



Computer Science Newsletter

Indiana University South Bend

www.cs.iusb.edu

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In this issue...

- Introducing the new departmental administration
- Introducing the new faculty
- Alumni survey results
- Graduate course offerings
- Graduate teaching assistantships
- Student Chapter of the ACM
- Computer Science Excellence Award Winners
- Russo and Knight Scholarship Recipients
- Advising
- A final note...

Introducing the New Departmental Administration:

Starting July 2007 the department will change its leadership team. Dr. David Surma will serve as the new Chair for the Department of Computer and Information Sciences. Dr. Hakimzadeh will serve as the Director of Informatics. The new associate chair will be announced in the fall.



Introducing the New Faculty:

We are pleased to welcome two new faculty members to our department. Dr. Raman Adaikkalavan (top picture) joined the department in the fall of 2006 and Dr. Nicolae Santean (bottom picture) will be joining the department in the fall of 2007. Dr. Adaikkalavan's area of expertise is in Computer Security and Database Systems, and Dr. Santean's area of expertise is in Compilers and Theoretical Computing.



Alumni Survey Results:

During 2006 the department conducted its first comprehensive alumni survey of all Computer Science and Informatics undergraduates. Since 1984, a total of 300 students have obtained their AS or BS in Computer Science and Informatics. In the near future, we hope to conduct a similar survey for our graduate students.

From the 300 surveys mailed, 49 alumni (16%) responded (although not every question was answered by every respondent). 93% respondents indicated that they received a BS in Computer Science and 5% indicated received a BS in Informatics.

72% of respondents were male, and 28% were female. The average age of respondents was 38.2. Approximately 33% of respondents indicated that they work for small companies (< 50 employees), another 34% work for mid-size companies (100 to 500 employees) and the remaining 33% work for large corporations (1000 or more employees).

The average salary reported was \$72,441. Below is the breakdown of the salaries:

Number of Respondents	Percentage	Salary
10	23.26%	over \$100,000
7	16.28%	\$75,000 to \$100,000
9	20.93%	\$60,000 to \$75,000
4	9.30%	\$50,000 to \$60,000
5	11.63%	\$40,000 to \$50,000
5	11.63%	\$30,000 to \$40,000
3	6.98%	less than \$30,000

Approximately 90% (39 out of 42) of the respondents indicated that they would recommend a fellow IUSB Computer Science graduate if a new position opens in their organization.

When asked which graduate programs would most appeal to them, approximately 77% (38 out of 49) of the respondents indicated that they would find the M.S. in Computer Science, M.S. in Software Engineering, and M.S. in Applied Math/CS appealing. Given the success of our graduate program in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, the department is currently working to develop a new MS program in Computer Science and Informatics with concentrations in areas such as Software Engineering, Bioinformatics, Networking, Artificial Intelligence, Database Systems, Computer Graphics, and Computer Security.

20% of respondents indicated that they are currently pursuing, or

have already earned, their graduate degree.

Graduate Course Offerings:

In addition to some 400-level courses which may be counted toward the graduate program, the department will be offering the following graduate courses in the coming year:

Fall 2007:

A504 Introduction to C++
 A505 Object Oriented Programming (VB . Net)
 (for MS-MIT Students only)
 A506 Object Oriented Programming in C++
 A593 Computer Structures
 A594 Data Structures
 B561 Advanced Database Systems
 B565 Software Engineering I
 B583 Game Programming and Design
 Y790 Graduate Independent Study (1-6 credits)

Spring 2008:

A504 Introduction to C++
 A510 Database Systems
 A506 Object Oriented Programming in C++
 A510 Database Systems
 A593 Computer Structures
 A594 Data Structures
 B503 Algorithms Design and Analysis
 B551 Elements of Artificial Intelligence
 Y790 Graduate Independent Study (1-6 credits)

For more details please visit:

http://www.cs.iusb.edu/class_schedule.html

Graduate Teaching Assistantships:

Since 2002, the Department of Computer and information Sciences has offered opportunities for graduate teaching assistants in computer science. Application form for teaching assistantship can be obtained from the department web site at www.cs.iusb.edu/employment.html

Student Chapter of the ACM:

The Computer Science faculty encourage all computer science and informatics students to join the Student Chapter of the ACM. The ACM (Association of Computing Machinery) is the premier computing organization in the United States. Membership in the Student Chapter is free and has many benefits, including social events such as pizza parties, computer games, and field trips. Also, you can attend educational lectures and tutorials sponsored by the club. Finally you can enjoy the camaraderie with other fellow CS and informatics students. Membership and participation in the ACM can be a plus when you go for that first job interview as well.

