Ball State University

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Volume 1.03

Dec 2003/Jan 2004

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Computer Science

International CS Alumni to Meet

A gathering of international Ball State computer science graduates and their families residing currently in the US is set for Saturday, April 3, 2004, with a possible evening reception on Friday, April 2. In announcing this event, Jay Bagga, the Department Chair said, "The Department of Computer Science aims to strengthen its relationship with our alumni. Achievement of this goal is one of the reasons we began publication of this newsletter. Alumni reunions will take us to the next level. The international alumni reunion is only the first step in rebuilding and sustaining long-term relationships with all our alumni. A reunion of all alumni is planned for next year. We want to build on the sense of family among our international alumni," said Bagga. "By organizing a weekend event on campus for those graduates and their families we hope to make our alumni activities more inclusive for all. At this event the alumni will meet and socialize with old friends and their families, forge new friendships, have an opportunity to hear presentations from and network with people from different IT companies, meet with their professors, and provide feedback to the department on how to continue its longtime association with international students."

Over 200 foreign-born CS alumni live in the U.S., and up to 50% are projected to attend the April 2-3 event. More than twenty Chinese-born alumni have already committed to attending the event, according to Dr. Jeff Zhang, a 1998 departmental graduate. A large number of Indian-born and other international alumni are also expected to attend.

The department continues to attract a large number of international graduate students. New academic programs include an Ed. D. in Science with major in computer science (www.bsu.edu/web/sciencedoc), a minor in web technologies, and research and courses in data mining and cryptography. The department also houses the Software Engineering Research Center (SERC, www.serc.net), a National Science Foundation, State of Indiana, and industry funded research center that among other things, offers students opportunities to do industrial research projects.

We strongly encourage our international alumni and their families to come back to Muncie and become involved in our alumni family.

Details of the April 2-3 event will be available soon. For further information, contact Jay Bagga (jbagga@bsu.edu) or Jeff Zhang(01y0zhang@bsu.edu).

In Memoriam ...

In this issue we are honored to profile the founding father of the Department of Computer Science at Ball State University.

Dr. Clinton P. Fuelling served as chair of the Computer Science Department from July 1, 1983 (when the department separated from Mathematical Sciences), until November 15, 1999, when he succumbed to the ravages of cancer at the age of 61.

Dr. Fuelling was born in Decatur, Indiana, on December 8, 1937. He received his bachelor's degree in 1960 from Ball State University, a master's degree in 1962 from University of Chicago, and a doctorate in 1972 from American University in Washington, D.C. He then served in the U.S. Air Force. After his discharge, he was employed with the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C. and thereafter with the General Research Corporation in McLean, Virginia. He joined the faculty at Ball State University in 1973.

Fuelling was a past president of University Senate. He was a delegate to Annamalai University and a Ball State Far East Study participant. Fuelling's involvement also took him to China as a representative of the World Bank. He held memberships in SIAM, The Association of Computing Machinery, the American Mathematical Society, and served on the board of directors for Project Stepping Stone.

Dr. Clinton P. Fuelling, Computer Science Chairman from 1983-1999.

Although Dr. Fuelling authored and co-authored many publications and was awarded numerous research grants, he considered himself first and foremost, a teacher. He was much loved and respected by his students and colleagues. From the outpouring of love and respect, a scholarship was funded in his name. The Clinton P. Fuelling Memorial Scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate student of excellence each year. If you would like to contribute to this scholarship fund, contact the Ball State University Foundation.

Spring Colloquia

Our Department is pleased to welcome everyone to our colloquium presentations. All presentations are at 3:00 p.m. in RB104, unless otherwise noted. The current list is as follows. More presentations will be added as details become available.

Jan 28 -- Fu-Shing Sun and Henry Tzeng, "Similarity in Intelligent Data Analysis."

Apr 7 -- Bill Toll, Professor and Chair, Computing and System Sciences, Taylor University, "Surface Reconstruction From Point Clouds."

Apr 14 -- Jeff Zhang and R. Thiruvarangan (Graduate Student), "Web Services and Applications."

Apr 21 -- Mark Gray, "Robotic navigation using the Lego Mindstorms."

Professional Activities

During the past three months, the faculty of the Computer Science Department has attained many accomplishments. We are proud to honor those achievements in this months issue.

Jay Bagga, Washington D.C., Fulbright Selection Committee, December 2003; Westem Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky, to promote our faculty search, make a presentation and discuss research and conference organization. November 2003.

Jay Bagga (Plenary Speaker)**,** and **Kim Jones-Owen** (Women's Studies), "Comparative Studies of Enrollment Patterns of Women in Computer Science Programs: Assessments and Recommendations," Women in the Digital Era: Opportunities and Challenges Conference, Annamalai University, India, December 2003.

Jay Bagga, J. Michael McGrew, and John Emert (Mathematics), Connectivity Properties of Visibility Graphs, Congressus Numerantium, Volume 165, 2003.

Paul Buis, presented talk at SERC Showcase, Ball State University, December 2003

Kathleen Keil, Phoenix, Arizona, attended joint meetings of the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America, January 2004

Fu-Shing Sun, Scottsdale, Arizona, presented a paper at Conference on Information and Knowledge Sharing (IKS 2003), November 2003

Sheri York, Las Vegas, Nevada, attended Comdex Convention, Mobility and Wireless Technologies and Open Source/Linux Technologies, November 2003.

Dolores Zage, Greenbelt, Maryland, presented talk at NASA Conference, December 2003; Ball State University, Muncie, IN, presented talk at SERC Showcase, December 2003; Washington, D. C., attended annual IUCRC Meeting, January 2004

Wayne Zage, Washington, D.C., attended annual IUCRC Meeting, January 2004; Ball State University, Muncie, IN, host and presented talk at SERC Showcase, December 2003

The new affiliates of **SERC** include the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Crane, IN and Raytheon in Fort Wayne, IN. Please see www.serc.net for more information about SERC.

Profile—Zachery Pagac

Zach Pagac serves as a Graduate Assistant in the Department of Computer Science.

Zachery (Zach) Pagac, is a graduate student and a first year Graduate Assistant in the CS department. He is originally from Pittsboro, Indiana. His responsibilities include teaching and assisting in labs. He received his B.S. in Computer Science from Ball State in May 2003, graduating with summa cum laude honors. Zack has previously worked as a tutor at the learning center and as a summer intern with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, where he assisted the division's system administrator. Zack was selected by the department to represent Computer Science on the College of Sciences and Humanities Student Advisory Council.

Zack's hobbies include fly fishing, fly tying and golf.

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