Hello CSIS alumni and friends,

Shahram Alavi often asks me, “What’s the good news and the bad news?” Well, this has been a year of good news/bad news for the CSIS Department. For health reasons, Jeanne Chamberlin, the CSIS Office Associate for the past 22 years, has retired. We will greatly miss Jeanne in the office. We will miss her big smile and deep understanding of the CSIS programs, students and alumni, and the UNK campus as a whole. Well wishes can be sent to her at 802 E. 48th Street, Kearney, NE 68847. We also said good-bye to Dr. Xuli Liu, who is now employed at PayPal as a software developer in Omaha.

Now for the good news…

We were able to hire a replacement for Jeanne. Her name is Marla Trampe, and her email address is trampemv@unk.edu. She is doing a great job. Dean LaDuke generously found funding to hire a one-year lecturer appointment for this fall. We were able to hire Cate Anderson, a graduate student from UNL.

The CSIS Department recently announced that a permanently endowed Buckle Excellence Scholarship has been established, which will award two CSIS students with $3000 scholarships each year. We also have received notification that Northwestern Energy will be providing a $1000 per year scholarship for an upper-level CSIS student. These will be our first scholarships ever!

Two of the UNK robots competed in the robotics competition at the Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium (MICS) in Cedar Falls, IA on April 13th, 2012. The robot designed and implemented by Rikiya Ishizaki took third place at the MICS regional competition.

CSIS introduced a new Information Technology (IT) emphasis as part of the MS Ed in Instructional Technology. Teachers who complete this program can earn the state of Nebraska IT supplemental endorsement. The first IT Teaching Methods course was offered this summer, with ten students.

Our faculty and students were again active with scholarly and service activities. It was great to see several alumni return to see our fall and spring student project presentations. We will continue to invite alumni back to campus for these events each semester. CSIS graduates continue to be in demand. They are still receiving three or more job offers and salary offers are increasing as companies compete for our graduates.

The CSIS Advisory Council held their annual meeting on March 2, 2012. The Council continues to be extremely helpful with both curricular and recruiting ideas.

Assistance is needed from alumni and friend to endow the Marilyn Jussel Scholarship. The University of Nebraska Foundation indicates the balance must reach $25,000 to award this scholarship to a deserving CSIS student. To make a tax deductible contribution, go to the University of Nebraska Foundation page at http://nufoundation.org/Page.aspx?pid=1875.

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter and keep us posted on the happenings in your life.

Sincerely,

Sherri Harms, Chair
KEARNEY — The company long known for helping young adults look their best is also helping them learn the best with a new scholarship and career development program created by The Buckle, Inc. (“Buckle”) at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

A permanent endowment in the name of Buckle has been established with a $150,000 gift to the University of Nebraska Foundation to provide annual scholarship awards for students interested in careers related to computer science or information technology.

Each year, two $3,000 scholarships will be awarded to students in the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems who meet certain academic requirements. A scholarship will be awarded every year to an incoming freshman, and a second scholarship will be awarded during the student’s sophomore year based on academic achievement.

John La Duke, dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences, expressed appreciation to Buckle’s management and IT professionals for supporting students.

“Our Department of Computer Science and Information Systems faculty work very hard to not only train but also mentor students to be professionals,” La Duke said. “Buckle’s interest in helping our students excel is admirable, and we look forward to strengthening this interaction.”

La Duke also lauded the company for starting a student internship program and for hiring numerous CSIS graduates over the years. Buckle also offers its employees for classroom presentations and gives students opportunities to visit the company’s headquarters and operations.

Dennis Nelson, president of Buckle, said, “Buckle recognizes the importance of establishing a strong technical workforce in Nebraska. By supporting the computer science program at UNK, Buckle hopes to encourage and support the growth of that workforce and the development of future IT professionals. Buckle’s IT teams provide innovative solutions that impact all functions of our business. So, naturally, we’re excited to support the growth and development of computer science students and strengthen our relationship with UNK going forward.”

