Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE) organized and held their annual Job Showcase on April 11, 2007. Representatives from various organizations attended and spoke with students (in a round-table setting) about positions within their organization, what is expected of them when they enter the job market, and answered students questions.

The organizations that attended included Zavata represented by Andrew Casciotti and John Wright, GSW OIIT represented by Royce Hackett, NEOS Technologies represented by Chris Saunders and Matthew Shoemaker, Barnett Computer represented by Mike Barnett, Computer Business Services represented by Chris Dill, and Habitat for Humanity represented by Helena Kallas.

Immediately following the Job Showcase, the attendees, UPE members, and CIS faculty held their Advisory Council meeting and enjoyed lunch together.
Upsilon Pi Epsilon held its 8th Initiation Ceremony April 20, 2007, in the Education Building Rotunda. John Wright, Brooks Robinson, Ashley Clements, and Latrez Cheeks (pictured L-R) were initiated into the honor society.

After the ceremony the initiates and their guests, along with the current UPE members, enjoyed dinner at La Hacienda in Americus, GA.

UPE also collected and donated pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House project, soup can labels and box tops for local schools. 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 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

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.
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

On Friday, April 20, 2007 Yanzhuo Ma, a GSW Student, gave a presentation about her home country of Ningxia, China. This was a very interesting and fun presentation. Some topics Yanzhuo discussed were art, language, culture, traditions, and religion. Attendees enjoyed this presentation and learned interesting facts about Ningxia.

The School of Computer and Information Science conducted the comprehensive review of its undergraduate programs (B. S. in Computer Science and B. S. in Information Technology) and graduate program (Master of Science in Computer Science) during the month of February 2007. The review team, chaired by Dr. Ravija Badarinathi of University of North Carolina at Wilmington, NC, consisted of Mr. Chris Dill (Member of the School’s Advisory Council), Dr. M. Elizabeth Gurnack (School of Arts and Sciences), Dr. Bola Tilghman (School of Education), Vera Weisskopf (Library), current and past students of the department of Computer Science. The review team gave its preliminary report with positive remarks. The team found the programs are viable and well equipped with cutting-edge technology in classrooms and laboratories, curriculums reflecting latest industry trends, and qualified faculties. The team felt that the school can serve more students in each program. Efforts to increase enrollment are suggested. Final report is yet pending.
ROBOCODE COMPETITION

The 2007 Robocode Game Programming Competition was successfully organized by Georgia Southwestern State University’s Academy of Computing Machinery (ACM) Chapter on April 21, 2007. The School of Computer & Information Sciences and GSW Student Government generously provided financial support of over four hundred and fifty dollars. Faculty members from sister universities, e.g., Darton College and Columbus State University, served on the steering committee of the competition.

The first prize (Sony PlayStation Portable) was awarded to Mr. Xin Tu (pictured with Dr. Boris Peltzverger, Dean of School of CIS), who has won the championship for two years. The second prize (Gameboy Advanced console) went to Mr. Qi Sun, a new student in our accelerated Master's program. Mr. Shijun Chen received the third prize (Creative MP3 Player). The competition is a great success, with more than twenty one participants. Detailed information of the event can be found at http://vlab2.gsw.edu/VLABPE800Events/Robocode07/index.htm. The School will continue to support such events which can not only motivate our students' interest in computer science but also sharpen their technical skills and the ability to solve problems independently.

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/