Welcome from the Chair

Welcome to the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of South Florida newsletter. It has been a time of changes since we last communicated. We hired three excellent new faculty members at the Assistant Professor level, Luther Palmer III (Robotics), Xiaoning Qian (Bioinformatics), and Yu Sun (Robotics). They come to us from The Ohio State University, Yale University and the University of Utah, respectively.

Professors Robin Murphy and Kimon Valavanis have gone on to other opportunities as well as instructor and research colleague Justin Harlow, who also moved to a new opportunity. We miss them, and wish them well.

While we now organized differently than we were, including my appointment as Department Chair in spring of 2008, we are very excited to have our new faculty members joining us. In the meantime, our Faculty and graduate students have won fellowships, teaching awards, NSF CAREER awards and more. Information on our accomplishments is available in this newsletter, including recognition of a scholarly production in a June 2007 ACM Communications article which had us ranked 42nd among Computer Science departments in the United States.

To our graduates, we hope that you will come by and say “hi.” We are planning a get together at homecoming this year and sincerely hope that you will join us. We successfully received notice in 2008 that ABET has again accredited the BS program Computer Engineering and the BS program in Computer Science is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and appreciate your feedback.

Best Wishes,

Lawrence O. Hall
Professor and Chair
To Prospective Students

You can find out about our exciting research in computer vision, pattern recognition, data mining, hardware design and test, computer security, cloud and distributed computing, artificial intelligence, robotics, networks and bioinformatics and more at our web site: http://www.cse.usf.edu/

Do you know that we have a good number of teaching and research assistantships available at the graduate level? There are research experiences for undergraduate positions also available, too. At the undergraduate and graduate level, we continue to work on improving the quality and the breadth of our programs.


Adriana “Anda” Iamnitchi received a National Science Foundation CAREER Award this year. The proposal was titled: “Socially-Aware Distributed Systems.” The award is from May 1, 2010 until April 30, 2015. The total funding is $485,010.
Spotlight on New Hires
Four faculty hired since our last communiqué.

Luther Palmer, III
Ph.D. - The Ohio State University
Research Area: Robotics, legged robots
Joined 2009

Yu Sun
Ph.D. - University of Utah
Research Area: Robotics, Haptics
Joined 2009

Yicheng Tu
Ph.D. - Purdue University
Research Area: Databases
Joined 2007

Xiaoning Qian
Ph.D. - Yale University
Research Area: Bioinformatics
Joined 2009.

Awards

Highlights of Recent Faculty Awards and Appointments

Prof. Jay Ligatti received the 2009 USF Outstanding Research Achievement Award.

Prof. N. Ranganathan received the 2009 USF Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award.

Prof. Sudeep Sarkar selected IEEE Computer Society Distinguished Visitor 2010-12.

Prof. Dmitry Goldgof named to IEEE Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society BOG.

Prof. Sudeep Sarkar chosen a 2010 Research Administration Faculty Fellow.

Prof. Ken Christensen received 2009 USF Excellence in Innovation Award.


Prof. Sudeep Sarkar elected IEEE PAMI TC Chair, 2010.

Prof. Abraham Kandel received a 2008 Fulbright Senior Specialists Award.

Student Achievements

- CSE students **Anand Kumar** and **Zichen Xu**, both from Dr. Yicheng Tu’s group, presented papers in the PhD Workshop on Innovative Database Research (IDAR’10) in conjunction with the ACM International Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD). Each student was awarded a $1,000 travel grant offered by the ACM Special Interest Group of Management of Data (SIGMOD).

- A team project from the spring 2010 Senior Project class was presented at the NSF-sponsored Capstone Design Conference held in Boulder, Colorado from June 7 to 11. The project is titled, “**A Harvard Architecture Assembly Simulator with Debugging Capabilities and Accessibility Enhancements**” and done by four undergraduate students - **Frank Di Natale**, **Joe Di Natale**, **Jon Mercer**, and **Donald Ray**. The project was supervised by Dr. Ken Christensen.

- Dr. **Cindy Bethel** a summer 2009 Ph.D. graduate of the Computer Science and Engineering Department was named a 2009 Computing Innovation Fellow. She is doing postdoctoral work at Yale University.

- **John N. Korecki** and his team were awarded a 2010-2011 Graduate Student Challenge Grant: Building Research Partnerships Across Disciplines for their project titled: “**The Optimal Design of Water Supply Systems for Energy Efficiency in Tampa Bay Area**.”

- **Sridhar Godavarthy** was the recipient of the 2009 Engineering Research Week Poster Award along with 10 other engineering students. Sridhar is a masters’ student in the department of Computer Science and Engineering. The poster was titled “Towards Macro- and Micro- Expression Spotting in Video.”

- **Soumyaroop Roy** awarded the Sypris Electronics 2010 Best Teaching Assistant Award.