

Upcoming Events

- February 1: HCI Recruiting Open House
- February 3: HCI SuperBowl Party at Helen Colvin's
- February 5: HCI Primary Results Party at Mike Oren's

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HCI Students invited to CHI2008

This year the HCI Graduate Program had two teams working to submit projects for the Student Design Competition for the Computer Human Interaction 2008 Conference, one of the premier HCI Conferences in the world. One of our teams has been invited to present their project in April in Florence, Italy.

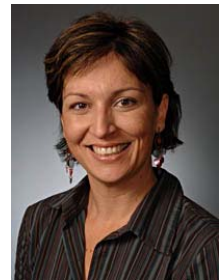
The interdisciplinary team of **Zayira Jordan**, **Eric Marsh**, **Andy Luse**, and **Eva Tao** has been working to design GuardDV: A Proximity Detection Device for Homeless Survivors of Domestic Violence. This is a system that addresses the safety concerns of survivors of domestic violence who do not possess a stable residence. The system warns the potential victim and the corresponding police organizations about the physical proximity of the aggressor.

Their project was one of ten chosen from over forty projects submitted worldwide. The team will travel to the conference to present their poster and a demo of their design. From these poster presentations, four teams will be chosen to give paper presentations to the conference attendees. The top four entries will earn a Certificate of Recognition. The winning team will be recognized during the closing plenary session of the CHI 2008 conference and will receive up to four student conference registrations for CHI 2009.

This year the CHI2008 Conference challenged students to design an object, interface, system or service intended to support the homeless. The teams were asked to use methods of ethnography and contextual research to understand the problem space, and develop user-centered design solutions to support, assist, enhance or otherwise benefit the target audience.

Zayira, Andy, and Eva work with **Tony Townsend** in LOMIS. Eric Marsh works with **Jim Oliver** in Mechanical Engineering.

This is the first design team from Iowa State to participate in the Student Design Competition. Congratulations to these students!



Zayira Jordan



Eric Marsh



Andy Luse



Eva Tao

Pam Shill will be out of the office on February 15-25. If you need assistance, please contact her before or after these dates.

HCI Recruiting Open House

The HCI Recruiting Open House was held on Friday, February 1 with 17 prospective students attending from across the nation. Students attended from California, Arizona, Utah, Texas, Wisconsin, Minnesota, as well as from across Iowa.

They spent the day hearing about research projects that HCI graduate students are involved in, seeing technical demonstrations, participating in CHI Lunch Seminar, attending a Funding and Admissions Workshop, meeting individually with faculty members, and enjoying an end of the day social hour with faculty and graduate students.

Thank you to all of the faculty who participated by attending the event and meeting with the prospective students. This event would not have been a success without your participation.

Thank you to all of the HCI Graduate students who gave demos, attended the event and met with the prospective students.



Stephen Gilbert describes some of the research projects that HCI graduate students participate in during the opening session of the HCI Open House.

HCI Forum

ETC2008 will be held on April 3-4, with Ignite IT on Thursday April 3 and the HCI Forum Designing Interaction on Friday, April 4. The keynote speaker will be Michael Schrage, who is senior adviser to MIT's Security Studies Program. He also advises organizations on the economics of innovation through rapid experimentation, simulation and digital design.

All HCI students are required to present a poster, with two poster sessions scheduled for Friday, April 4. Electronic versions of your posters are due on Friday, March 14.

HCI students are also encouraged to present a technical demonstration. The tech demo contest will be held again this year. Please contact Pam Shill as soon as possible if you are planning a tech demo.

New Graduate Student Teaching Certificate

The Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching is pleased to announce a new certificate program especially for graduate students bound for teaching careers at four-year institutions. The Graduate Student Teaching Certificate program is now accepting applications.

This certificate program aims to enhance the professional development of graduate students who want to become professors in four-year schools of higher education emphasizing teaching. The certificate provides teaching knowledge and experience, focused as much as possible in the home discipline, for graduate students across the university. It is not a state teacher certification program.

More information about this program can be found at <http://www.celt.iastate.edu/gstc/> or by contacting Karen Bovenmyer at melig@iastate.edu.

Largest Graduating Class this Spring

The HCI Graduate program expects to graduate a total of 16 students this spring, making this the largest graduating class since the program began. At this time, there are 6 PhD students and 10 Masters students who are planning complete their program requirements.

It is recommended that they schedule their final oral exams early to be sure that their committee members will be able to attend.

Good luck to these students!

VRAC mentioned in Don Norman's new book

VRAC, **Jim Oliver**, and **Stephen Gilbert** are all mentioned in Don Norman's new book *The Design of Future Things*. Pictures of Don Norman in the C6 with **Tyler Streeter**, **David Kabala**, and **Tom Batkiewicz** are shown. These photos were taken when Don Norman visited the program during ETC2007.

Thank you to **Jeremiah Still** for bringing this to our attention. This is great publicity for the HCI Graduate program, as Don Norman's book is read world wide. Congratulations!

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HCI Applicants for Fall 2008

Domestic Applicants = 29

International Applicants = 57

Male Applicants = 53

Female Applicants = 28

Total number of applicants = 81

January HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting

The HCI Supervisory Committee met on January 9, 2008. The following topics were discussed:

Jeremiah Still reported that VRAC and Jim Oliver were mentioned in Don Norman's new book, along with pictures of the C6. He also reported that the students are busy with projects to submit to the CHI Conference. The student group is in the process of creating a constitution for the student group using GPSS guidelines.

The committee discussed suggested changes to the curriculum that were brought up at the HCI Retreat. Flexibility of the program was discussed, determining that the four course requirement for MS students and the six course requirement for PhDD students will still give students the flexibility in the courses that they

choose for their POS. It was determined that we are lacking courses in the Design category. It would be good if the program could develop a design process course. Jim Oliver and Julie Dickerson will look into engineering design courses to see if there are any that might apply to our program. Steve recommended that ArtIS 508 Computer Aided Visualization is added to the Implementation category. It was also suggested that faculty should be asked to recommend courses in each of the four areas. Further discussion of the HCI Seminar is needed. The curriculum discussion will continue at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 13 at 9 am in the VRAC Conference Room.