You can obtain more information about the ACM and its activities from their web site at www.iusb.edu/~sbacm or email the officers at sbacm@iusb.edu.

Excellence Award Winners:

Each year the computer science faculty has the pleasure of selecting the excellence award winners in our undergraduate program. Academic achievement is the primary, but not the only, criterion for selection.

The computer science faculty congratulate our 2007
 "Excellence Award" winners.

Chad Andrew George
Jared Marc Ewald

Scholarship Recipients:

Four years ago, the department established a scholarship in Dr. John P. Russo's name. Last year, the department also established a scholarship in Dr. William J. Knight's name. Numerous students, alumni, friends and family members have contributed and continue to contribute to these scholarships. As a result, this year the department is happy to announce four new scholarship recipients.

The computer science faculty congratulate our 2007
 John P. Russo and William J. Knight Scholarship winners.

David Ganger
Charlie Guse
Aarti Khaire
William Keeler

The purpose of these scholarships is to provide undergraduate and graduate students majoring in Computer and Information Sciences at IU South Bend with financial assistance. The basis for the scholarship is demonstrated potential for academic excellence in Computer and Information Sciences. Scholarships are awarded annually through the Computer Science Scholarship Committee. You can find additional information about these scholarships online at: http://www.cs.iusb.edu/people/scholarship_winners.html

Advising:

Our department places a heavy emphasis on proper academic advising. To aid the process of advising, the department has prepared an *advising homepage*. Students should consult the advising homepage prior to making an appointment with their

advisor. Consulting this web site provides you with a wealth of information and ensures that you have the proper documentation prior to meeting with your advisor. The advising homepage can be found at www.cs.iusb.edu/advising.html. Additional information about various degree programs offered by the department can be found at www.cs.iusb.edu/programs.html

If you have questions or need to make an advising appointment please feel free to contact Emily Taylor, our department secretary, who will help you make an appointment to see an advisor.

A Final Note:

Our department's mission has been to inspire and educate the next generation of computer scientists, enabling them to apply their problem solving and software engineering skills to serve our society.

During the past six years, it has been a pleasure to serve as the chair of the department and help realize this mission. I am in awe of our faculty who have helped grow the department in breadth and depth of its programs, innovative teaching, and creative research initiatives.

Since Computer Science became a separate department in 2000, the faculty has doubled in size. Currently, we have eleven faculty positions. During the same period, the department has introduced a number of new programs such as the B.S. in Informatics, the M.S. in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science; as well as a number of certificate programs which provide computing courses for non-majors and professionals in the community.

Our faculty are committed to excellence and remain active in their teaching, research and service. During the past six years, the faculty have added nearly twenty new courses and have published over eighty scholarly articles, with over 10% coauthored by undergraduate and graduate students. The faculty have obtained nearly twenty-five internal and external grants, including funding from the National Science Foundation.

Despite concerns over outsourcing and fallout of the dot-com industry, our enrollment has remained strong. Today, we have approximately 175 students in our B.S. program in Computer Science, 40 in the B.S. program in Informatics and 30 graduate students.

Approximately 75% of our alumni work and live in the Michiana region. Feedback from our graduates indicates that they are successful in finding suitable positions. Currently, requests from the regional companies for new graduates exceeds our ability to train and graduate students. The average starting salary for our graduates in the region is approximately \$45,000. After a number of years in the work force, the average salary reported by our alumni

exceeds \$70,000.

The department has plans for developing a graduate program in computer science, and is assessing the viability of concentrations in software engineering, artificial intelligence, database systems, computer networks, computer graphics and computer security. In addition, the department has solicited an external review to accelerate the process of obtaining ABET* accreditation.

In summary, the state of our department is strong, the faculty are energetic and active in their discipline, the student body is engaged and interested, our laboratory resources are state of the art, support from the administration has been strong, and the department has been successful in developing new programs, attracting talented faculty and obtaining state funding for its programs.

Sincerely,



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* ABET stands for Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.