



Fall 2010 CSRC Newsletter

Inside this issue:

<i>Designated Sponsorship List</i>	2
<i>Student Activities</i>	2-3
<i>Scholarships</i>	3
<i>Student News</i>	4
<i>Faculty and Alumni News</i>	5-6
<i>Faculty and Student Kudos</i>	7
<i>Fall Events</i>	8

Special points of interest:

- Always take full advantage of your membership
- Make sure to attend our fall and spring luncheons, to meet our best and brightest students before the career fair
- If you are a Premier Member, make sure to plan a company day in our Undergraduate Learning Center (ULC).

Welcome

It is hard to believe that this fall semester brings with it my fifth year working with the CSRC! We have grown tremendously over the past four years. To come from 13 CSRC members in the fall of 2006 to the 35 current CSRC members is quite a growth explosion. We have outgrown our career fair locations twice and hope to settle on Owens Banquet Hall as our location for the foreseeable future. The additional companies have brought in additional funding for student projects and scholarship support.

You will see several articles in this newsletter that detail CSRC support for our students.

The CSRC welcomes Amazon.com, BAE Systems, BIT Systems, and Parature for the fall semester.

The CS Department is celebrating a milestone this year. Our department is now 40 years old, with the baccalaureate degree approved May 4, 1970. We plan to celebrate throughout the year! In November, we will have a weekend of festivities, including a distinguished

alumni speaker, a networking reception for all CS alumni, current students and CSRC representatives, and several other activities.

I look forward to working with all of you in the 2010/2011 academic year!



We look forward to seeing you in September!

Student Group Coordination Efforts Working!

Over the past year and a half, the CSRC has worked with all CS student organizations to help coordinate funding from industry sponsors. We are pleased to announce that all six student organizations (ACM - Association for Computing Machinery, AWC - Association for Women in Computing,

CS² - Computer Science Community Service, UPE - Upsilon Pi Epsilon, VTGP - VT Gaming Project and the CS Grad Council) will again receive base funding from the CSRC for their yearly expenses. The Designated Sponsorship List (DSL) has also worked well, in that many of

our student groups' activities have been funded by corporate donations. We will be accepting proposals from our student groups throughout the academic year. The online DSL will be updated throughout the year, so keep an eye out for opportunities your company can sponsor.

Your company's support helps our student organizations keep their activities going.

Designated Sponsorship List

Since its inception in the spring of 2009, the Designated Sponsorship List (DSL) has helped to provide funding for our students. The CSRC would like to recognize the following companies for their generous donations:



Freddie Mac provided additional funding to ACM, AWC, and UPE for two semesters of

meeting expenses. They provided additional support for AWC's Women in Computing Day activity. They also provided \$5000 of support for the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing.



Qualcomm has provided additional funding for meeting expenses for CS^2. They have also sponsored the ACM's Students Teaching Students

series, which continues through this fall.



LOCKHEED MARTIN

Lockheed Martin was a secondary sponsor of AWC's Women in Computing Day and provided additional funding support for AWC to travel to the annual Grace Hopper Conference in October 2010.

Thank you to all our sponsors!

CSRC and CS Department Sponsor Grace Hopper Conference

For the third straight year, the CS Department and the CSRC will be academic underwriters of the annual Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing.

CS@VT was well represented by seventeen students at last year's conference in Tucson, Arizona.

The silver academic sponsorship status provides the department with five scholarships to the conference. The department will be using two of these scholarships to encourage new students, at either the undergraduate or graduate level, to attend this year's conference.

We are pleased to be able to continue supporting an activity that provides networking and career opportunities to the young women of the CS Department. Our most sincere thanks to both Freddie Mac and Lockheed Martin for providing additional funding for this very important event.

Women in Computing Day



AWC held its annual Women in Computing Day event on April 23, 2010. This event, which is in its 12th year, invites middle school girls to come to campus to learn about computing and technology. In past years, this event had approximately 100 participants. Due to stressed school budgets and

schedules (from an incredibly bad winter in the Blacksburg area), overall attendance was down this year. AWC hosted 62 girls at this event, but plan for many more to attend next year.

This year, the girls enjoyed sessions on Novel Interactions,

Non-Linear Story Telling, Analog Algorithms, and Virtual Environments.

Special thanks to Lockheed Martin and Freddie Mac for providing funding support, and IBM for sending Ms. Julie King to be the keynote speaker for this event.

