

Thoughts from the Head



Dr. Brian M. Slator,
Department Head

When the moon is in the 7th house and Jupiter aligns with Mars ... it is the dawning of the "Golden Age" of Computer Science at North Dakota State University. We are proud to preside in the presence of a University Distinguished Professor (William Perrizo), a Meier Junior Professor (Anne Denton), an NSF Career Award winner (Hyunsook Do), and now a Jefferson Science Fellow (Ken Nygard). This last is a highly prestigious appointment to a year in Washington, DC at the U.S. State Department -- only a handful of scientists are chosen each year.

In the past year research grants have come from the National Science Foundation (Anne Denton & Changhui Yan), Honeywell (Ken Magel), Cisco Systems (Juan Li), and the CS department won the highly coveted NDSU Advance/FORWARD Department Equity Award with a \$5,000 prize. All this success has created an interesting dilemma with one professor in South Korea for a year of developmental leave (sabbatical), another in DC consulting with the powers that be, and a third faculty line open, to be filled next Fall after a national search. Meanwhile, enrollment continues to rise and we have found ourselves stretched a bit thin, so we recruited assistance from an unexpected source: Dr. Mark Pavicic is back in harness teaching for us this year.

And so, as is thematic this time of year, one's mind turns to the topic of funding for scholarships. It makes me wonder if there is not some way to build momentum in this area. It was the philosopher Arlo Guthrie (whose lyrics I am about to massacre) who said " ... the only reason I'm singing you this song now is cause you may know somebody in a similar situation," (needing a scholarship), "or you may BE in a similar situation," (needing a scholarship), "and IF you're IN a situation like that there's only ONE THING you can do," and that's write into the CS department with a scholarship donation, using the form on the back of this newsletter.

"You know, if one person, just one person does it," that will help a lot." And if two people, two people do it, in harmony", that will help twice as much. "And if three people do it, three, can you imagine, three people ... They may think it's an Organization. And can you, can you imagine fifty people a day, I said fifty people a day," writing into the CS department with a donation? Then "friends they may think it's a movement. And that's what it is," Its the write into the CS department with a scholarship donation movement ... join today!



leadership.

The Computer Science department received the 2013 Advance FORWARD Department Award at the annual FORWARD kickoff event held Sept. 4. The \$5,000 award is presented annually by the NDSU Commission on the Status of Women Faculty to recognize and reward significant department efforts to improve campus climate and gender equity within the faculty ranks. A review panel evaluated nominations/applications, guided by a weighted rubric reflecting each of FORWARD's five target areas: climate, recruitment, retention, promotion and

The review panel noted Computer Science's exceptional commitment and progress to the recruitment and retention of women within the department. Six of 12 hires since 2004 have been women. The resulting 37.5 percent women faculty in Computer Science is more than double the 17.6% national average and also represents a dramatic increase over the 7.1% proportion in the NDSU computer science department a decade ago.

Faculty news briefs



Kendall Nygard, professor of computer science, was awarded an “Outstanding Research Advisor Award” by his Smart Grid Students. Damian Lampl says, “We wanted to give him something before he left for Washington D.C. to express our appreciation for the overwhelmingly positive impact Dr. Nygard has had on all of us.”

Nygart was appointed a Jefferson Science Fellow for the upcoming year. He will spend one year in Washington, DC as a science adviser for the U. S. State Department. He will return to NDSU August 2014, but continue as a State Department consultant for an additional five years.



Jun Kong, was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor the summer of 2012.



Hyunsook Do is on sabbatical. She will be in her home country of South Korea much of the time. She was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure the summer of 2013.

Joseph Latimer was hired as a full-time lecturer; Janet Fleming is a 'visiting lecturer' and Mark Pavicic is an adjunct associate professor.

NDSU Development Foundation Grant

The Computer Science department received a \$900 grant from the NDSU Development Foundation for a comweb server hard drive.

The department hosts a Web server that is used by students in Computer Science and Communication to get valuable hands-on experience with Web development technologies. The Communication students have access to the server when they take CSci class for the New Media and Web program.

Do you know NDSU is recognized as one of the nation's top 108 public and private universities by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education?

STEM Summer Camp



A Computing and Games workshop was held as part of the STEM kids summer camp 2013 June 10-13.

The STARS (Students in Technology, Academics, Research and Service) Student Leadership Corp is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation and dedicated to broadening computing.

