



Welcome to the Academy Conference 2009!

What an amazing time to be gathering as educators who are charged with preparing the 21st century workforce that is needed to achieve economic recovery in the United States. No small undertaking and I can promise you that this year's Academy Conference sessions are designed to help you be successful in this huge responsibility.

There is no question that Cisco Networking Academy is uniquely positioned in the US to educate the architects of the networked economy who are in growing demand as the pipeline of talent needed to design, build and maintain the network infrastructure that will fuel innovation and recovery.

As we prepare to launch the new CCNA Security course and Packet Tracer 5.2, you can be assured that the curriculum is keeping pace with the most in-demand skills from employers. Those skills, combined with the excellent foundation our instructors provide for their students, will make Networking Academy students more valuable than ever in the workforce.

This year's Academy Conference has been designed to be both economically and eco-friendly. You'll notice that the registration fee has been lowered from \$275 to \$200 and that we have negotiated the lowest possible hotel rates at each location. There will be a few changes as a result of these economies including a less "high-impact" customer event, but we know that the economies are important to you and that you'll still find plenty to enjoy at the Welcome Reception as well as the Tuesday night dinner.

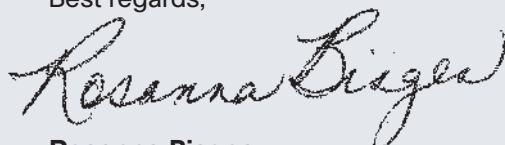
Given Cisco's commitment to going green whenever and wherever possible, there will be no printed handouts this year. Instead you will receive a CD with the session presentations in your Welcome Folders. And as always, the presentations will be posted online at the Academy Conference web site immediately following the second event.

Once again, the conference registration fee of \$200.00 has been subsidized by a generous grant from the Cisco Learning Institute, with additional funding from Cisco. This fee does not include your travel or hotel expenses.

I am excited as the new Sr. Manager for the U.S. to look forward to my first Academy Conference experience and to meeting many of you for the first time.

Please plan to join us for Academy Conference 2009 and be part of our Human Network!
Looking forward to seeing you.

Best regards,



Rosanna Bisges
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Cisco Networking Academy