GSW Expands Options for BS in IT

Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) is planning to expand the Bachelor of Science degree in information technology (IT) to include options in professional writing and multimedia. The new degree options will be available fall 2008. Stemming from GSW’s Department of English and Modern Language the professional writing option provides courses in document design, grammar and editing, technical writing and professional writing; in collaboration with the Visual Arts Department the multimedia option offers courses in design concepts and beginning, intermediate and advanced digital media. Brandon Fogerty, one of Georgia Southwestern’s computer science graduate student’s, has taken advantage of the multimedia industry’s “Peach State” presence. At the end of July, Fogerty will go to work for Kaneva. An Internet based company that facilitates social network services in a virtual world, Kaneva was founded by billionaire entrepreneur and Georgia Institute of Technology graduate, Chris Klaus, and is located in Atlanta. “If GSW were to add a curriculum which would provide (video) game and multimedia development, the entertainment industry would open up to students at GSW,” said Fogerty. Having earned his Bachelor’s degree in computer science from Georgia Southwestern in May of 2007, Fogerty is not a beneficiary of the new degree options, but a solid education in computer science, multimedia projects and an internship at Motorola afforded him an opportunity to break into the multimedia industry. The multimedia IT degree option will allow more students to follow in Fogerty’s footsteps.

“The professional writing option will allow IT graduates to communicate their knowledge to non-professionals who have expertise in areas other than technology,” said Peggy Ellington, chair of the Department of English and Modern Language.

FALL 2007 GRADUATES

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR GRADUATES!

Bachelor Of Science Degree:
Ashley Walter Clements
Joel Leonard Campbell
Kathryn Elizabeth Postier
William Alvin Walker

Certificate In Web Design:
Kathryn Elizabeth Postier

Master Of Science Degree:
Alan Murray Bitterman
Bhavana Burrell

On Line Graduate Certificate:
Amanda G. Morris

AWARDS
Outstanding Service to the School of Computer & Information Sciences:

Kathryn Elizabeth Postier
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:

### “My State, My Country” Presentation

**Computer Major Presents KOREA**

On March 31, 2008, In Chan Hwang, a GSW Computer Major, gave a presentation about his home country of Korea. This was a very interesting and fun presentation. Some topics In Chan Hwang discussed were art, language, culture, traditions, and religion. Attendees enjoyed this presentation and learned many interesting facts about Korea.

### 2008 Robocode Contest

The 2008 GSW Robocode Game Programming Competition was successfully completed on April 24, 2008, sponsored by GSW CIS School and GSW ACM Chapter. Robocode is the brainchild of Mat Nelson, originally released as a promotion of Java at IBM Alphaworks. As a programming game, it distinguishes itself from all other computer games in the way that a player controls the game. A player of Robocode has to control a team of robot “gladiators”, battling against another team controlled by the opponent. A player does not directly control his/her robots using a keyboard, mouse, or game controllers. Instead, he/she has to supply the “brain” of the robots by writing a Java program. The program specifies the control logic, e.g., aiming at the enemy, escaping from incoming bullets, collaborating with teammates to achieve a certain strategy. Ms. Yinan Han, Mr. Shijun Chen, and Mr. Qi Sun received the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, respectively. The competition was a great success, with more than thirteen participants.

*Detailed information of the event can be found at [http://vlab.gsw.edu/vl-web/Events/ROBOCODE08/index.htm](http://vlab.gsw.edu/vl-web/Events/ROBOCODE08/index.htm).*
Dr. Arvind Shah visited Amity School, Bharuch, India on May 8, 2008. His visit was in relation to the academic collaboration between GSW and Amity School. During his visit Dr. Shah had meetings with administrators, teachers, and interaction with parents and students. Lastly, Dr. Shah was given a facility tour of the Amity Group of Schools.

Dr. Shah gathered information about Amity schools and also shared information about Georgia Southwestern State University. He highlighted different programs of study at Georgia Southwestern State University and the university at large. The Amity teachers gave a brief account of activities done during the year that develops students in extracurricular activities and builds their career and broadens their knowledge. There was considerable interest among the teachers to learn more about GSW.

While he was at Amity, Dr. Shah addressed a group of parents and students from grades 10, 11, and 12. About 300 people were present in this session. Many students and parents had questions about programs of study at GSW, pre-professional programs at GSW, admission requirements, admission procedure, campus employment opportunities, tuition and fees and other expenses. There is a potential that qualified students from Amity School may like to join GSW for university level education.

Amity expressed their wish that we grow in our joint collaborative efforts to provide better guidance and a platform to their students for making educated decisions about university education. They further added that the joint effort will lead to strong ties between the Amity group of Schools and Georgia Southwestern State University.

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 kcook@canes.gsw.edu
GSW/Bainbridge College Agreement

Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) and Bainbridge College (BC) expanded their cooperative relationship Thursday, May 22 on the BC campus. Beginning Fall 2008, GSW will offer a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (IT) at BC, which offers an Associate of Applied Science degree in CIS.

“This agreement is a great example of two University System institutions working together for the common good of the citizens of southwest Georgia,” said President Tom Wilkerson, Ph.D. “It is a win-win situation for the students and will have a significant impact on the entire region.”

“Bainbridge College is an excellent two-year institution that serves many talented students in southwest Georgia,” said GSW President Kendall Blanchard, Ph.D. “Georgia Southwestern and Bainbridge have established a strong relationship, and we believe this new program will benefit those students who complete the associate degree in CIS and wish to move on to a four-year program.”

This agreement, known as a 2 + 2 program, will allow BC students to earn junior and senior level credits toward a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology without having to leave Bainbridge. The degree marks the second GSW baccalaureate program offered on the Bainbridge campus. Currently, Southwestern offers a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting, management and marketing. GSW will continue to offer these junior and senior level classes at BC.

In addition to signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the IT program, Blanchard and Wilkerson signed a Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) to simplify the transfer of credits for students transferring from BC to GSW.

This is the seventh TAG agreement that Georgia Southwestern has signed since August 2007.

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/

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