You may recall from last summer’s newsletter that a year ago we were waiting to hear back from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) about our application to accredit our B.S. Computer Science (Systems Option) degree program. It took a lot of hard work, and it certainly was not swift, but we finally received notice in August 2011 from ABET that our program had met all the requirements for accreditation and was accredited effective October 2009. ABET accredits programs in engineering, computer science and technology, and defines accreditation as “assurance that a college or university program meets the quality standards established by the profession for which it prepares its students.” Among the criteria used to evaluate a program are the curriculum, the faculty, the facilities and the assessment practices. The accreditation makes us one of seven ABET-accredited computer science programs in North Carolina. This is a significant event for the department and we are delighted to have this external recognition of our continued commitment to excellence in undergraduate education.

Mirroring trends at universities nationwide, enrollments in computer science continued to grow for the third year in a row. The graduate program in computer science and information systems also reported strong interest in its offerings. The Face Aging Group continued its impressive track record of securing external funding for its research. Demonstrating their commitment to excellence inside and outside the classroom, computer science faculty continued to publish their scholarship at international conferences and journals, in many cases co-authoring papers with their students, as detailed in the following pages. Ron Vetter continued to serve as the editor-in-chief of IEEE Computer. Funded by a grant from NC QUEST (North Carolina Quality Educators through Staff Development and Training), computer science faculty partnered with colleagues in the

Watson College of Education to introduce computing into the middle-school mathematics curriculum in select Onslow County schools.

The department takes pride in its dedication to teaching, research and service, and as the accomplishments described above show, this year was no exception. As we continue to make our mark, we invite you to join us in any way you can. Look for us on Facebook and on LinkedIn, and if you happen to visit Wilmington, we would love for you to drop by and say hello.

Sridhar Narayan, Ph.D. professor and chair
Faculty Focus

**Gur Adhar** published “Performance Driven Simulated Annealing for Layout of Two-Terminal Nets on VLSI Chips,” in the Proceedings of the International Conference on Agile Manufacturing (ICAM), December 2011. He was also the keynote speaker at the International Conference on Agile Manufacturing. The title of his talk was “Ordering Elements in a Finite Element Mesh by Peano Curves to Preserve Their Proximity in Space.”

**David Berman** and Douglas Smith published “Mitchell Tournaments” in the *Bulletin of the Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications*. He also attended the 2012 Joint Mathematics Meetings in Boston, Mass., January 2012. There he attended the mini-symposium “The Lore and Legacy of Alan Turing” and the short course “Discrete and Computational Geometry.”

**Ralph Bradley** attended ACM’s Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education Conference (SIGCSE 2012) in Raleigh, N.C. He also continued as coordinator of the department’s Advisory Board.

**Clayton Ferner** presented “Parallel Computing, Multi-core Computing, Grid Computing, and Cloud Computing: Where Are We Headed?” at UNCW’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, May 2012.

**Marni Ferner** offered a new CSC 475 course in spring 2012 called Database Web Applications. Students learned how to create dynamic Web applications using PHP and MySQL.


**Sridhar Narayan, Gene Tagliarini**, Shelby Morge, Mahnaz Moallem and Christopher Gordon received funding for their grant, “INCOME: Integrating Computing and Mathematics Education,” through NC QUEST / Quality Educators through Staff Development and Training across North Carolina.

**Eric Patterson** was awarded an IPAX Faculty Fellowship, at Sony Pictures Imageworks, Los Angeles, Calif., where he collaborated with face-related computer graphics artists, researchers and developers. He also collaborated with two visiting researchers, Anoir Borgi from Tunisia and Kang Liu from Germany in face-related research.

**Laurie Patterson** received funding for their grant, “INCOME: Integrating Computing and Mathematics Education,” through NC QUEST / Quality Educators through Staff Development and Training across North Carolina.