CS Enrollments and Scholarship Applications Increase

Computer Science undergraduate enrollments continue to grow. The latest enrollment report of students in the major shows 331 students after May graduation. At this time last year, there were 281 students listed as CS majors. We are also seeing an increase in the percentage of women in the program, from 4.62% this time last year to 7.89% this year. With an increase in total numbers of students enrolling in the major, we experienced growth in our number of undergraduate scholarship applications. As mentioned in the CSRC Summer 2010 Newsletter, we experienced another record year of scholarship applications. With a combination of College of Engineering, Computer Science endowed scholarships, and additional funding from the CSRC, the CS Department was able to award a scholarship to every student who applied and who had earned an overall GPA of 2.85. To make this possible, the CSRC added \$51, 875 to the available funds for scholarships. Your CSRC dues made this possible!

CSRC Continues Support for REU and C-Tech²

The CSRC is proud to continue supporting two Virginia Tech activities.

For a second straight year, the CSRC has provided support to the VT Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU). The REU program gives students from other universities an opportunity to spend eight weeks at Virginia Tech to work on a variety of projects with multiple faculty members. In turn, CS@VT hopes to see many of these students return for graduate studies in the future.

For the third year, the CSRC will sponsor an etiquette dinner for young women attending the "Computers and Technology at Virginia Tech" camp (C-Tech²). During the etiquette dinner, members of the CS Department have an opportunity to speak with the campers and encourage them to pursue computer science in college.

"C-Tech² allowed me to explore more aspects of engineering as a whole and was really good in allowing me to see the entire campus."

Upsilon Pi Epsilon Inducts News Members

On April 15, 2010, Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE) inducted another large class of initiates. During the academic year 2009/2010, twenty students accepted the invitation to join UPE. The CSRC continues to provide \$1000 of support per year to help subsidize membership fees for new inductees.

UPE is the first and only international honor society for the computing sciences. The UPE Alpha Chapter of Virginia was chartered at Virginia Tech in 1975.



If your company would like to join CGI as an endowed scholarship sponsor, we can help you make that happen. You can see if your company will match your gift to make it even easier to reach your goal.

www.matchinggifts.com/VaTech/

CS Student Wins C.T. Tate Distinguished Senior Co-Op Award

For the second year in a row, a computer science student won the annual C.T. Tate Distinguished Senior Co-Op Award!

On Tuesday, April 27, 2010, Aaron Lindsay was awarded the C. T. Tate Distinguished Senior Co-op Award by Career Services. This award is open to students across the university and is based on a co-op employer nomination. According to Ms. Terry Arthur, Aaron's advisor, "Aaron is the exemplary Virginia Tech student who has worked hard, taken advantage of opportunities, and embraced VT's motto *Ut Prosim*. He has achieved an outstanding GPA, co-oped, studied abroad, researched, and given back to the community. He is a leader in the best Virginia Tech tradition, by example." Congratulations to Aaron!



CS Student Wins Qualcomm Q Award

Recent graduate, Luis Rivera, was a recipient of a competitive Qualcomm Q-Award Scholarship. This generous award is offered to full-time students at the sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student level with a major in CS, CpE or EE. Recipients must be active in one of the professional engineering organizations, including NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers), SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers), SWE (Society of Women Engineers) or AWC (Association of Women in Computing).

Luis was invited to a weekend reception at Qualcomm headquarters in San Diego, California in early February to receive his award.

Congratulations to Luis!



Students Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa

On Friday, May 14, Virginia Tech's Mu Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa initiated its Spring 2010 initiates in a ceremony in McBryde 100. According to their official web site, PBK was founded at the College of William and Mary in 1776 and is the nation's oldest and most widely known academic honor society. Among the Spring 2010 initiates were two Computer Science majors, Eric Johnson and Gabriel Martinez Arroyo. Congrats to them!

Shown in the picture are Eric Johnson and his family.



VT LumenHaus Wins International Solar Decathlon Grand Prize and Virginia Tech XCaliber Award

On June 27, Virginia Tech's entry to the Solar Decathlon Europe won the grand prize. This follows the Lumenhaus winning a Virginia Tech XCaliber Award in May of this year. "Eight faculty members working collaboratively together on Virginia Tech's Lumenhaus solar decathlon project received the university's 2010 XCaliber Award for excellence in creating and applying technologies on a large scale team project." These

faculty members worked in collaboration to create the Lumenhaus, which was also displayed in Times Square.

