

## Upcoming Events

- January 5—New HCI Student Orientation 1:00 pm
- January 8—Spring 2007 Semester Begins
- January 12— Last date to file an Application for Graduation
- January 15— University Holiday, offices closed

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## Josh Reed in Antarctica

**Josh Reed**, HCI MS student, spent three months beginning October 9 at McMurdo Station on Ross Island in Antarctica. Josh was part of the AN-DRILL project, which is a multinational research project that is analyzing earth core samples to understand environmental changes in the area. The more than 200 project participants are from countries that include New Zealand, Germany, Italy, and the United States. Josh is currently scheduled to return on January 9th.



*Josh Reed, MS HCI student*

Josh contribution to the ANDRILL project included his creation and implementation of the PSICAT computer program, which he created to improve the process of recording core data and creating diagrams using that data. PSICAT stands for the Paleontological-Stratigraphic Interval Construction and Analysis Tool. Josh worked on his program for 18 months before he was able to put it into use in the ANDRILL project.

The ANDRILL project website links to a page dedicated to explaining Josh's PSICAT program and includes a description of the program's use. That page can be found at <http://andrill.org/science/psicat/index.html>.

Josh has been keeping up with this course work using distance education technologies, allowing him to view lectures asynchronously from his computer in Antarctica.

While in Antarctica, Josh was given the opportunity to take some field trips and hiking expeditions to some of the glaciers and sites of the area.

Josh was encouraged to participate in the project by his major professor **Cinzia Cervato**, Associate Professor in Geological and Atmospheric Sciences and a member of the HCI faculty. Cinzia is a consulting scientist to the ANDRILL project.

Josh's blog of his time in Antarctica can be found at <http://www.josh-in-antarctica.blogspot.com/>. The article about Josh's experience that was published in the ISU News and Events can be found at <http://www.iastate.edu/~nscentral/news/2006/dec/reed.shtml>.

## Six Students Admitted in Spring 2007

Six new HCI students have been admitted to the program this spring semester.

**Jeremy Bennett** will work on his MS degree, with **Jim Oliver** serving as his major professor. He graduated with his BS in Computer Engineering from Iowa State University in December 2003, then worked for UGS in Ames as a software engineer. Some of you may remember Jeremy from his undergraduate years when he worked in VRAC as an undergraduate research assistant. Jeremy will continue to work for UGS as he works on his degree.

**Jon Judge** is currently working on his PhD in Ag and Biosystems Engineering with **Nir Keren** and will begin his HCI co-major this semester. Jon received both his BS and his MS in Industrial Technology (Occupational Safety Option) from Iowa State University. Jon is a Program Coordinator/Safety Specialist at ISU's Department of Environmental Health and Safety, as well as a Safety Consultant with the Safety Training Instruction & Research Center in Ames. He also works as an independent Network Security Consultant.

**Janea Triplett** will officially begin her PhD in HCI this spring, although she has been taking HCI courses for the past several semesters. **Brian Mennecke** will serve as her major professor. Janea received her Bachelor of Liberal Studies from ISU and is working to complete her MS in Interdepartmental Graduate Studies.

**Susana Vidrio Baron** comes to ISU from Colima, Mexico. She will be working on her PhD with **Tony Townsend** serving as her major professor. She earned a Marketing undergraduate degree from ITESO in Mexico and an Electronic Commerce Masters Degree from ITESM in Colima, Mexico.

**Farrah Yusop** is working on her PhD in Curriculum and Instructional Technology and will begin her HCI co-major this spring. Farrah has a Bachelors of Management with Education (Information Technology) and a Masters in Instructional Technology from her home country of Malaysia. She will be working with **Ann Thompson**.

**Evrin Baran** will also be working on her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction Technology and her HCI co-major with **Ann Thompson**. She comes to ISU from Ankara, Turkey, where she earned her BS in Computer Education and Instructional Technology and her MS in Curriculum and Instruction.

We welcome these students to the HCI Program.

### HCI FORUM

*The HCI Forum will be this April. Dates will be announced soon, Please watch your email for further information.*

*If you know that you would like to provide a tech demo during the forum, please contact Pam Shill.*

## Internship Opportunities

**Derrick Parkhurst** has been working with companies in the area to provide internships to HCI students beginning this spring semester. Students will work at the internship for 10-20 hours per week and receive class credit. At this time, participating companies include Phasient Learning Technologies, Infiscape, and ClearSighted. More information about these internships can be found at [http://hcvl.hci.iastate.edu/lab\\_wiki/bin/view/Main/HCIInternships](http://hcvl.hci.iastate.edu/lab_wiki/bin/view/Main/HCIInternships)

If you are interested in any of these internships, please send your resume to Derrick as soon as possible.

## New Student Orientation

Orientation for new students in the HCI program will be Friday, January 5 at 1:00 pm in the VRAC Allbaugh Conference Room. All six of the new HCI students will be invited.

This orientation will cover program information that is especially of importance to HCI students. It will also give students an opportunity to ask questions they may have about the program.

**Matt Heying**, president of the student group will be invited to attend to speak about the HCI Student Group. **Kim Weaver** will speak about the Graduate and Professional Student Senate. HCI student mentors will also be invited.

## HCI Students to Participate in Veishea 2007

Iowa State will be celebrating its Sesquicentennial beginning with VEISHEA in April of 2007. The university would like to cover the campus with tents showcasing the activities of ISU students. The HCI Student Group has reserved a tent to be placed outside of Howe Hall on Saturday, April 21 from noon to 4:30 pm and will have a display for the public. Please mark your calendars now so that you are available to help out that day. More information about this will be coming at a later date from **Matt Heying**.

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Human Computer Interaction Graduate Program

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## HCI Students

PhD students = 42

MS students = 20

Number of students with co-majors = 23

Number of students admitted Spring 2007 = 6

Number of certificate students = 4

Total number of HCI students = 66

## December HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting

The HCI Supervisory Committee met on December 13. Following is a brief recap of the discussion:

Derrick and Pam met with most HCI students in November to check in to see if all were on track towards graduation and to answer questions. They found a few funding issues.

Information about a new service requirement for the program will be taken to students for input.

A request was approved for three students to substitute ArtGR 672 for HCI 575X because the new course was more in line with the students' professional goals

A request was approved for a student to substitute Research and Evaluation 552 for Stat 401 on her POS.

Discussion took place about sending some students to the Game Developer's Conference in March for recruiting. Because of the high cost of having a booth at the conference, other recruiting ideas were suggested. Derrick will investigate the cost of an ad in Wired.

The Fall 2007 application deadline was extended to March 1, 2007.

ChiuShui will get the HCI faculty's input on faculty awards.

Next meeting is Wednesday, January 10.

The complete minutes can be found on the HCI webpage at <http://www.hci.iastate.edu/supervisory.php#announcements>.