The company is also involved with UNK’s Computer Science and Information Systems Advisory Council, which provides leadership and advice to the department related to programs and student needs.

The endowment created by the company supports the university’s current fundraising initiative, the Campaign for Nebraska: Unlimited Possibilities, and its goal to raise $50 million for UNK needs. Increasing available student scholarships is a top campaign priority for the university.

Offering a unique mix of high-quality, on-trend apparel, accessories and footwear, Buckle caters to fashion-conscious men and women. Known as a denim destination, each store carries a wide selection of fits, styles and finishes from leading denim brands, including the company’s exclusive brand, BKE. Headquartered in Kearney, NE, Buckle currently operates 439 retail stores in 43 states.

The University of Nebraska Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization that has connected the dreams and passions of donors to the mission of the university for more than 75 years. In 2011, donors gave a record $172 million in gifts for scholarships, academic programs, medical research and other priorities at the university. The foundation’s fundraising initiative, the Campaign for Nebraska: Unlimited Possibilities, concludes in 2014. For more information, visit campaignfornebraska.org.
Cate Anderson as a new CSIS lecturer for the 2012-13 academic year. Cate is completing her Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Her area of expertise is Bioinformatics.

Cate is teaching Finite Automata, Cybercrime, Intro to CS, Intro to Bioinformatics, and C programming. We appreciate the expertise she is bringing to our department.

Cate has taught for several years as a graduate teaching assistant as well as conducted bioinformatics research. Prior to her studies in computer science, she spent several years as a physicist developing, qualifying, maintaining and improving laser processes in manufacturing.

Marla Trampe was hired in September as the new CSIS Office Associate. Previously, Marla worked as the Office Supervisor for the Student Life Office in the Nebraskan Student Union.

Marla is pursuing a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management and Marketing. She enjoys attending classes on campus and getting to know the students.

Marla is married to Doug and they have been long time residents of the Kearney area. They have two sons. Heath & Aunnee Trampe, live in Ft Wayne, IN with their son Jonathan. Matthew and Jade Trampe currently reside in South Sioux City, NE.

Please stop in and introduce yourself.

The UNK CSIS Advisory Council continued to be very active in 2011-2012. Current members (in alphabetical order) are: Jim Allen, VP of IT, Berkley Technology Services, Des Moines, IA; Jeff Blackmon, President, Strategic Continuity Solutions, Olathe, KS; Pete Evans, Oracle Applications Developer for the Douglas-Omaha Technology Commission; Steve Goddard, Professor of Computer Science and Chair, Department of Computer Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE; Rob Harbols, Web System Development, Buckle, Inc., Kearney, NE; and Scott Weitzel, Senior Patent Attorney, Avago Technologies, Inc., Brighton, CO. Faculty members are Shahram Alavi and John Hastings. Student members are Austin Hendrickson (IT) and Kelsey Bard (CS). Dr. Harms serves as the secretary, and plans, organizes and facilitates the Council activities.

The Council met via phone conferences in August 2011, December 2011 and in January 2012 and met March 2, 2012 for its yearly on-campus meeting. At this meeting, the Council met with a representative from UNK Admissions to discuss recruiting. They met with Dr. John La Duke, Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences to discuss the future direction of the CSIS Department. After lunch, they met with CSIS students to discuss ideas for marketing and improving the curriculum.
KEARNEY — Two seniors in the department of computer science and information systems at the University of Nebraska at Kearney have designed and programmed an Android map application of the UNK campus.

Michael Sall of Holdrege and Joel Meyer of Norfolk created the app to help people find buildings, departments and student services offices on campus.

“When started, this app will capture the user’s current GPS location and through menus, allow the user to choose a destination on campus,” said department chair Sherri Harms. “The person can then follow the sidewalks or roads to reach their destination.”

The app, called Wobini MApps, is built upon the Android Software Development Kit and uses the Google Maps Application Programming Interface to display the map and geo-locations, according to Meyer.