**Karl Ricanek** presented “The Beautiful and Complex Face” at Oak Ridge National Labs Oak Ridge, Tenn., October 2011. He also presented “Post 18 month performance,” an Intelligence Community Advanced Research Project Activity, for (continued on p.3)
Faculty Focus (continued from p. 2)


Devon Simmonds, Karl Ricanek and Lawrence Cahoon received funding for their grant “CASIS 3rd YR,” from the Army Research Laboratory (ARL)/Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Gene Tagliarini, Sridhar Narayan, Shelby Morge and Mahnaz Moallem co-authored “The power of simulation and modeling for learning STEM content.”

Jack Tompkins began developing a new course on programming mobile devices. He also served on the University College Advisory Board and the Radiation Safety Committee.


2012 Award Recipients

Phillip Andrew Walker Smith-Doss Scholarship

Nicholas Antonio Ruiz Fletcher R. Norris Scholarship

Christopher Matthew Keller Computer Science Chair’s Scholarship

Daniel O’dor Construction Imaging Systems Scholarship

Tiffany Brooke Jordan Construction Imaging Systems Scholarship

How cool is this?

Karl Ricanek recently received a request from the United States Secret Service to provide technical expert advice on face recognition systems. He helped them define their needs for face recognition systems: matching video to mug shot images. He also delivered a software system for large scale integration of biometric templates and landmark ground truthing to the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and an automated system for chronological age-estimation as well as a system for advanced synthetic facial aging to the Intelligence Agency Advanced Research Activity (IARPA).
Student Showcase


Ricardo Valea ’11 (pictured below) was awarded IEEE’s Computing Now Volunteer of the Month for October 2011. He received recognition for his Computing Now iPhone app.


Michael Nipper and Devon Simmonds published “GiftScroll - An Online Gift Registry for the Android Mobile Phone,” for International Conference on Software Engineering Research and Practice, (SERP).


Jason Vandeveuter ’10 and Benjamin Barbour ’11 published “CodeWave: A Real-Time, Collaborative IDE for Enhanced Learning in Computer Science,” for ACM’s Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education Conference (SIGCSE 2012) in Raleigh, N.C. Their publication is based on work which originated in the department’s computer engineering course.

The following students completed their directed individual study (DIS) topics during the 2011-12 academic year (faculty advisor names are in parentheses):

- Nancy Bordelon ’12, “A Comparison of Automated Software Testing Tools,” (Devon Simmonds);
- Michelle Fogwell ’12, “Programming an Arduino,” (Fred Bingham);
- Adam Forsythe, “Design of a Web-based Nutrition System,” (Ron Vetter);
- Michael Sodomsky, “Dynamic Keystroke on Mobile Devices: Developing a Robust Database,” (Karl Ricanek);
- Jui (Ray) Sun, “Study of Linux,” (Clayton Ferner);

The following students also presented information about their internship experiences at the DIS/Internship presentations in December:

- Nathan Brown
  UNCW ITSD
- Michelle Fogwell
  Corning
- Trent Jernigan
  rPath
CSC Student Earns UPE Scholarship Award

Each summer the Executive Council of Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE) evaluates a large number of scholarship applications from students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. All scholarship applicants are required to complete a comprehensive application form including a statement on their long-term plans for the profession, a summary of their contributions to their respective UPE chapters and related student activities at their university. Applicants are also required to submit all college-level transcripts and a recommendation from their UPE faculty advisor. Yuli Bonner ’11, was awarded this prestigious scholarship for 2011 by Upsilon Pi Epsilon.

Upsilon Pi Epsilon’s three officers for 2011-12, Michelle Fogwell, Jason Vandeventer and Michelle Willcox (pictured above), inducted 23 new members into the local chapter of the international computer science honor society. Congratulations to Michael Allen, Benjamin Beeman, Selin Benli, Alexandria Cole, Jesse Creech, Derek Faver, Jason Felds, Keith Greats, Brooke Jordan, Howard Kleinberg, Matthew Laird, Tyler Loftis, Daniel O’dor, Christine Posey, Robert Pryce, Travis Radtke, Scott Ridley, Benjamin Singer, Brennan Smith, Ray Jui Sun, Ricardo Valea, Phillip Walker and Amy Wells.

