



Software Engineering Research Center (SERC)

The only National Science Foundation (NSF) Industry/University Cooperative Research Center (IUCRC) in software engineering is headquartered at Ball State University in the Department of Computer Science. The NSF IUCRC program is designed to be a partnership between universities and industry, featuring high-quality, industrially relevant fundamental research, strong industrial support of and collaboration in research and education, and direct transfer of university developed ideas, research results, and technology to the industrial affiliates of the Center. Ball State was one of four original participating universities when the SERC was established in 1986. Previously headquartered at Purdue University, the Center was transferred when Dr. Wayne Zage, Professor of Computer Science, assumed the responsibilities of Director of the Center. "The Center represents a true partnership between industry and academia," said Wayne Zage.

In SERC, businesses pay a yearly membership fee, which supports relevant customized software engineering research for that company by faculty from any of nine participating universities. Past projects have included research in applications of formal methods to software reliability, software testing, 3-D visualization and finding stress points in software designs.

Current industry members include Allegheny Power, Baker Hill, Eli Lilly, Guidant Corporation, ManTech International, Motorola, NASA IV&V, National Energy Technology Lab, Northrop Grumman, Ontario Systems, and Telcordia Technologies (formerly Bellcore). The Indiana 21st Century Research and Technology Fund also supports SERC.

"Universities also benefit from SERC because researchers are able to have access to real data and software," Zage said. "Moreover, our research faculty have access to some of the best technical people working in industry as project collaborators." Helping Wayne Zage direct this national center at Ball State University are Kirsten Smith, Assistant Director of SERC, Dolores Zage, SERC Research Coordinator, Aditya Mathur, Purdue University site-director, and Hany Ammar, West Virginia University site-director. Other participants are Butler University, Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis, University of Florida, University of West Florida, University of Oregon and Portland State University.



Robert Bell Building, the home of our department

Colloquium Series—Fall 2003

(Wednesdays 3:00 p.m. in RB 104, unless otherwise noted.)

- Sept 16 – Alan Kay, Hewlett Packard fellow, "Designing User Interfaces,"
Forum Room, Student Center, 9:30 a.m.
- Sept 17 – Paul Buis, Computer Science Dept., "Building Your Own PC"
- Sept 24 – Becky Perez and Mitzi Lyons, Eli Lilly and Company, Journey of
Software Reuse
- Oct 1 - (Tech Summit 6 in Indy)
- Oct 8 – Steve Gerow, Ontario Systems, Leadership Lessons Learned from
Small Animals
- Oct 15 – Mike McGrew, Computer Science Dept., SIGGRAPH 2003
- Oct 22 - Ron Cosby and Mahfuza Khatun, Center for Computational
Nanoscience, Department of Physics & Astronomy
- Oct 29 – Wayne Zage and Dolores Zage, Computer Science Dept. and John
Dailey, Telecommunications Dept., "Point of View"
- Nov 5 – Bimal Bhattacharai and Padmaja Tadikonda, Computer Science Dept.,
CS699 Project: "Web Design Elements and Site Development"
- Nov 12 – Ramaraj Thiruvargan and Suresh Malapaka, Computer Science
Dept., CS699 Project: "Fine Tuning SOPPTS"
Waleed Aljandal, Computer Science Dept., CS699 Project "Data Mining"
- Nov 19 – Michael Pressel, Computer Science Dept., CS699 Project:
"Review of OO Design Metrics," Prathiba Bommineni,
Computer Science Dept., CS699 Project: "Extending the UI for POV"
- Dec 3 – Taminee Shinasharkey, Computer Science Dept., CS699 Project:
"ASP and PHP," Young-Chan Park and Jiho Yang,
Computer Science Dept., CS699 Project:
"Database-Driven Website Design: A Case Study"

Profile



Jeff Zhang, Assistant Professor

In 1995 Jeff Zhang received his MA from BSU. He went on to earn a second master's degree in computer science, and then an Ed. D. with specialization in computer science. He has varied work experience: GA in the Teachers College and the BSU Far East Exchange Program, programmer at Thomson Consumer Electronics Company and Telamon Corporation, instructor in our department, and now an Assistant Professor.

Jeff's doctoral dissertation was titled "Designing and Implementing a Student Online Project Planning and Tracking System and Students and Faculty Evaluation of the SOPPTS Software."

Jeff's wife, Min Zhang also received her MS degree in computer science from BSU in 1999. She has been a programmer/analyst at Arnett Health Plans in Lafayette for four years. Jeff enjoys spending time with his ten-year-old son George, playing tennis, basketball, swimming, baseball and martial arts. His son is on the Boilermaker Aquatics Swim Team in West Lafayette. On the USA Swimming web site, George is currently listed fifteenth in the nation for the 100 meter backstroke.

"I am so proud of being a BSU graduate. The Computer Science Department has given my family the greatest strength of all," said Jeff.

Our Website

Have you recently visited our department's website (www.cs.bsu.edu)?

A copy of *Abacus++* is also available there.

Please send suggestions or comments to slyork@bsu.edu.

Job Posting: Tenure-track Assistant Professor

Applicants should have the desire and interest to teach all undergraduate and masters level graduate courses with a special background in one or more of the following areas: computer architecture, database/data mining, Web technologies, systems software, network, security, software testing and reliability, and other areas closely related to software engineering. In particular they must be able to teach CS1 and CS2. An active, productive research program is required for tenure and promotion. Must have a Doctorate in Computer Science or a closely related field by August 15, 2004. Preferred: Ph.D. in computer science, teaching experience.

The Department of Computer Science seeks to attract an active, culturally and academically diverse faculty of the highest caliber. Ball State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and is strongly and actively committed to diversity within its community.

ACM Chapter News

This year, ACM is setting goals to increase its effectiveness as an organization. Through programs, meetings, tutorials, educational forums, and just plain fun, we hope to attract new members while contributing to the educational environment here at Ball State.

We currently have two teams, sponsored by the ACM to attend the 2003 ACM Regional Coding Contest. This year the event will be held in Cincinnati on November 8th. We had a LAN Party last spring and it was a big success. We had upwards of 10 people playing each other in a computer simulated world. We are planning another LAN Party this semester utilizing a computer lab so people can just show up and play. No assembly required.

The biggest facet of ACM is how it shapes the way students learn computer science. In accordance to that, we are hoping to start an education committee. This committee would research computer science departments at other universities and then compare those schools to our own institution. We wish to learn the best techniques that others are using and then determine how our department can utilize those techniques.

An organizational concern is low membership. We hope to make presentations in classes and promote ACM in other ways. Visit us at <http://www.cs.bsu.edu/homepages/acm/>.

Alumni News

Jeff Zhang (MA '95, MS '98) received Ed.D, July 2002 from BSU (see profile).

Adrian Heinz (MS '02) and **Zhihui Yang (MS '03)** are currently enrolled in the BSU Ed.D. program.

We want to update our database of Computer Science alumni. Please send the following information to us, along with some news about yourself or other alumni. **E-mail the info to newslet@cs.bsu.edu or return this form to Department of Computer Science, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306.**

Name: _____ Grad Yr. _____ Degree _____

Home Address _____

E-mail _____

Work title and address: _____

Preferred mailing address: (circle one) Home Work e-mail