**B.S. in Information Technology**

From the Fall 2006 Semester, the School of Computer & Information Sciences began offering a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (IT) degree. Students currently in the B.S. in Computer Information Systems (CIS) program will be allowed to complete their degree, but new students will be enrolled in the IT degree program. It was necessary for us to make the change to IT from CIS so that our School may apply for additional accreditation. The programs eligible for accreditation do not include Computer Information Systems any longer. However, there is an accreditation available for Information Technology and since the curriculum is very similar to our CIS degree, the decision was made to create an IT degree, which would replace the CIS degree.

IT is a new and rapidly growing field that started as a grassroots response to the practical, everyday needs of business and other organizations. Employees throughout an organization require support from IT staff who understand computer systems and their software and are committed to solving whatever computer-related problems they might have. Degree programs in information technology arose because degree programs in other computing disciplines were not producing an adequate supply of graduates capable of handling these very real needs. IT programs exist to produce graduates who possess the right combination of knowledge and practical, hands-on expertise to take care of both an organization’s information technology infrastructure and the people who use it.

Today, organizations of every kind are dependent on Information Technology

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**FALL 2006 GRADUATES**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR GRADUATES!**

**Bachelor of Science Degree:**
- Kenneth Britt
- Kristen Cooper
- Johnny Ferguson
- Brad Hinson
- Jennifer Phillips
- Richard Thomas
- David Walker

**Master of Science Degree:**
- John Bufford
- James Carlisle
- Thomas Rogers

**Outstanding Undergraduate Award Recipient:**
- Kristen Cooper
On Monday, November 13th, 2006, Mr. Arthur Quinlan, President & CEO of Directlink Technologies Corp, Reading, Pennsylvania gave a presentation entitled: “Technology – Its’ place in America and in a Global Economy.” Directlink Technologies Corp is designed to create a scalable and repeatable Business and Technology environment. It supports a set of unique value-added services in the areas of High-Speed Data Transport, Data Center Integration & Colocation, and IT Managed & Outsourcing Services. Directlink's outsourcing methodology AmeriSource" provides their customers a real alternative to off-shore and near shore outsourcing. The company, in its first 9 months of operations made some $45M in the area of application development, maintenance and support. Some opportunities for the Web-i-Tech center were discussed with Mr. Quinlan in the area of software development.

(Pictured left to right, Dr. Boris Peltsverger, Arthur Quinlan, & John Morrow)

Upsilon Pi Epsilon held its 7th Initiation Ceremony November 17, 2006, in the Education Building Rotunda. Brian Campbell, Arlandus Coleman, Jonathan Nesbitt, and Cedrick Palmer were initiated into the honor society. The new officers were also presented at the ceremony. They were Kathryn Postier - President, Amanda Higgins - Vice President, Bryan Anderson - Secretary, and Joel Campbell - Treasurer. After the ceremony the initiates and their guests, along with the current UPE members, enjoyed a movie and pizza party in Crawford Wheatley Hall. UPE also collected and donated 18 gallon bags of pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House project, toys and toiletries for the Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Project, soup can labels and box tops for local schools. UPE will soon be organizing its annual CIS Job Showcase to be held Spring semester. Representatives from various organizations will be invited to attend and speak with students about the positions within their organization, conduct informal interviews, and accepted résumé’s. If you would like to participate, please contact Karen Cook or the School of CIS. 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.

To find out more information about UPE, or to join as an alumni member, please contact Karen Cook at (229) 931-2818 or cook@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/home/assessment/documents/undergraduate.pdf
Master of Science degrees:  http://cis.gsw.edu/home/assessment/documents/graduate.pdf
Kathrina Barretto earned a Master of Science degree in Computer Science with a concentration in Computer Information Systems Fall Semester 2004. She is currently employed at the Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) in Washington, DC as their Systems Administrator. Kathrina has worked in this position for 1 1/2 years.

Joe-Glen Gittao earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science Fall Semester 2005. He is currently employed by Accurate Softwares International Inc. (ASI) in Plainsboro, NJ as a consultant - QA Analyst. Through ASI, Joe is currently a consultant for a company called Premier located in Charlotte, NC (where he resides). His current project includes testing a web-based application that will be used by hospital clients as an operation advisor and productivity measurement tool. Joe has worked in this position for about six months.

“My State, My Country” Presentation

Computer Majors Give Presentation about MEXICO

On Tuesday, November 21, 2006, Julian Otero, a GSW Student, gave a presentation about his home country of Mexico.

This was a very interesting and fun presentation. Some topics Julian discussed were art, language, culture, traditions, and religion.

ACM Event - Thanksgiving Dinner Party

GSW’s Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Chapter, jointly with the International Student’s Association (ISA) and the International Christian Foundation (ICF), hosted a pre-Thanksgiving dinner party on November 17th, 2006. Drs. Peltsverger, Shah, Yemelyanov, and Fu joined the party and enjoyed this time with the students. A wide variety of traditional Thanksgiving and international gourmet food was served by the local church and students. Special thanks goes to the following for their excellent organization of the event: Naomi Yasuho (president, ISA), Ms. Teresa Day (ICF), and Brandon Fogerty (chair, GSW ACM Chapter).
Fogerty Completes Innovative Internship with Motorola

Georgia Southwestern State University senior Brandon Fogerty got a unique opportunity during the summer to work alongside some of the brightest technology minds in the country. Brandon, a GSW Computer Science major, completed a three-month paid internship with Motorola's Human Interaction Research Lab near Chicago, Ill. While there, Brandon worked with Motorola staff on new and more intuitive ways for customers to interact with technology, specifically related to computerized kiosks that sell goods and services. "It was a wonderful learning experience," Brandon said. "The best part was gaining a better understanding of how the corporate world works."

During Brandon’s internship, Motorola and the Make-A-Wish Foundation helped a young man named Gerald achieve his special dream of becoming an inventor for a day. The highlight of Gerald’s visit was interacting with a larger than life avatar named “Lisa” who could speak to him and appeared on a very large screen. Brandon helped make this possible as a part of his internship, by creating a robust operator console to support Lisa’s speech and facial expressions. "We are very proud of our students in the School of Computer and Information Sciences," said Boris Peltzverger, Ph.D., dean. "Real-world experiences like Brandon's internship are immensely valuable." GSW's School of Computer and Information Sciences is home to a software development center that works with corporations like Motorola and NCR. Brandon plans to graduate from GSW in May 2007 with his bachelor's degree, and return to Chicago to complete another Motorola internship. He intends to start his master's degree at GSW in the Fall Semester 2007.

Brandon Fogerty is the son of John and Jo Ann Fogerty of Augusta.

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://cis.gsw.edu/home/