The app is available for $.99 at www.wobininapps.com. There is also a quick response code and printed material on the website so the app can be provided to others.

“Wobini is capable of a variety of advertising elements built into the system,” Meyer said. “These capabilities are available to the individual customer and allow for the MApp (Map App) to provide a source of revenue and to quickly gain a return on investment.”

“It is important for new technology to be tested by real users and feedback provided to the student developers for improvements,” Harms said. To provide feedback about the app, contact info@smbtc.us.

The two have also formed the company SMB Technology Consulting.

“SMB Technology Consulting provides information technology solutions and services for small- to medium-sized businesses, from which our name is derived,” Meyer said.

["Wobini" is a German slang word for "where am I?" Also this spring, 10/11 news interviewed students about the UNK map application created by Joel and Mike.

Their goal is to develop this kind of application for businesses, other schools, real-estate offices, etc.]
On Wednesday, December 14th, 2011, the CSIS senior seminar students presented their fall 2011 projects.

Tyler Adelung, Kelsey Bard, Dan Farlin, David Gangwish completed an Android malware and Android security research project.

Eric Bergh and Tyler Branstiter created the Scatter Kindness Company (SKC) website: scatterkindness.com. SKC exists to demonstrate that kindness changes everything; to remind people daily of how their actions and words can impact others. Four friends started this clothing company after two of their friends committed suicide. To further strengthen their efforts at preventing suicide, SKC donates $1.00 to the Ganley Foundation for every shirt they sell. The Ganley Foundation is a non-profit organization that educates communities about depression and works to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness so that people can receive the help they need.

Joel Meyer and Michael Sall developed a business plan for SMB Technology Consulting, http://smbtc.us/, an IT Consulting Company. As part of their company, they created, Wobini, an Android map application for the UNK campus. News station 10/11 interviewed students about the UNK map application that they created. http://www.1011now.com/video?

autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=6776991

Jonathan Birbal developed a 3-D game using open GL.
FALL 2011 CSIS STUDENT PROJECTS

The Fall 2011 student projects were not limited to the senior seminar class, but also included projects from many courses as well as some independent projects.

The CSIS 440 Client-side Web Development students joined together with the CSIS 499 Cloud Computing class for several online projects. Tyler Adelung, Kelsey Bard, Dan Farlin and Youngjun Kim developed an online Movie Rental Store. Shuangshi Han and Aaron Mitchell created an online planner. Eric Bergh, Jackie Galdamez, and Ben Hinrichsen created a mobile podCast site for the UNK Website, http://podcasts.unk.edu/indexmobile.php. Nick Johnson, Youngjun Kim, and Jun Bo Shim created a news portal. Garrett Kearney, Ryan Levell, and Scott Tallmage created a trollbook social networking site, and Tyler Neal created an online survey site.

Wen Luo, shown above, completed an independent project where he turned his Android phone into a remote control for his presentation. Aaron Mitchell created an independent project entitled, “Starting out with jPCT-AE for Android 3D development”.

The CSIS 404 Software Engineering students created Project X, a 2D game using open GL.

SPRING 2012 CSIS STUDENT PROJECTS

The CSIS spring 2012 student project presentations were held on May 1st, 2012. Both the fall and spring student presentations were open to the public and CSIS alumni and business partners attended.

The CSIS 406 Server-side Internet Programming class presented their project, the Wobini Website for managing Wobini-based map projects.

CSIS 441 Artificial Intelligence students completed individual projects. Jacob Beck developed a philosophy chat bot, Jacob Garabrant developed a sorting robot, Rikiya Ishizaki created a legal chat bot, Eric Jensen, shown below, developed an AI to ‘solve’ the board game ‘Ticket to Ride’, Scott Tallmage developed an AI to ‘solve’ Sudoku, Ben Versaw developed an AI to generate maze-like levels for games, and Jeonghoon Yun developed an Monopoly-like game.

