Abstract
Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA) is a system for deriving and representing the semantic relationships between items in a body of natural language content. It mimics the representation of meaning that is formed by a human reader who learns language through exposure to natural language over time. LSA is used to construct a framework of associations and meaning where information can be semantically mapped and evaluated. While LSA has been used in information retrieval applications, its real value has been seen in many other applications that leverage the semantic mapping from LSA to provide analytic capabilities. This talk will cover the fundamentals of LSA and discuss the use of LSA for analysis and evaluation in recent and current projects.

Bio
John Martin is a founder and Senior Consultant at Small Bear Technologies, Inc. (SBT), a firm that specializes in large scale Latent Semantic Analysis applications and research. He is also currently completing a dissertation for a PhD in computer science at the University of Tennessee. His current research interests focus on large scale text mining specifically related to LSA. John is a principal developer of the LSA_Toolkit™ at SBT, a scalable, commercial grade, high performance LSA computational engine. He has over 25 years of practical software design and development experience in various environments covering several different fields of application including business systems, weapons systems, air traffic control, medical devices, and educational evaluation.