

Edward D. Lazowska

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Ed Lazowska holds the Bill & Melinda Gates Chair in Computer Science & Engineering at the University of Washington.

Lazowska received his A.B. from Brown University in 1972 and his Ph.D. from the University of Toronto in 1977, when he joined the University of Washington faculty. His research and teaching concern the design, implementation, and analysis of high-performance computing and communication systems. Lazowska is a Member of the National Academy of Engineering, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, the Association for Computing Machinery, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was selected to deliver the 1996 University of Washington Annual Faculty Lecture, and to receive the 1998 University of Washington Outstanding Public Service Award. He chaired UW Computer Science & Engineering from 1993-2001; under his leadership, CSE received the inaugural University of Washington Brotman Award for Instructional Excellence, four CSE faculty members were recognized with the University of Washington Distinguished Teaching Award, one with the University of Washington Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award, and eight with Sloan Research Fellowships. Nineteen Ph.D. students and twenty-three Masters students have completed their degrees working with him.

In the past ten years Lazowska has undertaken a significant public service role. He chaired the Computing Research Association Board of Directors from 1997-2001, the NSF CISE Advisory Committee from 1998-99, and the DARPA Information Science and Technology Study Group from 2004-06. He served for six years on the National Research Council's Computer Science and Telecommunications Board, and has served on a number of NRC study committees, including the Committee on Improving Learning with Information Technology, the Committee on Science and Technology for Countering Terrorism – Panel on Information Technology, the Committee on Research Horizons on Networking, the Committee to Review the Multi-Agency HPCC Program, and (currently) the Committee on Assessing the Impacts of Changes in the Information Technology Research and Development Infrastructure. He recently became the inaugural chair of the Computing Community Consortium, an NSF-sponsored effort to engage the computing research community in envisioning more audacious research challenges.

Lazowska is a member of the Microsoft Research Technical Advisory Board, and serves as a board member or technical advisor to a number of high-tech companies and venture firms. In 2003 President Bush named him to co-chair the President's Information Technology Advisory Committee; in 2005 President Bush abolished the committee, presumably for insubordination. In 2005 Lazowska received the Computing Research Association Distinguished Service Award for outstanding service to the computing research community, and the ACM Presidential Award from the Association for Computing Machinery "for showing us how to advocate effectively for IT research and advanced education."