

## Upcoming Events

- May 4: Deadline for Applications for Graduation for the Summer 2007.
- May 4: End of the year Picnic at Moore Memorial Park
- May 4: Graduation
- May 14: Summer Classes begin.
- May 29: REU program begins

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## Congratulations to Spring 2007 HCI Graduates

Three students will graduate this spring with Masters of Science degrees in Human Computer Interaction.

**Emily Ericson** has been working with her major professor, **Shana Smith** from Ag and Biosystems Engineering, on an immersive game-based fire safety training program. Emily has accepted a position with Raytheon in Boston, Massachusetts. Emily has been active in the HCI student group, serving as treasurer.

**Chad Kilgore's** major professor is **Steven Herrnstadt** from Art and Design. Chad's thesis on gameplay helps both fans and critics to understand the formal medium of video games to better communicate and express a game's composition. Chad will be at ISU this summer helping with the summer REU program.

**Sumit Sharma's** thesis was focused on developing a virtual environment for ecological synthesis. He worked with U.S. Tim on this project. Sumit is now employed by Hazen and Sawyer in Tampa, Florida as a GIS modeler.

Congratulations to these students!

## Entrepreneurship Workshop to be offered this Fall

**Jim Oliver** will offer a new Entrepreneurship Workshop this fall. This one credit course will be of value to students interested in entrepreneurial activities with particular emphasis on starting up a company. Topics to be covered include developing a business plan, marketing, patents and intellectual property, costing, promotion, generating capital, and setting up shop. Speakers will be brought in to introduce relevant topics, provide resources, answer questions, and provide working examples and exercises. This workshop will meet once a week on Wednesdays from 1:10– 2 pm and is open to all students interested in this topic. It will also be offered to off-campus students.

If you are interested in enrolling in this course, please look for HCI 592X.

If you would like more information, please contact **Pam Shill**.

*The HCI Student Group invites you to an end of the year picnic on Friday, May 4 from 3-4 pm at Moore Memorial Park. Food will be from Hickory Park. You are asked to bring either drinks, chips or something to go with the meal. All HCI and VRAC faculty, staff, and students are invited.*

## REU Program to begin May 29

The SPIRE-EIT summer REU program will begin on Tuesday, May 29 and will end on August 4. Fifteen students from across the country will come to VRAC to study and perform research. The students will come from universities such as Harvard, West Virginia University, University of Evansville, Clemson University, University of Maryland, Truman State University, University of Arizona, Macalester College, Jackson State University, Drake University, and Iowa State.

The students will work in teams of three persons on a total of five research projects. They will conclude the program by presenting their research posters and tech demos on Friday, August 3 in a Research Symposium with the other REU programs on campus.

The SPIRE-EIT program will be led by **Jim Oliver** with assistance from **Chad Kilgore** and one other graduate student. Other graduate students and HCI faculty members will also be involved by leading research projects and teaching some of the short courses that will be offered.

## HCI Award Winners

During the HCI Forum, the HCI Graduate Program recognized several of its students and faculty for their contributions to the program. Nominees for HCI Student of the Year included **Liangshou Wu, Josh Reed, Lisa McGarthwaite, Michael Oren, Abhishek Seth,** and **Kim Weaver**. Nominees for Faculty Member of the Year were **Anthony Townsend** and **Derrick Parkhurst**. Kim Weaver was recognized as Student of the Year and Derrick Parkhurst was recognized as Faculty Member of the Year. **Jim Bernard** was also recognized with a special Founders Award for his vision, leadership and contribution to the HCI Graduate Program.

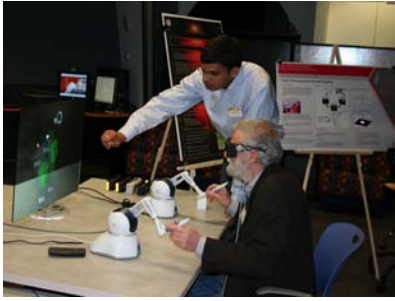
Thanks to all of the nominees for all that they contribute to the HCI Graduate Program. Congratulations to the award winners.