Independent projects included an exploration of the server platforms for Fortune 500 companies by Michael Sall; an need/overview study of a Computer Forensics Program at UNK, by Michael Sall; an Undergraduate Research Fellowship (URF) project on experimenting with LED energy usage by Kelsey Nuzum; an URF project assessing case-base coverage using solution similarity by Tyler Adelung and an URF project; and an URF project on an aviation management information system by Kelsey Bard.
The CSIS Department selected Tyler Adelung, Kelsey Bard, and Daniel Farlin as the outstanding graduates for spring 2012. This award is based on scholarly activities, academic achievement and service to the department, university and community.

TYLER ADELUNG

Tyler Adelung graduated summa cum laude with honors, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science Comprehensive and Mathematics Comprehensive. Tyler served as a math and computer science tutor at the Learning Commons. He served as the vice president of ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) at UNK and is a member of KME (Kappa Mu Epsilon - Math honor society). He also worked on an Undergraduate Research Fellowship (URF) project, mentored by Dr. Hastings, which he presented at NCUR (National Conference for Undergraduate Research). Last summer he participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates at UNO funded by NSF and DOD. In the fall he will attend the University of Wisconsin – Madison for M.S. degree in Computer Science.

KELSEY BARD

Kelsey Bard graduated summa cum laude with honors, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Computer Science and a minor in Management Information Systems. Kelsey completed an URF project, mentored by Dr. Harms, where she designed and implemented an information system for the UNK Aviation program. She then expanded this work by completing a usability study of the system. Kelsey presented this research at the 2011 and 2012 NCURs; and at the 2011 and 2012 UNK Student Research Days. Kelsey also participated in the Midwest Instruction & Computing Symposium 2011 robotics and programming competitions, held in Duluth, MN, and in the 2010 Colorado Celebration of Women in Computing, in Denver, CO. She also participated in the past three international ACM programming competitions. For the past two years, she has served as the student advisor on the CSIS Advisory Council and the CSIS College Fellow. She also served this past year as the president of the UNK student chapter of the ACM. While being active on campus, and dedicated to her academics, she also maintained a part-time software quality assurance position with Buckle, Inc. here in Kearney, where she will continue her employment after graduation.

DANIEL FARLIN

Dan Farlin graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree with a double major in Computer Science and Mathematics. Dan served as a Computer Science and Math Tutor for the past three years. He also participated in four international ACM programming competitions, placing as high as fifth place in the Midwest region. The CSIS Department hired Dan to teach our CSIS 130 lab course for the spring 2012 semester. He had full responsibility for this course, including preparing the labs, communicating with the students, maintaining the course Blackboard site, and grading the labs. While being active on campus, and dedicated to his academics, he also maintained a part-time software development position with Zyantus, here in Kearney, where he continued his employment after graduation.
Tenth Annual UNK Robotic Competition: Grid-World Robots was held as part of the CSIS 441 Artificial Intelligence class in April 2012. This year, the objective of the competition was for the robot to navigate a grid-world with obstacles to find a goal. The robot that successfully navigated two grid-worlds in the shortest combined time was the winner, according to the Midwest Instructional Computing Symposium (MICS) competition specifications.

Rikiya Ishizaki’s robot placed 3rd at the MICS Competition in Cedar Falls, IA. He received a $200 award.

Jacob Garabrandt, Scott Tallmage II and Joshua Wilson, local first place team, with their robot Dorsal Destroyer

Eric Jensen, with Magnesium, 2nd

Ben Versaw, with ‘Team Awesome’

Jacob Beck, with ‘Unshifting Shadows’

Jeonghoon Yun, with ‘Maze Breaker’

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Robert Harbols, Manager of Web Systems Development at Buckle, Inc. discussed IT-related careers and expectations from employers on November 17, 2011.

