On-line Graduate Certificate Program

Beginning Fall semester 2004, the School of Computer and Information Sciences will offer an Online Graduate Certificate program in Computer Information Systems (CIS). The primary goal of this program is to give instructors from two-year and technical colleges the opportunity to obtain 18 hours of graduate course work in their teaching field (CIS). The program was created for the instructors, but is not limited only to them. Because of the on-line format, students can take up to six graduate classes and complete their study in one year. For students who lack skills in some particular areas of CIS, the school offers on-line graduate prerequisite classes, CSCI 2000 and CSCI 2001.

Students who plan to enroll in the program must meet regular admission requirements: [http://cis.gsw.edu/academics/cis.html](http://cis.gsw.edu/academics/cis.html). Those students who wish to apply for the MS in Computer Science program after completing the certificate program can transfer these 18 credit hours towards the MS in CS degree.

Georgia Southwestern State University ([http://www.gsw.edu](http://www.gsw.edu)) is accredited by SACS and has offered a graduate program in Computer Science (CIS and CS options: [http://cis.gsw.edu/academics/graduate.html](http://cis.gsw.edu/academics/graduate.html)) since 1995.

FALL 2003 GRADUATES

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR GRADUATES!

**Bachelor of Science Degree:**
- Cynthia Louise Cantrell
- Sam Allen Faust
- Aaron Lorenzo Gray, Jr.
- Tiwa Anganga-Williams

**Master of Science Degree:**
- Ekachai Sathapananon

**AWARD RECIPIENTS**

The School of Computer & Information Sciences was proud to present awards to the following graduates at the graduation breakfast, December 13, 2003.

**Outstanding Graduate:** Cynthia Louise Cantrell

**Outstanding Service to the School of Computer & Information Sciences:** Ekachai Sathapananon
Fall 2003 Award Recipients

Ekachai Sathapananon graduated Fall 2003 with a Master of Science in Computer Science. Ekachai received an award for Outstanding Service to the School of Computer & Information Sciences at the graduation breakfast on December 13, 2004. Ekachai received this award for doing a great job while working for the School.

Cynthia Louise Cantrell graduated Fall 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems. Cynthia received an award for Outstanding Undergraduate Student at the graduation breakfast on December 13, 2004. Cynthia received this award because of her exceptional grades.

RCI Awards 2003-04 Pope Scholarship to Computer Major

Nithin Ramachandrappa, a graduate student majoring in Computer Science, is among 16 students attending GSW to receive the John & Betty Pope Scholarship for the 2003-04 academic year. Nithin came to GSW from SJC Institute of Technology, Bangalore University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Engineering/Computer Science and Engineering degree. The Rosalynn Carter Institute for Human Development (RCI) at Georgia Southwestern State University has awarded $58,500 to 20 students under the John and Betty Pope Fellowship/Scholarship program for the upcoming academic year. This number includes 16 students attending GSW and four students attending other universities and colleges in the University System of Georgia. Nithin’s scholarship will cover his tuition for one year (two semesters).

Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE) initiated 6 new members April 20, 2004, in the Rotunda of the Administration Building. Stephanie Hamby, Brad Wolfe, Jessica Washington, Sandy Russell, Kristen Cooper, and Amanda Higgins were initiated into the honor society. New officers were also elected. Stephanie Hamby was elected President, Brad Wolfe was elected Vice President, and Jessica Washington was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Upsilon Pi Epsilon is an honor society whose membership consists of outstanding undergraduate and graduate students in Computing Science. To be eligible for membership, undergraduate students must be at least a Junior or Senior with a minimum GPA of 3.0, or a graduate student with at least 18 hours and a minimum GPA of 3.5. UPE hosted a CIS Job Showcase on April 16, 2004. Representatives from various organizations attended and spoke with students about the positions within their organization, conducted informal interviews, and accepted résumé’s. The Job Showcase was followed by a roundtable discussion where students had an opportunity to ask panel members questions such as what should be included in their resume, what skills are needed for specific jobs, what jobs are available in our area, and what skills employers are looking for. Employers that attended were Bill Jackson from Jackson Consulting, Steve Baker from Habitat for Humanity, Mike Barnett and Brian Keefer from Barnett Computers and Computer Business Solutions, Ralph Cornwell from the Georgia Department of Labor, and Etrat Fathi from GSW Career Services.

To find out more information about UPE, or to join as an alumni member, please contact Karen Cook at (229) 931-2818 or kcook@canes.gsw.edu.

Alumni Survey

In an effort to better understand how our programs prepare our graduates for entering the work force, we are asking that all of our alumni fill out an Alumni Survey. This information will allow us to assess our programs and make changes if needed to our current standards, policies, and procedures.

We would greatly appreciate your input and comments.

Please use the appropriate link below to fill out a survey:
Bachelor of Science degrees:  http://cis.gsw.edu/assessment/Alumni_Undergrad_survey.pdf
Master of Science degrees:  http://cis.gsw.edu/assessment/Alumni_grad_survey.pdf
Sanskar Kaushikhbai Patel earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science in the Spring of 2002. He is currently employed at Sumter Regional Hospital in Americus, GA as a Telephony / PC Technician. His responsibilities include administrating the PBX telephone switch and trouble-shooting PC related problems. He also installs, maintains and upgrades all software and hardware related to PBX and PC's in the hospital. Sanskar has been employed at Sumter Regional for about 3 years.

