

KEYNOTE SPEAKER - PROF. JONT ALLEN

Friday - June 09, 2017

Room: Naio

7:30 - 8:00am



Prof. Jont Allen
Electrical and Computer Engineering Department
University of Illinois
Mahomet, Illinois

Allen graduated from the Univ of IL in 1966, and then did an MS (1968) and PHD (1970) at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA. He then went to Bell Labs, where he enjoyed a 32 year AT&T Bell Labs career. At AT&T Allen specialized in nonlinear cochlear modeling, auditory and cochlear speech processing, and speech perception.

In 1982-1987 Allen had primary responsibility with the development of the first commercial multi-band wide-band dynamic range compression (WDRC) hearing aid, later sold as the ReSound hearing aid. During this 5 years he was working closely with clinical audiologists and speech and hearing scientists, and with several hearing aid manufactures (Starkey, Phonak, Etymotic), who subsequently funded Allen's work.

In Aug. 2003 he join the ECE faculty as a Professor, University of IL, Urbana, where he teaches and works with his students on the theory and practice of human speech recognition, for both normal and hearing impaired hearing. From 2005-present Allen has also worked on reading disabilities in young children, in collaboration with Prof. Cynthia Johnson of the UIUC Speech and Hearing Science Department.

He teaches courses in mathematical physics (ECE493), Concepts in Engineering Math (ECE 298JA), Speech processing (ECE537), analog (ECE210) and digital signal processing (ECE310), and Audio Engineering & transducer design (ECE403). The details may be found at <http://auditorymodels.org>.

Since the early 1990's, Allen has been a visiting scientist in the Departments of Otolaryngology of Columbia University, City university of New York, and University of Calgary, and was an Osher Fellow at the Exploratorium Museum, San Francisco. He has been very active in IEEE and the ASA, running both major conferences and small workshops. Allen has more than 20 US patents on hearing aids, signal processing and middle ear measurement diagnostics.