Garrett Kearney, a web developer for Buckle Inc. and a CSIS student, provided a demonstration on Selenium to CSIS faculty and students on Dec 7, 2011. Selenium software is a web testing software used by many companies.

Jeffrey D. Blackmon, CISSP, CBCP, MBCI, ITIL(F) and UNK alumni presented “Information Collection Creep” on March 2, 2012 to the UNK campus. He discussed demographic data collection and where we possibly may be heading in the very near future if we are not careful. His presentation was well attended by faculty and students from across campus.
The CSIS Department, together with the MIS and Telecommunications programs, once again sponsored an Information Technology breakfast for students and business professionals on the morning of the spring UNK Career Fair, February 2012. Over thirty companies were in attendance—the largest number of companies yet. Companies represented included: Buckle Inc., Cabela’s, Chief Industries, Diamond Plastics, ESU-10, Intellicom, Inc., MIPS Inc., NPPD, Sandhills Publishing, and Xpanxion. This event is always a great opportunity for students to seek internships and full-time employment.

As shown above, Rob Harbols, Buckle Inc, explains Buckle IT job opportunities to CSIS student, Rachel Decker. Kelsey Bard, CSIS student, is shown below meeting with Todd Minchow, a Kidwell representative. Kelsey served as the CSIS MC for the event.

Rob Harbols, Manager of Web Systems Development at Buckle Inc., was awarded the Friend of the CSIS Department for 2012. This award goes to a person or organization that has gone above and beyond in support of our programs and students.

Sherri Harms, CSIS Chair, presents Rob Harbols, Manager of Web Systems Development at Buckle Inc, with the 2012 Friend of the CSIS Department Award

Rob Harbols, Manager of Web Systems Development at Buckle Inc., was awarded the Friend of the CSIS Department for 2012. This award goes to a person or organization that has gone above and beyond in support of our programs and students.

Rob is a member of the CSIS Advisory Council. He has employed numerous CSIS students and alumni. Rob started the Buckle IT-careers internship program. He also observes and evaluates CSIS student project presentations and has made classroom presentations. The CSIS faculty is truly appreciative of all the ways Rob is a friend of the CSIS Department.

FACULTY PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS


STUDENT RESEARCH

Five CSIS students presented at the UNK Student Research Day (SRD) and four at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) at Ogden, UT. CSIS students also presented at the Fall Student Research Symposium and completed undergraduate research fellowships and independent projects.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS


UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Kelsey Bard, 2011-2012, Dr. Sherri Harms.


STUDENT PRACTICUMS

Tyler Adelung, Spring 2012, Dr. John Hastings.

Josh Wilson, 2011-2012, Dr. Sherri Harms.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Bard, Kelsey, CSIS 494: UNK Aviation Program Information System (Spring 2012)

Luo, Wen, CSIS 493/494: Android Remote Control App (Fall 2012)

Sall, Michael, CSIS 494: Fortune 500 Company Server Platforms (Spring 2012)

Sall, Michael, CSIS 495: Computer Forensics Program (Spring 2012)

Mitchel, Aaron, CSIS 495: 3D Android Game & Android Asteroids Game

Tyler R. Christensen, Fall 2011, Buckle Inc, Kearney, NE.

Nathaniel J. Coleman, Fall 2011, Xpanxion Inc., Kearney, NE.

Stephen Hunter, Fall 2011, ESU-10, Kearney, NE.

Aaron L. Mitchell, Fall 2011, Buckle Inc, Kearney, NE.

Mathew A Zulkoski, Fall 2011, Intellicom Inc., Kearney, NE.

Tyler Branstiter, Spring 2012, Valley Medical Management Systems, Kearney, NE.

Adam Zheng, Spring 2012, Kearney Public Schools, Kearney, NE.

David Hunter, Summer 2012, NPPD, Kearney, NE.

Daniel Houle, Spring 2012, Buckle Inc, Kearney, NE.

