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IT Eminent Lecture Series

MyLifeBits: Storing Everything, Building Memex
Dr. Gordone Bell
Microsoft Researcher, Pioneer of Mini-Computer/Internet
Howe-Russell E130
November 24, 2003 - 03:30 pm

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Abstract:
The MyLifeBits project at Microsoft Research aims to put all personal documents and media online. For the last few years, Bell has been capturing and storing articles, books, correspondence, CDs, photos, presentations, home movies, videotaped lectures, and voice recordings. He is building software to support MyLifeBits, beginning with a server that can support capture, store, manage, and use personal media, including telephone conversations, meetings, radio,TV with Web enhancement, and personal music and video collections. Such a project potentially includes everything from ensuring that this information will be readable in the future to privacy, security and sharing. The user interface challenges are many, and they are highly dependent on the various applications that utilize the data.

Speaker's Bio:
Gordon Bell is a senior researcher in Microsoft's Media Presence Research Group, a part of the Bay Area Research Center which maintains an interest in startup ventures. Bell spent 23 years (1960-1983) at Digital Equipment Corporation as Vice President of Research and Development, where he was responsible for Digital's products. He has an SB and SM degree from MIT. During 1966-72 he was Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at Carnegie-Mellon University. In 1986-1987 he was the first Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation's Computing Directorate. He led the National Research and Education Network panel that became the NII/GII, and was an author of the first High Performance Computer and Communications Initiative. Beginning in 1987 he sponsored "The Gordon Bell Prize" for Parallelism administered by a committee from the annual ACM/IEEE Conference on Supercomputing.

This lecture has a reception.