

NEWS BYTES

New Beginnings...

Over the past few years, I have had the privilege to work with a high caliber group of faculty, staff, and students. It seems to me that as we reflect on our college careers and experiences, what we will value most is the interactions we've had with other people, especially those who encouraged us to push our limits and think more boldly than we might have otherwise.

As I begin my tenure as Chair of the Department of Computer Science, one of my aspirations is to challenge my colleagues and the student body to raise the level of expectation for our program to even a higher level. Clearly, one of the great potentials of the Internet is its capability to help raise the standards of our educational

system; however, we must never forget the human component of our education. Very often, one of the greatest motivators of learning comes from the passion of learning new and exciting things through the personal interaction with others.

Over the past few years, the number of computer science majors has risen sharply and more students are pursuing degrees in computer science and information technology than ever before. Consequently, the demand for courses has soared. The department has made every effort to meet this challenge and also to keep pace with changes in the field by revising its curriculum and actively pursuing the hiring of new faculty. But, we cannot do it alone. We need your



Ron Vetter, PhD
Professor and Chair

support as well.

It's a pivotal time for the department, its faculty, and the students we serve.

We would like to hear from you regarding your thoughts on how best to prepare students for the emerging knowledge-based economy. The department appreciates hearing from its alumni and how their education at UNCW has helped to shape their experiences in their chosen career.

ALUMNUS: Carla Crane '82

Computer Science Alumna, Carla Crane, recently received the Corning IT 2000 Growing People Award for a Team Leader. Carla is a supervisor in the Systems Operations and Desktop Support division at Corning's fiber optics manufacturing facility in Wilmington.

This once-in-a-lifetime award recognizes IT employees who have demonstrated excellence in people development and growth.

Carla joined Corning in 1986 after graduating from UNCW in 1982 and is viewed by Corning as an exceptional leader who helps others

develop. She is sought out by women and minorities as a coach and mentor, who shares her knowledge and experience with all her colleagues.

Carla also setup the UNCW / Corning internship program, which places UNCW computer science majors in various functions and roles in the local Corning IT group. The program has proven beneficial to students, the computer science department, and Corning.

Carla, who has two young children, makes it a priority to maintain a healthy balance between her work and her personal life.

COMPUTER SCIENCE BITS

Did you know that CSC starting salaries for Spring 2000 graduates were...

high: \$52,000
average: \$43,000
low: \$38,000

Curriculum Highlights: CSC 121

Beginning Fall semester 2000, CSC 121 (Introduction to Computer Science I) is being taught in two large lecture sections and six small lab sections. **Dr. David Berman** is the lead instructor and teaches the lecture sections while also developing and coordinating the labs. **Drs. Harry Smith and Clayton Ferner** and **Mr. Jack Tompkins** are the lab instructors.

The Java programming language and the object-oriented paradigm have been used in CSC 121 since

Fall 1999. Beginning Fall 2000, all CSC 121 students are required to use the RealJ IDE (integrated development environment). An IDE aids software development by packaging an editor, process window, and project window in one convenient interface. It also makes debugging easier by color coding keywords, comments, and strings.

The lecture section meets in a multimedia classroom in Dobo Hall. Lectures consist of presentations using PowerPoint and RealJ. The labs

then meet in the technology classroom in Bear Hall and consist of short programming assignments that are due by the end of the period.

Dr. Berman says that what he likes most about the new CSC 121 format is "teaching in the wonderful multimedia classroom, and developing new course material." And he adds, "the students are great, and very professional as usual."

The course material is posted at <http://www.uncwil.edu/people/bermand/121/121syllabus.html>.

Faculty Publications, Presentations, and Awards

Dr. Ronald J. Vetter, presented the talk, "Web Technologies, Wireless Networks, and Pocket Computers for Everyday Classroom Use," at the 4th UNC Workshop on the Use of Technology for Distance Education Pre-workshop Tutorial, held at North Carolina State University, in September. He also presented "The Distance Learning Design/Model Project," at Telelearning 2000, in Atlantic City, NJ, in October.

Dr. Vetter, with U. Varshney and R. Kalakota, had a paper published in *IEEE Computer*, Vol. 33, No. 10, October 2000. The paper was entitled "Mobile E-commerce: A New Frontier." Also published was "Emerging Mobile and Wireless Networks," with U. Varshney, in *Communications of the ACM*, Vol. 43, No. 6, June 2000, pp. 73-81. It was subsequently reprinted online in the June 2000 issue of *iMP: The Magazine on Information Impacts*.

Dr. David Berman and Drs. Sandra McLaurin and Douglas Smith

of the UNCW Department of Mathematics and Statistics had their paper, "Generalized Tournament Designs," accepted for publication in *Congressus Numerantium*.

Dr. Berman was awarded an Educators' Scholarship from the Association of Computing Machinery to attend OOPSLA 2000 (Conference on Object-Oriented Programming, Systems, Languages, and Applications). While at OOPSLA he participated in the Educators' Symposium and attended tutorials on design patterns and Java GUIs.

Dr. Clayton S. Ferner, with Ned H. Martin and Allen Randall, received a grant for "Incorporation of Additional New Algorithms into Existing Commercial Software for Predicting NMR Spectra" from the UNCW Information Technology Systems Division.