Dr. Denis Gracanin, an associate professor in computer science, states that "the LumenHaus has a computer interface that manages all of its systems. Many aspects of these systems can be controlled by the user, at home or remotely, through either a computer or a mobile device. For example, the homeowner can turn on and

off lights, open and close the sliding doors, lock or unlock the front door, or change the temperature or lights." Dr. Gracanin serves as an advisor to computer science graduate students who have worked to develop the server side interface to the house control systems.

Congratulations to Dr. Gracanin and the faculty and students of the Lumenhaus Team!

Mark Owczarski contributed to this article

Computer Science Faculty Win College of Engineering Awards

On May 10, 2010, two computer science faculty were recognized at the College of Engineering's thirteenth annual Engineering Faculty Reception. This reception recognizes faculty for their contributions to teaching, research, service and outreach.

Dr. Naren Ramakrishnan, Pro-



fessor and Associate Department Head for Graduate Studies, was named a recipient of the

Dean's Award for Research Excellence.



Dr. Alexey Onufriev, Associate Professor, was named a recipient of a College of Engineering

Faculty Fellowship.

Dr. Roger Ehrich Honored with Emeritus Status

"Roger Ehrich, professor of computer science in the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech, has been conferred the "professor emeritus" title by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors.

The title of emeritus may be conferred on retired professors and associate professors, administrative officers, librarians,

and exceptional staff members who are specially recommended to the board of visitors by Virginia Tech President Charles W. Steger. Nominated individuals who are approved by the board of visitors receive an emeritus certificate from the university.

A member of the VT community since 1976, Ehrich was a

pioneer in human-computer interaction research. He authored more than 60 publications, including the book, "Human-Computer Dialogue Design," and made significant contributions to research on digital picture processing and image analysis."

Article by Mark Owczarski



Congratulations to Professor Emeritus, Dr. Roger Ehrich

First Computer Science Inductee to Academy of Engineering Excellence



Dr. Barbara Ryder, College of Engineering Dean Richard Benson, and Mary Miller

May 3, 2010

“Virginia Tech’s College of Engineering inducted seven new members into its Academy of Engineering Excellence, an elite group that now consists of only 97 people out of its more than 55,000 living alumni.

The Academy of Engineering Excellence was founded in 1999 by F. William Stephenson, past dean of the college of engineering, and the College’s Alumni Advisory Board.”

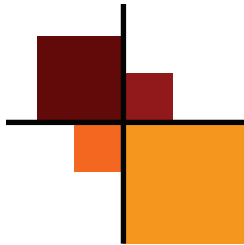
The 2010 inductees included Mary G. Miller, who graduated

with her degree in computer science in 1985.

“Miller founded Interactive Design and Development (IDD), an information technology development company and a producer of educational materials. Her clients include such organizations as the American Federation of Teachers, members of the health care industry, and Fortune 500 companies such as Hewlett-Packard, Citibank, and Dow Chemical. For the past 20 years, Miller has served both Democratic and Republican governors of

Virginia, starting with the first ask from Secretary of Technology Don Upson in the 1980s to help him confront IT problems. She has assisted in Virginia’s efforts to strategize and implement the use of technology across the state’s agencies and institutions of higher learning, and remains a member of Virginia’s Information Technology Investment Board. She was one of the founders of this board, and served as a former chair of its evaluation and governance committee.”

Story by Lynn Nystrom



CS Department Wins NCWIT Seed Funding

The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) and Microsoft Research announced winners of their Academic Alliance Seed Fund. The Seed Fund assists colleges and universities by providing funding for programs to help recruit

and retain women in the field of computer science and information technology. Virginia Tech, in collaboration with the Computer Science Teachers Association, was awarded \$15,000 to support summer workshops for K-12 teachers. These workshops provide vital

assistance with curriculum development and support to high school teachers.

In July of this year, approximately 20 high school teachers will visit CS@VT for professional development opportunities, to share ideas and to network.



Dr. Manuel Pérez named Chair for the Coalition to Diversify Computing (CDC)

Dr. Manuel Pérez-Quinones, Associate Professor in Computer Science and Associate Dean in Residence and Director of the Office for Graduate Student Diversity Initiatives, has been selected to serve as Chair for the Coalition to Diversity Computing

(CDC). According to their website (www.cdc-computing.org/about/), the “CDC seeks to address the [shortage of a highly trained workforce] through the development of a diverse community of professionals that can effectively meet the com-

puting demands of an evolving society. CDC projects target students and faculty with the expressed intent of increasing the number of minorities successfully transitioning into computing-based careers in academic, federal laboratories and industry.”

Kudos to CS Faculty and Students!



