

Executive Summary

of

IEEE's Real-Time Communications Conference and Expo at Illinois Tech

October 8 - 9, 2024

The [IIT Real-Time Communications Conference](#) is a globally recognized, collaborative event where industry and academia connect. This annual conference brings together technical professionals and business executives from the data and telecommunications industry, standards bodies, policy and regulatory institutions, and academic educators and researchers to promote an open exchange of ideas to lead to future development in the rapidly changing field of real-time communications.

The 20th Annual Real Time Communications Conference was sponsored by the IEEE Chicago Section and was once again an International Conference of the IEEE. The conference was held in-person and everyone enjoyed the opportunity to meet and greet during breaks, lunches and social events! All feedback indicates that the conference continues to be recognized as a unique venue with benefits for all who attend. Next year's event, scheduled for October 7- 8, 2025, will be held in-person on the IIT Main Campus in Chicago.



Jennifer Yates, AVP AT&T Labs Keynote

Who was there

This year the RTC conference had over 150 registrants from countries around the globe. Participants represented companies and standards bodies that are focused on development, test, implementation, deployment, innovation and entrepreneurship in data, tele- and real-time communications. Vendors of equipment, applications and solutions, as well as network operators were all present in the mix. The breakdown by sectors is approximately 65% Industry, 35% Academic, Technical/Professional Organization and Government.



Besma Smida, University of Illinois and Panel

Participants came from different levels within their organizations and are mostly focused on the solution of technical challenges at both the engineering and strategic levels. The breakdown by position within their organization is approximately : 25% Technical, 65% Executive, Management and Sales, and 15% Academic.

Our distinguished Keynote and Plenary Panel speakers included

- Nikki-Rae Akema, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Torrence Memorial Medical Center
- Adan K. Pope, Co-Founder, Taraxa Labs
- David von Thenin, Software Engineer, Deepgram
- Jennifer Yates, AVP Innovative Science, AT&T Labs
- Tony Bin Zhao, Founder and CEO, Agora
- Dr. Shaun Zong, Chief Scientist and CTO, Agora



Tony Bin Zhao, CEO Agora

Benefits for Industry and Academia

Over the years, this globally recognized event has provided attendees the benefit of learning from- and networking with the global thought leaders that are creating the future direction and requirements of real-time communications. This conference is refreshingly different from a marketing-oriented trade show. Our participants and presentations focus on the technical challenges whose resolutions lead to long-term business opportunities. The participants come away with new ideas to help drive success in their own companies and forge potentially beneficial long-term partnerships. Participants from the research and academic community derive an appreciation of the needs of enterprise and industry. This helps them identify useful research goals that will not only help optimize present solutions but also chart a path to the future.



Poster Sessions drew students from the region

Our Supporters included

RTC Conference Sponsors: AT&T, T-Mobile, INdigital, Agora, Vail Systems, IEEE Chicago Section

Exhibitors: IIT RTC Lab, IEEE Chicago Section

Speakers: The list of speakers is at [Conference Speakers](#), where you can also link to the speakers' slides and videos of their talks.

Benefits for Students

Complementary education: Students were able to attend the talks and visit the booths of our sponsor/exhibitors in-person this year. The conference adds another dimension to their courses and curricula and enables the students to communicate with people who will be their peers in the near future. This conference also provides IIT professors an opportunity to extend the classroom learning, by assigning students to attend one or more talks and to prepare a conference report describing the experience.

Job Opportunities for Students - Talented new graduates for employers:

Corporate sponsors told us that one goal of their participation is to recruit new employees from amongst our well-prepared student body. In past years students have presented their projects and the exposure thus derived has resulted in job offers from companies including AT&T, WebRTC Ventures, INdigital and others. This year as in the past some our graduates became conference presenters and track chairs.



Student Volunteers

Benefits for IIT, the College of Computing, and the RTC Lab

Opportunities for projects, funding and collaboration: Our tracks and talks reflect the projects that the lab takes on and, in turn, attract new and continuing projects. This year's conference was no exception, and we have several new project opportunities from participating companies.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship: The first ever Poster Session with seventeen student and faculty teams competing for prize money. Teams developed and presented, extraordinary, innovative Real-Time Communications applications. The Poster Session was extremely well-received and was a highlight of the conference.

Research Track: The Research Track presents juried papers as well as panels and invited talks on topics of particular interest to the research community. This track is always well attended and appreciated not only by students and researchers but also by the many conferees eager to learn of what is happening in the labs before it reaches the market.

Access to Video of the Entire RTC Conference Slides and Papers

- You can view videos of the talks, panels and keynotes at [RTC 2024 videos](#)
- To select the slides and video of a particular speaker or panel, you can also navigate to the 'speakers' tab on the conference web site, <https://www.rtc-conference.com/2024/conference-speakers/> Click on the title of the talk or panel to reach the page at the bottom of which there will be a link to their slides and another to their video.
- The juried papers are available at [IEEE Xplore](#) - (login to Xplore is required)

Contact RTC Lab Co-Directors

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The Real-Time Communications Conference maintains social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Google+.

