Dear Alumni and Friends,

Please join me in offering congratulations to the most recent CIS alumni on their graduation from Temple University and the Department of Computer and Information Sciences. We hope you are as proud of your Alma Mater as we are of you, and that you are ready to embark on a truly long-term learning experience.

The College of Science and Technology is delighted to welcome incoming CIS Chair Jie Wu, PhD who will begin serving as Chair July 1, 2009. Dr. Wu comes to Temple from Florida Atlantic University where he earned his PhD in Computer Science and then went on to become a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. Dr. Wu is currently serving as the National Science Foundation Program Director for the Division of Computer and Network Systems and Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Computers and Applications. The Department also welcomes Yuhong Guo who has joined the Department of Computer and Information Sciences and the Center for Information Science and Technology as Assistant Professor.

As our department continues to grow we hope to develop and sustain connections with our CIS alumni. We invite all of our alumni to join us April 16, 2009 for the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Alumni Reception and Awards Dinner. Come see old friends, reconnect with CIS faculty and acknowledge our brightest students.

We trust you will find this Bulletin useful and informative, that you will stay in touch, and that you will always take the opportunity to offer your thoughts on what’s going on in the department as well as your experiences at Temple and successes in your post-Temple era.

Justin Shi, Chair

ACM Awards Dinner and Alumni Reception

The Temple student chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) is hosting its annual awards event, April 16, 2009 at 5:00PM in the Diamond Club, Mitten Hall.

Alumni and friends are invited to the reception and dinner to join us in celebrating the achievements of our students and connecting with fellow alumni. ACM is designed to promote the professional, academic, and social development of students interested in technology, giving students the opportunity to expand their knowledge and apply what they learn through projects, internships and community service.

CIS students produce videos on YouTube

Students in Claudia Pine-Simon’s Cyberspace and Society Honors class created and posted videos on YouTube last semester. The videos are listed on YouTube under: Pat’s Steaks: A Philadelphia Tradition; Philadelphia College Day; Philadelphia Art Scene; Coolest Spot in Philadelphia; Tour of Penn’s Landing; and Activism in Philadelphia.

CIS Faculty receive Distinguished Teaching Awards

The College of Science and Technology was proud to recognize CIS professors Wendy Urban, Abbe Forman and Zoran Obradovic for the 2008 Distinguished Faculty Awards. Wendy Urban and Abbe Forman were honored as Distinguished Teachers by the College of Science and Technology, recognizing the extraordinary dedication and achievement in student teaching and mentoring, Zoran Obradovic earned the Faculty Research Excellence award for his work as the Director of the Center for Information Science and Technology, garnering international acclaim for his research on intrinsically disordered structure in proteins and their roles in human health and disease. The awards were presented on Sunday, November 23 at 3:00 PM, at the 10th Anniversary Celebration Concert Honoring Distinguished Faculty and Students in the Kimmel Center’s Perelman Theater.

Professor Elliot Koffman receives the ACM SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contribution to Computer Science Education 2009!

The award was presented at the 2009 SIGCSE Symposium held in Chattanooga, TN, March 4 – 7, 2009. Dr. Koffman gave the Opening Keynote Address at the conference on Thursday, March 5th.

“The SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contribution to Computer Science Education honors an individual or group in recognition of a significant contribution to computer science education. The contribution may take many forms, such as: curriculum design, innovating teaching methods, textbook authorship, development of new teaching tools, or any of a number of other significant contributions to computer science education. The contribution should have had long lasting impact on, and made a significant difference in, computing education. This award was initiated in 1981.”

In 2008 this award was given to Randy Pausch of Carnegie Mellon University for his inspirational leadership. Previous winners include Andries van Dam, Peter Denning, Daniel McCraken, Edsger Dijkstra, Niklaus Wirth, Grace Hopper, and Donald Knuth.

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The ACM awards dinner is an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of these students and encourage collaboration between our students, faculty and alumni. Come see old friends, reconnect with CIS faculty and acknowledge our brightest students. Awards are presented to students for receiving scholarships, outstanding achievements, service and leadership. In addition, ACM’s Outstanding Teacher and Service Awards, and our Future of Computing competition winners will also be honored.

To RSVP to the Awards Dinner and Alumni Reception, contact Erika Clemons by April 9, 2009 at 215.204.8281 or rsvp.cst@temple.edu.

The Future of Computing 2009

The Department of Computer and Information Sciences Future of Computing Student Project Competition will take place on March 29, 2009 in Wachman Hall. The competition is designed to recognize the best graduate and the best undergraduate student projects based upon the most innovative use of technology, the most useful project to the proposed community of users and the best project presentation. The projects may be course projects, research projects, or any CIS projects performed by a CIS student or a group of CIS students during the Fall 2008 or Spring 2009 semesters. The projects will be presented as posters combined with live software/system demos. The Award Committee, composed of CIS students, faculty, and corporate sponsors, will select three awardees in each category. Special awards will be granted for the most popular and the most socially relevant project based upon votes from the CIS students and faculty.

For more information visit www.temple.edu/cis/events.

Support CIS

Make your personal best gift to support the students in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences. Your generous donation can help provide scholarships and aid to students in need. Please send your gift in the enclosed envelope and help support the students of CIS.

Questions? Contact Brooke Walker, 215.204.4776 or brooke.walker@temple.edu
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The new electronic CIS Newsletter will debut this month. Please visit www.temple.edu/cis/news for the latest information about the Department of Computer and Information Sciences as well as news items and content of interest to CIS undergraduates and alumni.