

Upcoming Events

- December 5: HCI Supervisory Committee
- December 7: HCI Anniversary Luncheon and Faculty Retreat
- December 14: End of Fall 2007 Semester and Graduate Commencement
- December 24 and 25: University Holidays
- January 1: University Holiday
- January 14: Classes for S08 Semester begin

Inside this issue:

Fall 2007 Graduates	2
HCI Open House	3
Michael Schrage	3
K.C. Dohse Engagement	3
Supervisory Committee Minutes	4

HCI Celebrates 5 year Anniversary on December 7 with Luncheon and Faculty Retreat

A luncheon to celebrate the five year anniversary of the HCI program will be held on Friday, December 7 from noon to 1:30 pm in the Howe Hall Atrium. All HCI students and faculty are invited and encouraged to attend. We plan to have a Nintendo Wii game available for all to play and Jim Oliver will speak briefly about the program's accomplishments and about the future of the program. New HCI faculty will be introduced and Fall 2007 graduates will be recognized. Winners of the Virtual Pumpkin Carving Contest held on Halloween will be announced. Please let Pam Shill know if you are planning to attend, if you have not already done so.

The luncheon will be followed by the Annual HCI Faculty Retreat. **ChiuShui Chan** and **Jim Oliver** have been planning the Retreat Agenda and they hope to have a great faculty turn out for this, which will run from 1:30-4:30 pm in the Howe Hall Atrium. Some of the topics for discussion at the retreat include:

Review of our current mission and are we fulfilling this charge?

Curriculum discussion and report from the Curriculum Committee.

How can we nurture collaboration to foster interdisciplinary research?

Definition of scholarship for HCI faculty.

How can we encourage departments to hire in support of what HCI is doing?

What are the future five year plans?

If you have topics to suggest for discussion at the retreat, please contact ChiuShui Chan, Jim Oliver, or Pam Shill.

We encourage you to attend one or both of these events on December 7. We value your opinions and need your support of the program.

Please watch the HCI website for a new student group webpage, to be coming the first week in December. This page will be found under the Current Students tab, then under the Student Group link on the HCI webpage. Students will be encouraged to use the new wiki to comment about courses, events, curriculum, or to post announcements or items of interest to the program.

Fall 2007 HCI Graduates

This semester the HCI Graduate program will graduate four students, three with MS degrees and one with a PhD.



Yuzhu Lu, a student of Shana Smith in Ag and Biosystems Engineering will earn his PhD. His research topic dealt with Methods for Augmented Reality E-Commerce. Yuzhu is currently living in Minneapolis and working for Wolfram Research (Mathematica) in Champaign, Illinois. He creates 3D graphics for their user interface group.

K.C. Dohse will graduate with his MS in HCI. K.C. worked with Derrick Parkhurst in Psychology and Jim Oliver. His thesis title is *Effects of field of view and stereo graphics on memory in immersive command and control*. At this time, K.C. is uncertain of his future plans but is considering a job in industry or continuing on for his PhD.



Ken Kopecky will also graduate with his MS in HCI. Ken worked with Eliot Winer in Mechanical Engineering. His master's thesis was on real-time water rendering and physics engine integration. Ken will stay at ISU and continue on to work towards his PhD in HCI.

Josh Brown will graduate with his MS in HCI. Josh worked with Jim Oliver. His research was on the exploration of using a distributed multiagent system as a framework to create a massively distributed virtual environment. Josh is currently employed by the University of Texas in a military research lab. He spent three years working for EA Interactive on football games.

Congratulations to these students and their major professors!

Recruiting Open House on February 1

The HCI Graduate Program will hold an Open House on Friday, February 1 for prospective graduate students and undergraduate advisors to attend. This Open House will give prospective students a close-up look at the program and an opportunity to meet with faculty and students. It will also help to increase program awareness on campus.

HCI faculty and students will be asked to give presentations and/or technical demonstrations of their research. They will also be asked to make time in their day to meet with some of the prospective students. Please mark your calendars now for this event.

The schedule for the day will be posted to the HCI website soon.

Michael Schrage to speak at ETC2008

Michael Schrage has agreed to speak at ETC2008 on Friday, April 4. Michael is affiliated with the MIT Media Lab and is author of *Serious Play: How the World's Best Companies Simulate to Innovate*. More information about him can be found on his website at <http://ebusiness.mit.edu/schrage/>

ETC2008 will kick off on the evening of Thursday, April 3 with Ignite IT and will continue with the HCI Forum on Friday, April 4. All HCI students will be asked to present posters of their research and volunteers will be needed to give technical demonstrations. The annual Tech Demo Contest will also be held.

More information about ETC2008 will be announced after the first of the year.

K.C. Dohse Engagement Makes National News

K.C. Dohse was busy with more than just preparing for his final oral exam the night before he defended his thesis for his MS in HCI. He was busy lighting up windows in the Towers Dorm to spell out “marry me” for a proposal to his girlfriend Amanda Haubrich.

News items telling about his proposal were seen on CNN, Inside Edition, and the CBS Morning News, as well as on the local CBS station.

K. C. and Amanda will be married this summer.



Photo by Nirmalendu Majumdar/
The Tribune

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HCI Graduate Numbers

FY 05—5 graduates

4 MS, 1 PhD

FY 06—7 graduates

6 MS, 1 PhD

FY 07—8 graduates

6 MS, 2 PhD

Anticipated FY 08—24 graduates

16 MS, 8 PhD

November HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting

The HCI Supervisory Committee met on November 14. The following topics were discussed:

Jim Oliver reported that the Search Committee agreed that hiring a person on the “H” side of HCI was a priority. The Committee is in the process of editing the ad. Suggestions for placement of the ad are welcome.

The HCI Faculty Retreat and anniversary celebration luncheon will take place on Friday, December 7. ChiuShui Chan is recommending that the retreat focus on the priorities of curriculum structure, new hire priorities, student concerns, and departmental relationships.

The program will hold an HCI Open House on Friday, February 1 to recruit new students and to inform undergraduate advisors about the program. It will be important for

faculty to participate so that they can meet some of the applicants to the program. Our hope is that this will help us to make more timely offers of admission to our applicants and to be more efficient in the recruiting process.

Jim Oliver will meet with Doug Jacobson and Doug Gemmill to collaborate on a capstone course for the MS non-thesis program.

Pam will create separate checklists for the MS and PhD programs and will bring edited versions to the next committee meeting.

Michael Schrage will speak on April 4 at ETC2008. Ignite IT will be held on Thursday evening, April 3, followed by the HCI Forum on Friday, April 4.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5.