

Upcoming Events

- December 7—
VRAC/HCI Holiday
Party 10 am
- December 11-15—
Finals Week
- December 15—
Graduation 8:00 pm
in CY Stephens
Auditorium
- December 25-26—
Holiday, University
offices closed

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HCI Graduates this Fall

Two students in the HCI program will earn their graduate degrees this fall semester.

Lew Hill will graduate with his PhD. Lew wrote his dissertation on the Synesthetic Music Experience Communicator. He has been successful in combining his musical and graphical creativity with his engineering skills. Lew received his BS and his MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Iowa State University. He will be awarded a Research Excellence Award for his PhD dissertation and his research. Lew has not made a decision about his future plans.

Jim Oliver served as Lew's major professor.



Lew Hill



Tom Erlemeier

Tom Erlemeier will graduate with his MS in HCI. Tom's thesis was titled "The Development of a Virtual Reality Based CAD System for Design Review." **Jim Oliver** served as Tom's major professor. Tom works as a product engineer for John Deere Waterloo Works.

In addition to these two students, four students will earn a graduate certificate in HCI this December. These students are

Bradley Anderson from Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids,
Thomas Cheng from Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids,
Krista Thompson from Lockheed Martin in Texas, and
Xianyi (Henry) Huang.

Congratulations to all of these students!

The VRAC office will not be staffed during the week of December 25. Staff will be back on Tuesday, January 2.

VRAC/HCI Holiday Gathering Thursday, December 7 10 am VRAC front office 1620 Howe Hall

Please bring a food item to share.

HCI faculty and students are invited.

Sean Cordes Publications

Sean Cordes has had several publications this fall. Articles in peer review publications include the following:

Cordes, Sean. "Podcast Pilots for Distance Planning, Programming, and Development," *Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning* 2 (4) (2006): 79-91.

Cordes, Sean. "Big wings, No bull: Do-it-yourself podcasts for the distributed course." Invited paper published in the refereed conference proceedings of the Brick & Click Libraries Academic Library Symposium, November 3, Maryville, Missouri, 2006.

He also gave presentations this fall at the Brick and Click Libraries Symposium in Maryville, Missouri and at the Internet Librarian 2006, Integrated Experiences: Compelling Content Combinations in Monterey, California.

Sean is an Assistant Professor at the Parks Library working on his PhD in HCI. His major professor is **Anthony Townsend**.

HCI Faculty Honors

Honors awarded to HCI faculty include the following:

Carl Chang, Computer Science chair, was honored with the 2006 IBM Faculty Award. This award recognizes outstanding faculty and encourages collaboration between IBM and researchers at leading universities worldwide. Professor Chang was also appointed to a two year term as editor-in-chief of *Computer Magazine*, which is published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society.

Eric Cooper, Psychology, was named the Jerry Shakeshaft Master Teacher in Humanities and Social Sciences given by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The American Society for Engineering Education gave **Shana Smith**, Ag and Biosystems Engineering, the 2005 Editor's Award for her paper titled "Integrating Computer-generated Stereoscopic Models into an Introductory Design Course."

Vasant Honavar, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and several of his colleagues were honored with the best paper award at the IEEE International Conference on Tools with Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI 2006) during November in Washington, DC.

If you know of other HCI faculty that have been honored, please let me know so that I can include an announcement of the award in a future newsletter.

Conference Presentation



Kim Nelson, and her faculty advisor **Nir Keren**, attended the annual conference for the National Association of Industrial Technology in November in Cleveland, Ohio. Kim's presentation at the conference was titled "Safety Training in a Virtual Reality Environment."

Kim is employed full time at the Iowa Pork Board and is working on her MS in HCI. Nir Keren is an Assistant professor in Ag and Biosystems Engineering.

***Kim Nelson,
HCI MS
student.***

New HCI Student Project

The HCI student group received \$450 in funding from the Graduate and Professional Student Senate to build a kiosk that will showcase scrolling presentations of VRAC/HCI research and other program information. The kiosk will also have multi-touch capabilities. Original plans indicate that the kiosk may be placed outside of the VRAC front office, but it will have the capability of being moved to different locations.

If you would like to help with this project, please contact **Matt Heying**.

HyVee Internship

Helen Colvin was awarded one of the HyVee "thinktank" internships. She will be given access to HyVee's resources and will work with a member of the HyVee IT department to get a close look at HyVee operations. She will be asked to use her creativity and out-of-the-box thinking to research, develop and possibly implement a project that will use cutting edge technologies to improve one of HyVee's processes. She will begin this internship in the Spring 2007 semester.

Helen will graduate this fall with her MBA and plans to graduate with her MS in HCI in May 2007. **Tony Townsend** is Helen's major professor.

Congratulations, Helen, and good luck!



***Helen Colvin, HCI MS
Student***

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Human Computer Interaction Graduate Program

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Please see our website at
www.hci.iastate.edu.

HCI Graduate Certificate Students

Certificate Admissions = **9**

Graduates through Fall 2006 = **5**

Number of non-degree seeking students taking HCI distance education certificate courses during the Fall semester = **14**

November HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting

The HCI Supervisory Committee met on November 8. The following topics were discussed:

Derrick asked Matt to take the idea of a service requirement to the student group for discussion.

Tony Townsend suggested that we look into learning communities for the HCI student group.

The discussion continued on the action items generated from the HCI Retreat. Suggestion was made to have short 3 minute video clips of faculty speaking about their research on the HCI website.

Kevin is working to create a discussion tool for the HCI student mentors.

Curriculum discussions will continue at future meetings.

Derrick suggested that a faculty award to recognize excellence in research, service, and teaching is created. This award would be presented at the HCI Forum. Chui-Shiu will lead the award committee.

The new budget model will be discussed at the Faculty Senate. Distribution of funding for interdisciplinary programs has not been determined.

ChuiShiu has a student from Taiwan that is interested in working on his PhD in HCI remotely. Pam will investigate.

Complete minutes can be found on the HCI website at <http://www.hci.iastate.edu/graddocs/showminutes.php?d=11-8-06>.