In addition to the STEM summer kid’s camp, the STARS group hosted an on-campus computing workshop in conjunction with the “Expanding Your Horizons” event for 7th & 8th grade girls. In addition, the group also collaborated with the ACM student group for a joint outreach computing presentation at Cheney Middle School in West Fargo. Planned events for the fall include a workshop in conjunction with the Math Department’s Sonia Kovalevsky Day to high school students and monthly outreach to the 4th grade class at Fargo’s Madison Elementary School.



STARS leadership from left to right: Advisors Simone Ludwig and Joan Krush; student presenters Tanya Bitzan B.S. C.S. '12, and graduate students Min Chen, Matti Kariluoma. Not pictured are undergraduate members Alycia Christiansen and Brooke Billadeau.

Microsoft Scholarships Awarded

The Microsoft scholarships are awarded to students majoring in computer science who have completed 36 semester hours of work at NDSU, and have a GPA of 3.5. Congratulations to these 2012-2013 recipients:

Stephen Anderson, International Falls, MN

Joseph Ching, Worthington, MN

Nilmini DeSilva, Sri Lanka

Joshua Tan, Austin, MN

Patrick Wiltz, Prior Lake, MN

Best Buy award



North Dakota State University's online software engineering master's program has been independently reviewed and ranked by GetEducated.com as a top "Best Buy" for engineering professionals seeking a high quality, low-cost online degree.

We ranked eighth in the country. The Get Educated Best Buy affordable online degree rankings are based on a national survey of 60 regionally accredited universities that offer 193 different online engineering master's. The rankings highlight the top 44 degrees in this field and is based on real data. To see the rankings go to

<http://www.geteducated.com/online-college-ratings-and-rankings/best-buy-lists/best-buy-masters-engineering>.

Many corporations match employee donations as their commitment to the community and employees. For example, Microsoft will match donations up to \$12,000 per year per employee. Contact your company to see if they match donations. Your generosity has helped build this department and contributed to the student successes.

Congratulations, Josh



Josh Tan received the McNair Scholarship. The McNair Scholars Program is designed to help undergraduate students prepare for graduate school. It allows students to gain the research skills and knowledge necessary for success in graduate school. "I've personally found this program very beneficial, and am thankful to be a part of it." said Josh. He is pictured with his mentor, Brian Slator.

Ludwig Co-hosts IEEE Conference

Simone Ludwig co-hosted two IEEE sponsored conferences. The Fifth World Congress on Nature and Biologically Inspired Computing (NaBIC2013) and the Fifth International Conference on Computational Aspects of Social Networks in August.

NaBIC2013 is organized to provide a forum for researchers, engineers, and students from all over the world, to discuss the state-of-the-art in machine intelligence, and address various issues on building up human friendly machines by learning from nature.

The CASoN conference provides an opportunity for researchers to meet and discuss the latest solutions, scientific results and methods in solving intriguing problems in the field of Social Networks.

Do you have news to share? We want to hear from you so we can put it in our newsletter. Send your story to NDSU.Computer.Science@ndsu.edu or send us your news online <http://cs.ndsu.nodak.edu/alumniform.htm>

**Thanks to all who have donated funds to the CS department this past year. It is because of you we are growing and succeeding.
*denotes multiple donations**

*Paulette Armstrong	*Dean Knudson	*Maurice Walters
Daniel Birkeland	*Joseph Latimer	*David Wenberg
David Comfort	*Prakash Malachuri	*Jeffery Wuzke
Christopher Hetzler	*Igor Tatarinov	*Zhili Zhang
*Christie Iverson	Sireesha Dabbigodla	

CS alumni & student news

Send your news & updates so we can use your story in our newsletter.

Selvedin Alic, Sr Software Engineer profile: "I graduated from NDSU in May of 2007 with a BS degree in Computer Science and Mathematics. I was offered a Full-Time position by Thomson Reuters in Eagan, Minnesota, before I graduated and have been here since. From May 2007 to February 2010, I helped develop WestlawNext, the leading Legal research platform in the US. I worked on various pathways that gather and aggregate large sets of data that power the WestSearch search engine, used to deliver on the point search results for our customers. Since WestlawNext launch I've worked on various Data Mart and Data Warehousing projects and have specialized in that field. More recently, I worked on pathways that generate eBooks for our ProView mobile platform. Currently, I'm working on Big Data storage and processing using Hadoop, a distributed processing framework. I'm really thankful for the education I received at NDSU and know that I wouldn't be successful without it."

Computer Science Department 2740
North Dakota State University
P.O. Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

E-mail:
NDSU.Computer.Science@ndsu.edu

Located at:
1320 Albrecht Blvd
IACC 258



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<http://cs.ndsu.edu/news.htm>

Computer Science Newsletter

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