Computer Science and Engineering displays its commitment to the environment by choosing FSC certified paper for its newsletter. Please recycle it when you are finished.

The Department of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) graduated 42 students on Sunday, May 16, 2010. A departmental ceremony was held in the afternoon and attended by the graduates, their families, and CSE professors. This year’s faculty speaker, selected by the students, was Professor Ramzi Bualuan. Schubmehl-Prein Professor Kevin W. Bowyer, the department’s chair, served as master of ceremonies. The ceremony was organized and coordinated by seniors Nicole Artman and Alexander Tomala, with the help of Administrative Assistants, Ginny Watterson and Dian Wordinger.

This year’s Outstanding CPEG Senior recipients were James Notwell and Robert Wettach, and the Outstanding CS Award recipient was Alexander Tomala. Tomala also received the IEC William L. Everitt Award. Christopher Durr received the Faculty Choice Award for outstanding scholastic achievement.

YEAR/DEPARTMENT GRADUATED FROM

—— NO. OF TAILGATE TICKETS ONLY $15 EACH (NO LIMIT) TOTAL $——

—— NO. OF GAME & TAILGATE PACKAGES $85 EACH (LIMIT 2 PER ALUM) TOTAL $——

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $——

Payable to: University of Notre Dame, Dept. of Electrical Engineering

Mail form with payment to:
CSE-EE Pre-game Tailgate Party
Attn: Deb Gillean
University of Notre Dame
275 Fitzpatrick
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5637

(continued on page 2)
Biometrics Research Activity Expands with Several New Awards Since 2009

Notre Dame’s Computer Vision Research Laboratory, directed by Professor Patrick Flynn and Kevin Bowyer, received the following research awards on the last year:

- Two separate awards totaling $271,000 from FBI for research into discrimination of identical twins
- A $760,000 grant from the US Department of Justice/National Institute for Justice for face annotation and forensic applications
- An IC Postdoctoral Fellowship worth up to $360,000 to be occupied by Ph.D. graduate Dr. Karen Hollingsworth, on the topic of percussion biometrics, and
- A cooperative agreement with Army Research Labs in the amount of $1.5 million to support large-scale biometric data collection, validation and research on face and its biometrics.

The biometrics research group has received in excess of $8 million of external funding (including collaborative projects with other faculty at Notre Dame and at other universities) for its biometrics and computer vision research program since 2001. The lab supports the research of fifteen Ph.D. students, three research faculty members, twenty-nine undergrads and is supported by two technical staff members.

The biometricians and computer vision researchers have also been working on developing computational solutions for medical and forensic applications.

Associate Professor Christian Poellabauer Co-Author of Book on Wireless Sensor Networks

"Fundamentals of Wireless Sensor Networks: Theory and Practice", co-authored by Associate Professor Christian Poellabauer and published by Wiley, is a textbook that describes the fundamental concepts and practical aspects of wireless sensor networks. The book provides a comprehensive view to this rapidly evolving field, including its many novel applications, ranging from protecting civil infrastructure to pervasive health monitoring. Using detailed examples and illustrations, this book provides an inside track on the current state of the technology and includes topics such as sensor architectures, operating systems, network protocols, power management, sensor programming, and security. At the end of each chapter, the authors provide practical exercises to help students strengthen their grip on the subject, making the book an excellent choice as textbook for advanced undergraduate and graduate courses on the topic of sensor networks.

Summer in London Program

Notre Dame’s “Summer Engineering in London” program is increasingly popular with students. This year, 48 engineering undergrads spent six weeks in London. The students took two courses from Notre Dame faculty, and had field trips to the Thames River flood barrier and Iron Bridge (“birthplace of industry”), among others, and social outings to Shakespeare in the Park and elsewhere. One of the two courses this year was Ethics and Professionalism in Engineering, taught by Professor Kevin Bowyer, chair of CSE.

Chawla Joins the Science Advisory Board of Health Discovery Corporation

"The addition of Dr. Nitesh Chawla to our Science Advisory Board brings a major intellectual resource and additional expertise to our company," said Stephen D. Barnhill, M.D., Chairman and CEO of Health Discovery Corporation. "We’re thrilled to have Dr. Chawla join our team of scientists," said Dr. Barnhill.

"Health Discovery Corporation has an impressive suite of techniques and applications in personalized medicine, and a highly experienced Science Advisory Board. I am honored and humbled to become a part of it," said Dr. Chawla.

Dr. Chawla is a welcomed Member of HDC’s Science Advisory Team which includes among others Kary Mullis, Ph.D., winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry (1993), Vladimir Vapnik, Ph.D., creator of Support Vector Machines and winners of the prestigious Humboldt Research Award for his academic achievements by the Alexander on Humboldt Foundation, and Isabelle Gyuon, Ph.D., co-inventor of the first patent for Support Vector Machines.


iCeNSA is a university wide interdisciplinary research center organized around network science problems in social, biological, biochemical, physical, environmental, organizational, technical and defense systems. More information about iCeNSA is at http://icens.nnd.edu.

Blake Conducts New Computing Outreach

Professor M. Brian Blake is the PI of an NSF-sponsored research grant entitled “Popularizing Computing to the Mainstream”. Through highly engaging and visually stimulating modules, the program attempts to recruit underrepresented minorities into computing fields from mainstream venues like shopping malls, sporting events, and community events. Although the project ran summer camps for students in 2007, 2008, and 2009, this summer and fall the program established a series of kiosks at shopping malls, community centers, and a large innovation convention, all in the Washington, DC area. More about this project and a video documentary can be viewed at http://www.future-encoders.org/