DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
253 James Jay Love Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32306
Phone: 850.644.4029   Fax: 850.644.0058
www.cs.fsu.edu

NEWSLETTER . . . **FALL 2011**

Chair's Message

 It is with pleasure that I write this letter for our sixth annual FSU CS newsletter. Even in these difficult times, our department continues to excel as our faculty and students continue to receive honors and awards. Our departmental faculty has recently been awarded a significant contract and grant funding in the last academic year. We continue to expand as the number of undergraduate majors in the department increases and we set new records for the number of CS PhD students. Additionally, the department will be offering two new MS degree options starting in Fall 2011. I encourage you to explore the department through our web pages and to visit us in person if you have the opportunity to do so. Finally, I am happy to report that this is my last year as chair of the department and I will be taking a sabbatical during the 2011-2012 academic year. Professor Robert van Engelen will be the new chair of the department starting in Fall 2011.

Ted Baker and Feifei Li Leaving FSU

It is with regret that I inform you that Professor Ted Baker is retiring at the end of 2011. Prof. Baker joined FSU in 1973 and has served as a faculty member at FSU for about 35 years. During this period he made invaluable contributions to the Computer Science Department. He was one of the founding members of the department when it was established in 1984. Prof. Baker has taught numerous courses for the department, particularly at the undergraduate level. He has obtained over $4 million in external research funding during his career. Some of his research accomplishments include developing the first validated Ada compiler at a university, developing the widely used FSU POSIX Threads Library (FSU Pthreads), and techniques for scheduling real-time tasks. From 1998 to 2002, Prof. Baker served as Chair of the Computer Science Department. During this period the department doubled in size and more than doubled its external research funding. Prof. Baker has also performed significant service for the university. He has served as FSU's United Faculty of Florida (UFF-FSU) chief negotiator and vice president for the last several years and has served on numerous university committees. Prof. Baker is currently on a leave of absence serving as a program director for the National Science Foundation (NSF).

I also regret to inform you that Professor Feifei Li will be leaving FSU to join the Computer Science Department at the University of Utah. Feifei Li joined the FSU Computer Science Department as an assistant professor in the Fall of 2007. In the short time he has been at FSU, he has been a principal investigator (PI) on almost $1 million in research funding and has also been a co-PI on several other awards. In addition, he has consistently published in the top database conferences and journals and has quickly established an international reputation. The contributions of Profs. Baker and Li to the Computer Science Department will be very difficult to replace and we wish them the best in their future endeavors.

Two New MS Degree Options Offered by Computer Science Starting in Fall 2011

The Computer Science Department will have two new MS degree options starting in Fall 2011. These degree options will be viable alternatives for all CS Department undergraduate students, but may be particularly attractive for BS CC and BA CS students as they both require fewer undergraduate math prerequisites than the regular MS CS degree. We believe both of the new MS degree options will result in many employment opportunities for the students who complete these degrees.

The MS Computer Criminology (CC) degree will give students training in the area of information assurance, cyberforensics, and computer/network security. As a side effect of taking the required CS graduate courses for the MS CC degree, MS CC students will fulfill a National Security Agency (NSA) approved certificate program. Some departmental assistantships may be available and a limited number of students may receive support through an NSF Scholarship for Service program. More information about the MS CC degree is accessible at:

http://www.cs.fsu.edu/current/grad/cc_ms.php

The MS Computer and Network System Administration (CNSA) degree will give students training in the area of computer and network system administration. System administrators have traditionally been very employable and can find employment almost anywhere in the world. MS CNSA students will be given higher priority for working with our department's systems group. In addition, these students may also receive assistantships to help provide system administration to other departments in the College of Arts & Sciences. More information about the MS CNSA degree is accessible at:

http://www.cs.fsu.edu/current/grad/cnsa_ms.php

Computer Science External Contract & Grant Awards During the Last Academic Year

During the last academic year a number of Computer Science faculty members have obtained external funding.

Feifei Li has $498K in funding for 5 years for the prestigious NSF CAREER award. His grant is entitled "Novel Query Processing Techniques for Distributed Probabilistic Data." Sudhir Aggarwal, Piyush Kumar, and Feifei Li have received a 3 year contract for $632K entitled "Non-Conventional Search and Identification of Delinquent Parents" from the Florida Department of Revenue. Zhenhai Duan was awarded a 1-year, $50K NSF grant entitled "Experimental Study of Accountability in Existing Anonymous Networks." David Whalley and Gary Tyson were awarded a 4 year, $387K subcontract from the University of Pittsburgh that will serve as a supplement to their existing NSF grant entitled "Static Pipelining: an Approach for Ultra-Low Power Embedded Processors." Mike Burmester and David Whalley received two 1-year DoD IASP awards for "Scholarships for Information Assurance and Security" totaling about $49K in funding. Finally, Piyush Kumar, Gary Tyson, Andy Wang, David Whalley, and Zhenghao Zhang have each obtained NSF REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduate) awards for $16K. These REU awards are designed to allow undergraduate students to actively participate in current NSF sponsored projects. Each of these REU awards will provide support for 2 undergraduate students for one year. Thus, a total of $80K will provide support for 10 undergraduate students on REU awards this year.