Don’t miss the UNCW-ACM website:
http://student.uncw.edu/org/acm/
Awesome Accomplishments

Working with Igloo Vision from the United Kingdom and Laughing Soul Media from Wilmington, Eric Patterson helped to bring an immersive, 360-degree virtual-reality display dome to the CIS building during May 2012. This involved several CSC and Digital Arts students who assisted in developing and delivering content epitomizing the intersection of technology, innovation and gaming.

Ron Vetter and Jeff Brown’s technology start-up company, Mobile Education, LLC, received individual recognition for their contribution to the “Get to know PHIL” Student Philanthropy Campaign entry in the 2012 CASE District III Awards Program. They also participated in a case study integrating their two-way text messaging application with the university’s EMS Master Calendar. Dean Evans & Associates, Inc. published the following article: http://tinyurl.com/7fbodg8.


Ricanek also collaborated with four other UNCW faculty members, all from different departments, to bring the “Face Age” exhibit to the Warwick Center in April 2012 as part of Chancellor Gary L. Miller’s installation celebration.

UNCW became the newest member of the CyberWatch consortium in September 2011. Ron Vetter (near right) and Ulku Yaylacicegi (far right) led a group of six undergraduate and two graduate students to the Southeastern Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (SECCDC) at Kennesaw State University in March 2012.

Noteworthy News

“People who make technology are better off than people who use technology,” according to a Georgetown University report in December 2012. See the complete article at http://tinyurl.com/d5bkntp.

In January, the National Association of Colleges and Employers reported that “Graduates in the computer sciences disciplines are now averaging $60,594, up 4.1 percent over the 2010 average for this category.” See the complete article at http://tinyurl.com/d2hnv3d.
Alumni News

Caroline Koska Reda ’85 was a keynote speaker at the Cameron School of Business, Business Week, March 2012.

Jonathan Richey ’03 is a lead programmer for InterCoastal Net Designs (www.icoastalnet.com) in Ocean Isle Beach, N.C.

Yuli Bonner ’11 is working as a Scala programmer for Atlantic Corporation.

Alex Beatty ’11 and Illia Ziamtsov ’11 were both accepted to Clemson University’s very competitive M.F.A. in digital production arts program.

Ricardo Valea ’11 accepted a position with TASC Inc in Chantilly, Va., as a mobile software engineer.

To be included in the next newsletter, please send an email to mferner@uncw.edu. We welcome your recent professional or personal news!

Congratulations to Our Recent Graduates!

Spring and Summer 2012 Graduates

Master’s Degrees:
Candace Burwell, “‘myATMC’: The Design and Implementation of an iPhone Webapp,” Ron Vetter, advisor.
Phillip R. Garriss, “Myday Medication Reminders,” Devon Simmonds, advisor.
Jason M. Vandeventer, “Expression Recognition and Processing,” Eric Patterson, advisor.


Fall 2011 Graduates

Master’s Degrees:
Kyle Holt, “Extending Shared-Memory Parallelism to a Distributed-Memory Parallelizing Compiler,” Clayton Ferner, advisor.

**Alumni and Friends:**

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Visit our secure online giving site: [http://www.uncw.edu/giveonline](http://www.uncw.edu/giveonline) to make a gift to the Computer Science Department Trust Fund.

Enclosed is my gift of $__________ for the Computer Science Department Trust Fund (make checks payable to UNCW) or charge my ___Visa or ___Mastercard or ___American Express.

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Signature: _______________________________________

**Return to:** Advancement Services, University of North Carolina Wilmington, 601 South College Road, Wilmington NC 28403-5905

This gift qualifies as a charitable donation. THANK YOU for your consideration and generosity!

Visit us on the Web:

[www.uncw.edu/csc](http://www.uncw.edu/csc)

Also look for the UNCW computer science group on Facebook and on LinkedIn!

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**Calling All Alumni**

As a valued member of the Seahawk family, we want to learn more about the areas of the university that are most important to you. Our goal is to be able to provide you with information, news and events pertaining to your areas of special interest. Please take a moment to review your contact information and make any necessary changes by visiting, [www.uncw.edu/alumniupdate](http://www.uncw.edu/alumniupdate).

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