

Report on the Committee for Communications and Information Policy (CCIP)

Luke Maki became the chairman of the CCIP on Jan 1, 2003.

Active areas of interest

Universal Access
Privacy on line
Security
Broadband deployment
Spectrum distribution/allocation
Spam (new)
Internet taxation (new), and
Voting Standards

Universal Access to the Internet is being worked in a subcommittee that was supposed to have completed its report to the CCIP by April 5, but it has not yet been delivered.

Privacy on line was under review as of the last BoG meeting in October and is still under review by its subcommittee.

Security is a consolidation of several previously separate issues: Cybersecurity, Critical Infrastructure Protection, and Encryption Policy. Cybersecurity was one of two areas of specifically defined interest to AESS. The CCIP is working with NIST and the Sustainable Computer Consortium (at Carnegie-Mellon) to put on a workshop called SecureIT at NIST on May 20, 2003. This will be the first step to engender discussion for the generation of an integrated policy statement.

A Broadband report "Report from the Workshop: This Decades's (R)evolutionary Telecommunications Paradigm" on the July 2002 workshop has finally been published. The final recommendation: ...we join the IEEE-USA in recommending:

1. *Policymakers must ensure that Ethernet networks over fiber infrastructures capable of gigabit speeds complemented by broadband wireless technologies, be fully considered and fairly evaluated for a prominent role in accelerating advanced broadband deployment in the U.S.*
2. *Government policies at the Federal Communications Commission, Department of Justice, and Federal Trade Commission, as well as at state and local regulatory and enforcement agencies throughout the U.S, must be established, and actions must be taken to ensure that Ethernet networks over fiber infrastructures capable of gigabit speeds, together with complementary broadband wireless networks, are given a fair marketplace opportunity to prove themselves on their merits as contributors to enhancing the country's national productivity, homeland security and international competitiveness. This will require that possible, non-market, anticompetitive blocking actions by rivals be foreclosed.*

CCIP effort on Spectrum allocation has been in hiatus over most of last year, but a subcommittee is discussing putting on a workshop this year.

A group within the committee is developing issues regarding Spam to present to the CCIP at its next meeting.

A group within the committee is developing issues regarding state taxation of the Internet to present to the CCIP at its next meeting.

A group within the committee is revisiting Voting (machine) Standards to present to the CCIP at its next meeting. Some committee members who are involved with voting standards feel that the quality of new standards is lacking.

Nanotechnology. This is one of two areas of specifically defined interest to AESS, but responsibility for nanotechnology policy has moved to the Research and Development Policy Committee.