The Text REtrieval Conference (TREC) is a series of workshops designed to advance the state-of-the-art in information retrieval by providing the infrastructure necessary for large-scale evaluation of retrieval methodologies. Each TREC consists of a collection of "tracks", subtasks that focus research attention on specific challenges. A diverse set of tracks invigorates TREC and makes TREC attractive to a broad set of participants. This talk will give a brief summary of the history of TREC and then describe one or two tracks in more detail covering task definition, evaluation methodology, and lessons learned.

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Lunch will be available for colloquium participants after the talk.