Dr. Ferner also received an award for a UNCW Faculty Summer Research Initiative.

Laurie Patterson received a teaching award in September from the UNCW Greek Community recognizing her commitment to student academic success.

Drs. Gene Tagliarini and Sridhar Narayan received a UNCW Information Technology Innovation award for their project "Web-based Travel Route Planning Subject to Transient Road Conditions." They are exploring the potential for further funding through the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Harry F. Smith presented a seminar in September 2000 on Teddy, a modeler wherein the user makes 2D strokes, and the program ingeniously fleshes these out to a fully 3D object.

Jack A. Tompkins and Gene A. Tagliarini, presented "Teaching Digital Logic and Computer Organization," at the ACM Mid-Southeast Conference, in Gatlinburg, TN, in November.

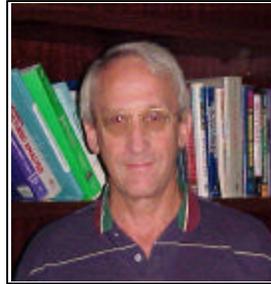


Welcome New Faculty

Ralph L. Bradley II joined the full time faculty of the department in July 2000. Bradley's 30 year career has included positions in consulting, finance, and the federal government. He has held positions ranging from programmer trainee to vice-president. Bradley earned an MBA from the University of Connecticut and a Master of Information Management from Washington University.

Bradley taught Systems Analysis and Design on an adjunct basis in St. Louis and is excited about the

opportunity to be a full time faculty member at UNCW.



Honors Graduate

Yukiko Yamashita, '00 graduated in June as the first person since the department became independent to graduate with both University Honors and Departmental Honors in Computer Science. **Dr. Ronald J. Vetter** directed Yamashita's honors thesis titled

"Emerging Technologies for Web-Based Online Courses." Yamashita also completed a minor in mathematics and a second major in business administration (international business option). She is now studying pursuing a graduate degree in international business at Cornell University.

Update: Fletcher Norris Scholarship Endowment Fund

Progress is evident in funding the endowment for the scholarship.

Approximately \$12,000 of the \$25,000 goal is in hand! A reminder: Dr. Norris and alumnus **Kit Cosper** have pledged a matching gift for your gift! Consider making an end-of-year gift (year 2000 tax deductible) by sending your check made payable to UNCW today, or postmarked by December 31, 2000.

Alumni and Friends:

Name: _____
Dr./Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms. First Middle Maiden Last Suffix

Home Address: _____
Street/PO Box City State ZIP+4

Phone: Home () _____ Work () _____ E-Mail _____

Graduation date: _____ Degree/Major: _____ Spouse UNCW Graduate? Yes/No

Employer: _____ Position _____ Matching Gift Company? Yes/No

Business Address: _____

Spouse: _____
Dr./Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms. First Middle Maiden Last Suffix

Spouse's Employer: _____ Position _____ Matching Gift Company? Yes/No

Enclosed is my gift of \$_____ for the Computer Science Department Trust Fund (*make checks payable to UNCW or charge my ___ Visa or ___ Mastercard* Number: _____ Expiration Date (mm/yyyy)_____

Name as appears on card: _____

Signature: _____

Return to: UNCW Advancement Services
 University of North Carolina at Wilmington
 601 South College Road
 Wilmington NC 28401-3297

This gift qualifies as a charitable donation.
THANK YOU for your consideration and generosity!
 News may be attached to this form, e-mailed to the alumnews@uncwil.edu,
 or submitted electronically at www.uncwil.edu/alumni



Faculty (cont'd from page 2)

J. E. Perry, T. Miller, J. Brown, **S. Narayan, G. A. Tagliarini**, J.C. Kelly Jr., W. F. Moss, and E. W. Page, published "Relative Merits of Courseware Management Tools," online at <http://www.succeed.vt.edu/info/RelativeMerits.htm>.

Dr. Gur Adhar's paper "Domination in Bounded Interval Tolerance Graphs" was published in the *Proceedings of the 2nd International Workshop on Multimedia Network Systems* (MMNS '2000) held in conjunction with the Seventh International Conference on Parallel and Distributed Systems (ICPADS '2000). The conference was held at Iwate Prefectural University, Iwate, Japan.

Adjunct faculty, **Karl Ricanek, Jr.**, was selected to serve on the International Program Committee (IPC) for the International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Soft Computing (IASTED), which will be held in Cancun, Mexico in May 2001.

CSC Student Wins Travel Award

W. Allen Randall received a UNCW Undergraduate Travel Award to travel to the Association for Computer Machinery: Mid-Southeast Chapter Conference. Randall presented a paper on "Parallelizing Compilers for Distributed-Memory Systems," written with **Dr. Clayton Ferner**.

Randall discussed the current state of the art in compiler technology, with particular reference to distributed systems. The talk included a discussion of existing compilers, recent trends, and what is needed for the future. He also highlighted the department's involvement in building a parallelizing compiler specifically for message-passing systems.

Contact the Department at:

<http://www.uncwil.edu/csc/>

UNCW is committed to equal educational employment opportunity and is an affirmative action employer.
600 copies of this document were printed at a cost of \$183.00 or 30.5¢ per copy. (G.S. 143-170.1)

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

University of North Carolina at Wilmington
Department of Computer Science
601 South College Road
Wilmington NC 28403-3297

