BIOGRAPHY:

Susan Dumais is a Senior Researcher in the Decision Theory and Adaptive Systems Group at Microsoft Research. She has been at Microsoft since July 1997. Her current research looks at new algorithms and interfaces for improved information retrieval, as well as general human-computer interaction issues. She is also interested in text classification and clustering, image retrieval, collaborative filtering, individual differences and user modeling. Prior to joining Microsoft, she held several positions at Bellcore including director of the Information Sciences Research Group and Computer Graphics and Interactive Media Research Group at Bellcore (1995-1997) and Research Scientist (1984-1995). Before that she was a member of the technical staff in the Human-Computer Interaction Research Group at Bell Laboratories (1979-1983). Dumais is a member of the editorial boards for Human Computer Interaction, Information Retrieval, and New Review of Hypermedia and Multimedia, and has chaired several ACM committees on information retrieval and human-computer interaction. She is currently serving on the National Research Council Committee on Computing & Communications Research to Enable Better Use of Information Technology in Government. Dumais received her B.A. in Psychology and Mathematics from Bates College in 1975 and her Ph.D. in Cognitive-Mathematical Psychology from Indiana University in 1979. Additional information can be found at: http://research.microsoft.com/~sdumais
ABSTRACT:

Most research in information retrieval has focused on the problem of matching user queries to stored document representations. In this talk, I will take a step back from the core matching algorithms and look at other sources of information that can fruitfully be brought to bear to improve information access in a variety of applications. Important sources include: a) information about the world of objects (domain modeling); b) information about the user (user modeling); and c) improved interactive interfaces for information access and management.