Kelsey Nuzum with her poster and LED display at Student Research Day
CSIS GRADUATE LIST

FALL 2011

Dr Hastings, Dr. Harms, Dr. Liu, Mr. Alavi, Ry Lowry, Mr. Swenson, Aaron Mitchell, with Jeanne Chamberlin in front, at the fall 2011 graduation tea.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Christensen</td>
<td>CIS (Buckle, Kearney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ry Lowry</td>
<td>CS (Buckle, Kearney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wen Luo</td>
<td>CS (U. Texas-Dallas grad school)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Mitchell</td>
<td>CS (Buckle, Kearney)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPRING 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Adelung</td>
<td>CS (U. Wisconsin grad school)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsey Bard</td>
<td>CS (Buckle, Kearney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Farlin</td>
<td>CS (Zyantus, Kearney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Gangwish</td>
<td>CIS (Buckle, Kearney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel Meyer</td>
<td>CIS (SMB Technology Consulting )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Sall</td>
<td>CIS (Cerner, KC, MO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeonghoon Yun</td>
<td>CS Exchange Student (USC grad school)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rikiya Ishizaki</td>
<td>CS Exchange Student (Japanese grad school)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALUMI NEWS

Matt Culver (2004) and his wife had a baby boy, Teagan, last fall. Matt is employed at Design Data, Lincoln, NE.

John Fleck (1992) is a Senior Systems Engineer at Cerner Corp, in Kansas City, MO.

Brandon Gockley (2002) is a Director of IT Infrastructure at Heartland Health in Kansas City, MO.

Oleksiy Golovin (2009) is a Drupal Developer at ImageX Media in Lincoln, NE.

John Gorman (2001) is a Program Manager at Wide River TEC in Lincoln, NE. John received his MS in Health Informatics from the University of Missouri.

Rafael Guerrero (2001) is the Director of Information Services & Technology, at Zingenuity, in Dallas, TX.

Mike Hamm (1986) is the manger of IT Mfg Support for Weyerhaeuser in Seattle, WA.

Thomas Hoaglund (1984) is a Sr Database Management Analyst at Cabela’s World’s Foremost Bank, in Lincoln.

Jeff Hutchinson (2000) is a Structural Designer/Database Programmer for Belcan in Hagerstown, MD.

Kipp Jones (1988) is a Chief Architect for Skyhook Wireless in Medfield, MA.

David Klien (1997) is a Project Manager at LXF in Wilmington, Delaware.

Dustin Kozal (2005) is a Java Developer for Allston Trading, in Chicago, IL.

Jamie Kramer (2003) is the Chief Operating Officer at Elearning Experts LLC in Kansas City, MO.

Kahla Nelson Mathewson (1999) is the Internet Analytics Manager at Cabelas in Sydney, NE.

Cheryl Gray Miller (1984) is an Application Developer Director, VP at State Street Bank in Kansas City, MO.

Matt Miller (2003) completed his PhD in Computer Science from Kansas State. He is an Asst Professor of Computer Science at Dakota State University.

Carrie Payne (2001) is an Engineer at Fannie Mae, in Washington, D.C.

Justin Poston (1999) is a Software Engineer at Harris Corp in Omaha, NE.

Clark Schanse (1991) is a Sr Manager of Enterprise Data Architecture at Pay Pal in Omaha.

Brian Spradlin (2000) is a Content Management Systems Specialist for the University of Nebraska Lincoln.

Nick Steele (2005) is an IT Infrastructure Support Analyst for the Nebraska Crime Commission, Lincoln, NE.

Cindy Harris Stevens (1986) is an Information System Manager at Mutual of Omaha, Omaha, NE.

Wilmer Villar (1992) is an Operations and Technology Manager at MetLife Alico in Columbia, South America.

Luke Ward (1998) is a Mobile App Developer at Infovisa, Inc in Lone Tree, CO.

Kyle Williams (2008) is a Lead Developer at Purple Crayons New Media, Denver, CO. He also helped found http://sporktechnologies.com/ in India.