## HCI Students with Internships

Three more HCI students have summer internships. **Michelle Rusch** will be working near Washington, DC at the US Census Bureau in their HCI usability testing lab. **Lisa McGarthwaite** will be in Rochester, Minnesota working for IBM. **Yuzhu Lu** will be working for Leica Geosystems Geospatial Imaging in Norcross, Georgia. Yuzhu will be working on software development and helping to maintain and improve their image processing software system.

Congratulations to these students!

## ETC2007 Conference and HCI Forum Recap



**Abhishek Seth shows his SHARP demo to Don Norman.**

The Emerging Technologies Conference 2007 was held on April 25-27. The HCI Forum was on Wednesday, with 25 technical demonstrations and 48 posters presented by HCI students. Don Norman gave the keynote talk.

On Thursday, approximately 420 people toured the C4 and the C6 as part of the C6 Grand Opening. Jim Bernard moderated the Conversation with author Neal Stephenson on Thursday afternoon.

The conference continued Thursday evening with Ignite IT. Several attendees gave 5 minute rapid-fire talks during this event to share their tech-related passion in a creative and entertaining way. The evening ended with PowerPoint Karaoke.

On Friday, Guy Kawasaki gave the keynote talk, followed by talks by leaders in business and industry, and more tech demos and poster presentations.

Thanks to all who participated or helped with the conference.



**David Kabala with Jim Oliver and Guy Kawasaki in the C6.**

*A special thank you to everyone that volunteered during ETC2007. Many of you took time from your busy schedule to judge demos, serve as a tour guide, create applications for the C6, or show a tech demo. The conference was a success because of you.*

*Thank you!*

## HCI Received eDoc Mini Grant

The HCI program applied for and received an eDoc Mini Grant to develop templates for HCI student eportfolios. **Janea Triplett** is working to create two templates for the program. One template will be for the student to share with their POS Committee to show that they have met the program's learning objectives. The second template would be for students to share with prospective employers.

If you have suggestions or ideas to include in these templates, please contact Janea Triplett. She hopes to complete most of this work during the month of May.

## Nominations Needed for Student Group Officers

**Matt Heying** is asking for nominations for officers for the HCI Student Group for next year. Nominations are being accepted for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Two GPSS Senators, and a Webmaster.

Please email Matt Heying if you would like to nominate someone for any of these positions. You may also nominate yourself!

For a list of job duties for each position, please contact Matt.

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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## Next Newsletter in August

HCI News will not be sent to you during the summer. The next issue will be sent out in August.

If you have events or announcements that would be of interest to the HCI community at ISU, please let contact Pam Shill.

Have a good summer!

## Usability Relays Held during Veishea

On Saturday, April 21, the HCI Student Group participated in Veishea by holding Usability Relays. The students wanted to make the public aware of product design and how intuitive or usable products are made. Relay participants were asked to complete four tasks as quickly as possible using common household products. They were asked to set an alarm clock, program a contact into a cell phone, look up driving directions from one US landmark in Washington, DC to another, and then set the time on a microwave. Adults, children and students participated throughout the day.

**Kim Weaver** led and organized



Emily Ericson, Helen Colvin, Kim Weaver, Mike Oren, and Wen-Chieh Chang were just a few of the HCI students that volunteered to help at the HCI tent during Veishea.

the group. Students that volunteered to help with the relays included **Helen Colvin, Emily Ericson, Wen-Chieh Chang, Mike Oren, Matt Heying, Michelle Rusch, Tom Batkiewicz, Janea Triplett, Susana Vidrio-Baron, K.C.**

**Dohse, Marisol Martinez and Valerie Williams.** The group was also assisted by Pam Shill and her husband Mark.

**Mike Oren, Adam Faeth, and Jeremy Bennett** also demonstrated their Wiicussion project that they created for Alex Stoytchev's Computational Perception class.

**Mike Oren, Adam Faeth, Jeremy Bennett, and K.C. Dohse** test the Wiicussion demo at Veishea.