Adam Stevens, a recent graduate and a new hire for Fidelity, was named the CS Department's Outstanding Senior for 2010.

CS@VT's Fighting Gobblers team won first place in the 3D User Interface contest at the IEEE Symposium on 3D User Interfaces. Congratulations to Dr. Doug Bowman, associate professor, and CS graduate students Felipe Bacim, Tao Ni, Regis Kopper, and Anamary Leal.



The BT-Tracker program, discussed at our CSRC Faculty Dinner on Tuesday, February 10, has received funding from the Student Government Association to be put into production. The BT-Tracker project also won the first place industry choice award at this year's VTURCS Symposium. Congratulations to recent grad and new Deutsche Bank hire, Travis Webb, continuing student Michael Dillon, and assistant professor, Dr. Eli Tilevich.

Dr. Danfeng Yao, who joined the CS Department at the level of assistant professor in January 2010, was awarded an NSF Career Award for her project entitled "Human-Behavior Driven Malware Detection."



Dr. Barbara Ryder, Department Head of the Computer Science Department, was elected Vice President of the National ACM Organization for July 1, 2010—June 30, 2012.



(left to right—Sherley Codio, Benoît Bernadel, Mario Calixte, Fabrice Marcelin, and Jennifer François)

At May Commencement Ceremonies, five students from Haiti completed their undergraduate degrees in Computer Science. All five students will be pursuing graduate degrees. Sherley Codio, Jennifer François, and Fabrice Marcelin will enter the MS in CS program at Virginia Tech this fall. Mario Calixte will be pursuing an MS in IT at Virginia Tech. Benoît Bernadel will be pursuing an MS in Information Security, Mobility, and Software Management at Carnegie Mellon this fall.



Associate Professor, Dr. Wu Feng, was awarded four Android phones to be used in CS 4254 for a project titled "Meta-Crowd: Towards Crowd Sourcing and Inference."

September Events — September 13 and 14

CSRC Fall Luncheon

Monday, September 13
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The CSRC Luncheon will be held in the Owens ballroom on campus. To assist with parking, the CSRC will be providing a shuttle service from one of the outer parking lots. Additional information will be provided with your packet in early September.

Prior to the luncheon, we have added some informal mingling time for representatives attending the luncheon and all invited students. This will allow you time to circulate amongst all students attending, prior to sitting down for lunch at your table.

CSRC Fall Career Fair

Monday, September 13
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The CSRC Fall Career Fair will be held in Owens Banquet Hall. The CSRC Career Fair is a career fair for all undergraduate and graduate CS students. We also invite all students on our CS-Interest listserv which includes interested new freshmen in General Engineering.

Panel Speaking Opportunities

(Premier Members only)

We have opportunities for our premier members to be on panels for three different audiences:

3604 Professionalism Class

Tuesday, Sept 14, 11:00 am to 12:15 pm
Tuesday, Sept 14, 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm

Juniors and seniors in CS. Students are invited to ask representatives topics about their companies, job searching, and the job market.

CS 4944 Senior Seminar

Tuesday, Sept 14, 5:00 - 5:50 pm

These graduating seniors are moving on to positions in industry or to grad school. Topics include transitioning to the workplace and career management.

Hypatia/Galileo

Tuesday, Sept 14, 7:00 to 7:50 pm

Our representatives are invited to speak with students in these learning communities.

Dinner with CS Faculty

Dinner with CS Faculty

Tuesday, September 14
6:00 to 7:30 pm

It is now a CSRC tradition to have faculty join us for dinner on the Tuesday evening of

the CSRC events. This year, we invite you to join us for dinner in 655 McBryde.



November Events - 40th Anniversary Celebration

The CS Department plans a year of celebration for its 40th Anniversary. A Social/Networking weekend has been planned for November 2010 and a Department Open House in March 2011. The CS Department welcomes its CSRC representatives to our events!

Alumni Distinguished Lecture

November 12, 2010, 11 am
Dr. Greg Lavender '88, '93

Networking Social

November 12, 2010 5 - 7 pm
Owens Banquet Hall

The networking social is for all current CS students and fac-

ulty, CS alumni, and CSRC representatives.

Department Update and Tours

November 13, 9:30 am - 2 pm

Hear about our department and tour our labs in McBryde, Torgersen and Knowledge-works II.

Alumni Dinner

November 13, 6:30 pm
Owens Banquet Hall

A social occasion with all returning alumni. This event will have a suggested donation, but each CSRC company will be offered one complimentary seat.