)

7:40—Dr. Laskowski’s talk on Standards for Usability and Accessibility of Voting Systems

8:30—Questions/Discussion and Wrap-Up

RSVP: Please notify Derek Schultz (mediadesign@att.net; 301-656-1897) by **Tuesday 2/20/07...**

=> **if you plan to attend**, and

=> whether you'll be there for **dinner** or **coffee/dessert only**.

Abstract: The 2002 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) assigns the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) a key technical role in assisting with nationwide improvements for voting systems. In particular, NIST provides research support to the Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC) established by HAVA to develop voluntary voting system guidelines which are then delivered to the Election Assistance Commission. In this talk, Dr. Laskowski will describe NIST’s research on equipment standards and performance benchmarks for improving the usability and accessibility of voting systems.

Speaker Bio: Dr. Sharon Laskowski is a computer scientist in the Information Technology Laboratory of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and manager of the Visualization and Usability Group, which is developing evaluation methods, metrics, and standards for human-computer interaction and human-robotics interaction. In 2004, Sharon was the lead author for the report “Improving the Usability and Accessibility of Voting Systems and Products,” NIST SP 500-256. As mandated under the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Public Law 107-252, she leads the development of the usability, accessibility, and privacy requirements for the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines

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