Carlo Brantly earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Systems in the Spring of 2001. Carlo is currently employed at Sprint in Orlando, Florida as a Network Operations Specialist II. He is responsible for trouble shooting and maintaining Sprints ATM and Frame Relay networks along with the Sprint Emergency 911 systems. Carlo is also responsible for trouble-shooting Sprints Cisco internet access routers. He has been employed with Sprint for 2 years.

Tremayne Porter earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science in the Spring of 2000. Tremayne is currently employed by the Tift County Commissioners Office as the Director of I.T.. His responsibilities are to oversee the streamlined operation of the IT department and to ensure it aligns with the business objectives of the organization. He plans, coordinates, directs, and designs all operational activities of the IT department, as well as provides direction and support for IT solutions that enhance mission-critical business operations. He works closely with decision makers in other departments to identify, recommend, develop, implement, and support cost-effective technology solutions for all aspects of the organization. Tremayne has been employed with the Tift County Commissioners Office for nine months.

Bob Meads graduated Summa Cum Laude from GSW in May 1997. After graduation, he immediately accepted a position at Siemens Energy and Automation in Alpharetta, GA, supporting SIMATIC WinCC, a new Human Machine Interface development package for manufacturing applications. After two years, Siemens moved its support base to Princeton, and Bob started iQuest, Inc. an independent consulting firm specializing in WinCC Integration, C++ development, and training classes on C programming and WinCC. Bob began providing training, WinCC application development, and consulting for such companies as Siemens, Philip Morris, BOC Gases and Bacardi. In 2003, Bob co-authored WinCC Audit, a software package designed to reduce the engineering effort required to develop WinCC applications that meet the FDA’s new 21 CFR part 11 regulations for electronic records and signatures. Siemens quickly bought the worldwide distribution rights to WinCC Audit. Today, Bob is still providing consulting and development services, as well as teaching software development classes in the US, Canada, Mexico, and Europe. In his spare time he is working on the next version of Audit for Siemens. Bob lives in Alpharetta, GA, and has been married to his wife Staci for 18 years. They have two children: Taylor, age eight and Lindsey, age four.

During the past semester, Web-I-Tech accomplished several important milestones. As of April 29th, our eRobertParker Instant Advocate wine kiosk pilot test will have been successfully operating for 5 months at Harry's Farmer's Market store in Roswell, GA. We just recently installed a second pilot test at a Harry's location in Gwinnett County, GA. Web-I-Tech is currently negotiating a general rollout of the eRobertParker Instant Advocate wine kiosk with Whole Foods Markets, parent company of Harry's Farmer's Markets. Whole Foods Markets operates over 160 stores across the U.S. Our Xpress Bill Payment Kiosk for the Russian market is completed to the prototype stage and is ready for shipment to Russia for further testing. The initial customer for this kiosk is ChelbabEnergo, the government run electric company serving Chelyabinsk Province in the Ural Mountain region of Russia. We are looking forward to feedback from ChelyabEnergo as they begin testing our prototype. It is anticipated that this kiosk solution will begin a general rollout in the second half of this year.

GSW-I-tech recently developed a survey analyzer that allows instructors to look at their evaluations from students in a centralized manner. Prior to the application they developed, each instructor received a printed copy of the evaluation. With the current system, each instructor can login and access their evaluation for any given semester. A history is kept for them, therefore they can look back for improvement over the past semesters.
On Monday, November 24, 2003, **Dr. Alexander Afanasiev** gave a presentation entitled “**Distributed Computing**”.

Dr. Afanasiev is the Department Head at the Institute for Systems Analysis at the Russian Academy of Sciences. He is a well-known specialist in the study of the optimization of complex dynamic systems, the development of the optimization distributed computational algorithms, and creation of major information telecommunication designs, the author of 2 monographs, 2 textbooks and more than 70 articles. His presentation was devoted to a new generation of the distributed learning platform-SeLEn. The main purposes of the distributed learning platform are to create platform- and language- neutral, reusable courseware and content to integrate existing, emerging and future learning resources, to promote widespread open participation, to create new courseware and content, and to enhance performance with emerging and next-generation learning technologies.

On Thursday, March 25, 2004, **Dr. Mei Yang** gave a presentation entitled “**Efficient Scheduling for SDMG CIOQ Switches**”.

Dr. Yang is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at Columbus State University. In her presentation, she first introduced the SDMG CIOQ switch architecture which features in space-division multiplexing expansion and grouped input/output ports to realize speedup while only requiring the switching fabric and memories to operate at the line rate. Dr. Mei Yang also discussed the “Research Experience for Undergraduates Program (REU)– Emerging Issues in Computer Networking at Columbus State University (CSU) in Summer 2004.”

---

**DONATION INFORMATION**

To make a tax deductible contribution to the School of Computer & Information Sciences and an “Investment in the Future”, go to the Alumni section of our newsletter on the web: [http://www.gsw.edu/~cais/](http://www.gsw.edu/~cais/)