

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20554

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 3, 2013

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*** MEDIA ADVISORY ***

FCC ANNOUNCES 'IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC' EVENT TO HIGHLIGHT & ENCOURAGE INNOVATION IN ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGIES

Professor and Entrepreneur Dr. Yevgen Borodin to Address Accessibility at the FCC September 12

Washington, D.C. – Today, the FCC announces the second Accessibility & Innovation Initiative speaker series event will be held Thursday, September 12. The speaker series highlights and encourages innovation in accessible communications technologies that benefit persons with hearing and speech disabilities. Stony Brook University Research Assistant Professor Dr. Yevgen Borodin will deliver a presentation, "Improving Accessibility for the General Public."

Few technologies have been developed to be universally accessible from their inception. While technologies are advancing at a rapid pace, accessibility is often an afterthought, with third-party assistive tools consistently lagging behind the latest innovations.

- **WHAT:** Presentation and discussion, "Improving Accessibility for the General Public." In his presentation, Dr. Borodin will give a historic overview of how people haves been "chasing the moving target" on accessibility. He will examine the strategies that could be pursued to keep up with the chase.
- WHO: Dr. Yevgen Borodin, Stony Brook University Research Assistant Professor
- WHEN: 10:00 a.m. 12 noon, Thursday, September 12 (Tech Demos to follow 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
- WHERE: FCC Commission Meeting Room 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554 Livestreaming available at <u>www.fcc.gov/live</u>
- **RSVP:** To RSVP, please e-mail <u>aiispeaker@fcc.gov</u>

Dr. Borodin is a Research Assistant Professor in the Computer Science Department at Stony Brook University. He is known for his research on computational methods and non-visual interfaces for improving Web Accessibility. He is also the President and CEO of Charmtech Labs LLC, a start-up company that he co-founded to develop a universally accessible web browsing assistant called Capti, an early version of which is available in the iTunes App Store. Dr. Borodin has co-authored more than 30 publications on various aspects of web accessibility, receiving several best papers awards. He defended his Ph.D. dissertation on "Bridging the Web Accessibility Divide" at Stony Brook University, where he received the President's Award for Distinguished Doctoral Students (2010). He was the 1st place winner of the 2007 ACM International Graduate Student Research Competition. He has also served on program committees for numerous conferences and journals, and he is co-chairing the International Web for All Conference in Seoul, Korea (W4A'14).

Pre-registration is not required, but highly encouraged. To register for this event, email <u>aiispeaker@fcc.gov</u>. A free webcast of the live event, with open captioning over the Internet, will be available at <u>FCC.gov/live</u>.

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Send detailed requests, with contact information, to <u>fcc504@fcc.gov</u> or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY). Requests should be made as early as possible

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