

Building Brains

Thursday, May 13th 2:00-3:00 p.m
Irwin M. Jacobs Qualcomm Hall
5775 Morehouse Drive
San Diego, CA 92121

Qualcomm CTO Dr. Roberto Padovani invites you to attend a talk by Dr. Steve Furber

Bio:

Dr. Furber, currently ICL Professor of Computer Engineering in the School of Computer Science at the University of Manchester, is probably most famous as the principal designer of the BBC Microcomputer and the ARM 32-bit RISC microprocessor while at Acorn Computers from 1980 to 1990. Furber's latest project is known as Spinnaker, also nicknamed the 'brain box', being constructed at the University of Manchester. <http://intranet.cs.man.ac.uk/apt/people/sfurber/>

Abstract:

Computer Technology has advanced spectacularly since the first program was executed by the Manchester 'Baby' machine on June 21 1948, but if this progress is to be sustained there are major challenges ahead in the area of transistor predictability and reliability and in the exploitation of massively-parallel computing resources. Biology has solved both of these problems, but we don't understand how those solutions function at the level of information processing. Two questions arise from this line of thinking:

- Can massively-parallel computers be used to accelerate our understanding of brain function?
- Can our growing understanding of brain function point the way to more efficient, fault-tolerant computation?

While these questions remain so far unanswered, they suggest a line of investigation that has been recognized under the Grand Challenge of 'Building Brains'.

This is a free event with free parking available