CS Faculty and Student Honors and Awards

There have been several honors/awards obtained by CS faculty during the last year. Ann Tyson was promoted from Associate in Computer Science to Research Associate effective Fall 2011. Feifei Li received the NSF CAREER award. The National Science Foundation offers these awards in support of the early career-development activities of those teacher-scholars who most effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization. Dr. Li is the third CS faculty member to receive this prestigious award within the last 5 years. Piyush Kumar received the FSU Developing Scholar Award for

2010-2011. FSU faculty are eligible to apply if they have achieved the rank of associate professor and are in their first 3 years at that rank. The Developing Scholar Award is based on evidence of a clearly established program of teaching, research and creativity lasting over a number of years. Ted Baker was awarded the 2010 Outstanding Technical Achievement and Leadership Award by the IEEE Technical Committee on Real-Time Systems. This award is the highest level of recognition from his peers for his research contributions to the field of real-time computing. Ashok Srinivasan was selected to receive a Fulbright research award, which will provide support for him to spend the Spring 2012 semester in India at IIIT Bangalore. David Whalley has been selected to receive a Fulbright Distinguished Chair award for 2011-2012, one of only approximately 40 such awards given each year. Awards in the Fulbright Distinguished Chairs Program are viewed as among the most prestigious appointments in the Fulbright Scholar Program and Dr. Whalley is just the second FSU faculty member to receive one. This award will provide support for Dr. Whalley to spend the 2011-2012 academic year at Chalmers University in Gothenburg, Sweden.

FSView & Florida Flambeau Newspaper Is Now Accessible on Android Phones Due to Efforts by CS Student

FSView and Florida Flambeau, the independent student newspaper at Florida State University, has recently launched its mobile phone application available on all Android smart phones. The mobile application allows students, faculty, staff, alumni and fans access to the latest news and information about FSU. The app was developed by Frank Sposaro, president of FSU's Association of Computing Machinery and an FSU graduate student, and Reid Compton, FSView's digital and multimedia editor and an FSU senior. "We are very excited about the partnership that was created with ACM and the Computer Science Department," said Anne Soffin, general manager of FSView & Florida Flambeau. "Developing new ways to reach our readers and users is critical for the future of student newspapers." Free and easy to navigate, the app can be downloaded by entering the Android's Marketplace. Users can enter FSView or FSU news to search for the app. The app offers news, sports, arts and entertainment and blogs from the print and web editions of the FSView & Florida Flambeau.

Alumni Events

Each Friday before Homecoming in the Fall semester, the CS Department sponsors two events. These events will occur this year on November 18.

The first event is a "Grad Made Good" presentation by a former FSU CS student. This year's speaker will be Mike Kirby, who graduated with a double major in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics in 1997 and is currently an associate professor at the University of Utah. The second event later that same day will be our annual FSU CS alumni gathering, which has been held at Beef O'Brady's for the last few years. You should receive an invitation for these Homecoming events during the Fall semester. Each Spring semester, about a week before final exams, we hold our annual CS Honors Ceremony. We honor the achievements of CS students and faculty and we also induct the latest set of students who have qualified for Epsilon Pi Epsilon, the CS honor society. Please check the department calendar on the main web page for notification of the CS Honors Ceremony.

Nominating CS Faculty for Teaching Awards

The FSU Teaching and Advising Awards Committee is seeking nominations for awards to recognize faculty members for excellence in teaching and advising. Did you have a CS professor whom you considered an excellent teacher or adviser? Please mail, fax, or e-mail a nomination form (http://provost.fsu.edu/faculty/awards/information) to the University Teaching and Advising Committee, 212 Westcott Building, Tallahassee, FL 32306-1310. If you choose to fax the nomination, the number is 850-644-0172, or you can e-mail it to mvanos@fsu.edu. These awards are announced during the Spring term; therefore, your nomination must be received before January 1, 2012.

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HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

If you would like the opportunity to reconnect with Florida State and the Department of Computer Science, you can make contributions by check, credit card, or bank draft through the FSU Foundation. One-time gifts or donations are extremely beneficial and make a tremendous difference in our efforts.

For online gifts of $25 - $250, go to: https://foundation.fsu.edu/community/sslpage.aspx?pid=665. Under **"Gift Designation"** select **"Other."** Please specify **"COMPUTER SCIENCE FUND."**

To mail a contribution and pay by check, money order, or credit card, go to: https://foundation.fsu.edu/Community/ Document.Doc?id=35 and print the form.

All checks are payable to **FSU FOUNDATION**. Be sure to designate **"COMPUTER SCIENCE FUND"** on the form and on your check or money order in order for our department to receive your gift.

For more information on how you can contribute to the Department of Computer Science please contact Nancy Smilowitz, Jeff Ereckson or Leslie Deslis in the College of Arts & Sciences. *"Like" the College of Arts & Sciences on Facebook!*

Mail your gift along with the form to:
The Florida State University
College of Arts & Sciences
Attn: Nancy Smilowitz
125 Convocation Way
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1280

Nancy Smilowitz
Office: 850-644-9324
E-mail: nsmilowi@fsu.edu

Jeffrey K. Ereckson
Office: 850-644-3370
E-mail: jereckson@foundation.fsu.edu

Leslie Deslis
Office: 850-645-9544
E-mail: ldeslis@fsu.edu