

Upcoming Events

- January 9: HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting
- January 14: Spring 2008 semester begins
- January 18: HCI Search Committee Meets
- January 18: Last date to file an Application for Graduation for Spring 2008
- February 1: HCI Recruiting Open House
- April 3-4: ETC 2008 and HCI Forum

Inside this issue:

HCI Anniversary Luncheon	2
HCI Retreat Recap	2
HCI Open House	3
HCI 591	3
New Alumni webpage	3
Supervisory Committee Minutes	4

New HCI Students

Seven new HCI students will join our program beginning with the Spring 2008 semester.

John McSwain of Douglasville, Georgia will join the HCI MS program as an off-campus student. He earned his BS in Web Technologies from the University of Connecticut and is also enrolled in the HCI Graduate Certificate program. He will be working with **Stephen Gilbert**.

Sheng Ly will begin working on his MS in HCI under the direction of **ChiuShui Chan**. Sheng received his BS in Computer Engineering from ISU in May 2006. He is currently working in the Greenlee School of Journalism and Communication as a Media Information Specialist/System Analyst at ISU.

Gerrick Bivens will be working on his PhD in HCI with Mark Bryden. Gerrick earned his BS in Aerospace Engineering and his MS in Mechanical Engineering from ISU. He is currently employed as a VE Suite Software Manager at VRAC. He will be working with **Mark Bryden**.

Patrick Kreymborg transferred to the HCI MS program from the Curriculum and Instruction department. He earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering from Oklahoma State University and currently works as a Graduate Assistant in Engineering Distance Education at ISU. His major professor is **Deb Satterfield**.

Daniela Faas will co-major in both HCI and Mechanical Engineering as she works on her PhD. Daniela came to ISU from Bucknell University, where she earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering, a BA in International Relations, and an MS in Mechanical Engineering. Her major professor is **Judy Vance**.

Levi Swartzentruber will co-major in both HCI and Mechanical Engineering as he works on his MS. Levi earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering from ISU and will work with **Eliot Winer**.

Matt Swanson will join the HCI MS program and will work with Alex **Stoytchev**. Matt earned his BS in Computer Engineering from ISU in December 2007.

We welcome these students to the HCI Graduate Program.

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

February 1: HCI Recruiting Open House in VRAC.

April 3-4: Dates for ETC 2008 and HCI Forum.

More information about these events will be announced in the future.

HCI Anniversary Luncheon

Approximately 85 faculty, students, and staff met for lunch in the Howe Hall Atrium on Friday, December 7 to celebrate the HCI Graduate Program's five year Anniversary. New faculty with an interest in HCI and department chairs were also invited to the luncheon. **ChiuShui Chan** served as the master of ceremony and invited **Jim Bernard** to talk about the history of the program, **Jim Oliver** to talk about past accomplishments and future directions, and **Chris Harding** to present the award for the pumpkin carving contest. After lunch, faculty and students played Nintendo Wii to test out the new game interface.



Janea Triplett and **Susana Vidrio Baron**, both HCI PhD students, help themselves to cake at the HCI Anniversary Luncheon on December 7.

HCI Faculty Retreat Recap

Immediately following the HCI Luncheon on December 7, twelve HCI faculty members gathered for a retreat. They discussed the topics of curriculum, collaboration, and scholarship, along with what they thought our program is and what it should be. Some of the action items that resulted from the retreat include:

- Find ways to bridge the gap between technical and non-technical HCI students.
- Continue to revise the curriculum.
- Create creative faculty collaboration opportunities.
- Define HCI scholarship, educate peers, and advocate for faculty.
- Find opportunities to train students as innovators and not technologists.
- Investigate a platform for getting other HCI programs together.

HCI Recruiting Open House on February 1

The HCI Graduate Program will hold a Recruiting Open House on Friday, February 1, 2008. All applicants to the program are invited to attend, along with any ISU undergraduate that is interested in the HCI Graduate program. ISU undergraduate advisors will also be invited to attend.

All HCI faculty are encouraged to attend the luncheon as well as the 4 pm social hour. This will be a great opportunity for faculty to get to know some of the applicants to the program. Some of the applicants may also contact you to set up an individual meeting with them that day.

HCI students will be asked to give demos of their research, attend the luncheon, and meet with the prospective students from 3-4 pm

More information will be emailed to both faculty and students before the event.

HCI 591 Seminar for Spring 2008

The HCI 591 Seminar will be held again during the Spring 2008 semester. Each week a different HCI faculty member will lead the discussion. All HCI students and faculty members are invited to attend as their schedule permits.

The course has a website at <http://www.hci.iastate.edu/HCI591> with the semester's schedule, as well as the schedule from the Fall 2007 semester.

All HCI students are encourage to enroll in this one-credit course. HCI faculty who are interested in leading the discussion for one week should contact Pam Shill.

New HCI Alumni Webpage

We are in the process of developing a new Alumni webpage. This page will help our current students stay in touch with their former classmates as well as provide good information to prospective students.

All alumni have been sent a survey to fill out to give us current information for the page. Please return these surveys as soon as possible.

Please check out the new page at <http://www.hci.iastate.edu/People/alumni.php>. The page will be active in January.

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Spring 2008

HCI Enrollment Numbers

MS students: 27

PhD students: 46

Certificate students: 14

Total number of HCI students: 87

December HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting

The HCI Supervisory Committee met on December 5. The following topics were discussed:

Jeremiah Still reported that the students will have a new look to their website, including a link to an internal wiki.

ChuiShui Chan reported that the HCI Faculty Retreat will take place on Friday, December 7, starting with a luncheon for faculty and students and followed by the retreat from 1:30-4:30 pm. The agenda for the retreat was discussed. Jim Oliver and other faculty will be asked to talk during the luncheon about the history of the program, past accomplishments and future goals.

Brian Mennecke presented the report from the Curriculum Committee. The committee recommends aligning the curriculum with the ACM definition of HCI, using course-

work from the four areas of Design, Implementation, Phenomena, and Evaluation. Discussion followed with concerns expressed about the ability to include undergraduate programming courses on a POS and that courses under the evaluation umbrella should be required by MS students as well as PhD students. A suggestion was made to include the HCI 591 Seminar as a required course for all students. Action was not taken at this meeting, as discussion about the curriculum will take place at the faculty retreat. The curriculum discussion will be put on the agenda for the January meeting. After the Supervisory Committee edits the proposal, the new curriculum will be sent to the HCI faculty for a vote.

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