

## Upcoming Events

- November 8—HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting
- November 20-24—Thanksgiving Break, Classes Recessed
- November 23-24—University Holidays, Offices Closed

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## HCI Eportfolios

The HCI Graduate Program requires that students create and turn in a copy of their eportfolios before graduation. There have been many questions about eportfolios and we hope to answer a few of those questions here.

The HCI eportfolio serves two purposes. The eportfolio is a tool for the professional advancement of the HCI student, allowing them a place in which to record their accomplishments and achievements. The eportfolio also serves as an assessment tool for the program, allowing evaluation of the seven program learning objectives.

The eportfolio can be contained in a webpage created by the student or, if a student is not comfortable creating a webpage for this purpose, a student can use the Electronic Portfolio (eDoc) program at Iowa State University. You can choose either the FreeForm or the General Template from their menu. Pam is in the process of working with the eDoc program to create a template for the HCI program that should be available in the future.

*Information about Iowa State University's Electronic Portfolio, or eDoc Program can be found at [www.celt.iastate.edu/it/eportfolio.html](http://www.celt.iastate.edu/it/eportfolio.html).*

The eportfolios should include documents that demonstrate the student's ability in the following areas, as outlined in the HCI Handbook:

1. The ability to articulate societal and ethical issues.
2. Understanding of emerging interactive technologies.
3. Ability to enable HCI in core discipline.
4. Ability to work in teams.
5. Ability to design a research project, formulate a proposal, and publish the results of the research.
6. Ability to work in more than one disciplinary area.
7. Ability to present work orally and in writing.

Students may want to include coursework, publications, posters or other presentations, thesis or dissertation research, demonstrations, seminar discussions or other talks, extra curricular team projects, and blogs to demonstrate their abilities in these areas. More information about the learning objectives that should be demonstrated in the eportfolio can be found in the HCI Student Handbook at [http://www.hci.iastate.edu/graddocs/HCI\\_Grad\\_Handbook\\_F06.pdf](http://www.hci.iastate.edu/graddocs/HCI_Grad_Handbook_F06.pdf).

*Pam's office hours in the month of November will be Monday through Thursday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. She will also be out of the office during Thanksgiving Break. She will be checking email while she is out of the office.*

*If you are interested in volunteering as an HCI mentor for the Spring 2007 semester, please contact Pam.*

## Preparing Future Faculty Program

Seven students in the Human Computer Interaction Graduate Program are participating in the Preparing Future Faculty Program (PFF) offered by Iowa State's Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching. According to the PFF website, the goal of the program "is to better prepare graduates for faculty careers through a combination of seminars, mentoring, and practical classroom and departmental service experiences."

The HCI participants in the program include:

<b>Andy Luse</b>	<b>Michelle Rusch</b>	<b>Lew Hill</b>
<b>Al Taylor</b>	<b>Vijay Kalivarapu</b>	
<b>Eva Tao</b>	<b>Troy Abel</b>	

## HCI Mentor Program

The HCI Student Group suggested that we begin a mentoring program for new HCI students. Beginning this fall semester, we will try to match current HCI student volunteers with new HCI students.

We hope that this program will help to integrate new students into both the research center and the graduate program more quickly, help to connect new students with someone who is able to answer their questions, encourage new students to become active in the HCI Student Group, and help to connect new students with students from other disciplines so that they become aware of the breath of the program.

Mentors are encouraged to meet informally with their student twice a month, introduce their student to other graduate students, provide reliable advice and support to their students when needed, and invite them to attend the HCI Student Group or social events.

The following HCI students have volunteered to be mentors for the Fall semester:

<b>Kim Weaver</b>	<b>Michelle Rusch</b>	<b>Zayira Jordan</b>
<b>Helen Colvin</b>	<b>Tom Batkiewicz</b>	
<b>Janea Triplett</b>	<b>Emily Ericson</b>	

Any students that are interested in being part of this new program are encouraged to contact Pam Shill.

# John Deere Day at VRAC

Over 50 representatives from John Deere were guests of VRAC on Thursday, October 26. These representatives were given overviews and updates on ten research collaborations between the company and VRAC. Several HCI students are working on these projects and had the opportunity to interact with the John Deere representatives during this visit. These HCI students include the following:

<b>Abishek Seth</b>	<b>Ruquin Zhang</b>	<b>Tylor Husske</b>
<b>Jivko Sinapov</b>	<b>Jesse Lane</b>	<b>Dan Shipton</b>
<b>Manjo Karkee</b>	<b>Kevin Godby</b>	
<b>Marisol Martinez</b>	<b>Ken Kopecky</b>	

*Students are invited to attend the VRAC/HCI faculty/staff meetings. Watch for emails from Lynette about the topic of the meeting and the meeting time and place.*

## New HCI Web Team

The HCI program is working to improve the HCI website. The goal is to make this site a source of program information for potential students as well as current students and faculty. The goal of this team is to have a new front page ready for publication by the beginning of the Spring semester. The members of the team include **Kevin Teske**, VRAC/HCI Systems Support Specialist, **Karen Gulbrandsen**, VRAC/HCI Graduate Assistant, **Sunghyun Kang**, HCI faculty member from Art and Design, and **Pam Shill**, HCI Administrative Specialist.

If you have suggestions for the HCI website, please contact one of the team members to let them know of your ideas.

## Fall Semester Meetings with Derrick and Pam

Derrick and Pam would like to meet with all HCI students this fall semester during the week of December 4 through 8. These meetings will be an opportunity for us to review your core HCI courses, your committee and POS paperwork, your graduation plans, and to discuss the status of your funding. This will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions or give us comments on your experiences as an HCI student.

Please watch your email in November for a request to schedule this meeting at a time that will be convenient for you.

## Fall 2006

### Human Computer Interaction Graduate Program

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[www.hci.iastate.edu](http://www.hci.iastate.edu).

### Graduation Deadlines

**November 1** Last day for graduate students to cancel graduation without being assessed a nonrefundable fee.

**November 22** Last day for final oral examinations.

**November 28** Last day to submit the signed Thesis/Dissertation Submission Request Form

**November 30** Last date for students with a thesis/dissertation to sign onto ProQuest for the thesis review and to get the thesis submission signature on the Graduate Student Approval Slip.

## October Supervisory Committee Minutes

Items discussed at the October 6 HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting included the following:

The students suggested a mentoring program for new HCI students, more demo opportunities for HCI students throughout the year, and some group projects for HCI students.

It was decided that faculty requesting HCI faculty status in the future will be asked to send in, along with their resume or cv, a paragraph about why they are interested in HCI faculty status and how their research applies to the HCI program.

Jim Oliver stated that the objective of a curriculum review is to open up more course options for students. Discussion will be continued at another meeting.

Items discussed at the October 18 HCI Supervisory Committee Meeting included the following:

The committee began discussing the action items that were suggested by those attending the HCI Retreat last May. The items discussed included the following:

Under the Collaboration Priority:

Faculty Research Presentations: This has been implemented by faculty being asked to present at VRAC/HCI faculty/staff meetings beginning this summer and continuing this fall semester.

Speed Collaboration (5 minute presentations): The committee will

ask Chad Harms to implement his idea of having faculty share their research topics in a format similar to "speed dating".

One-credit seminar mandatory for students to get to know faculty and their areas of research: Matt will ask students for their input on a mandatory seminar. Suggestion was made to hold brown bag lunches for students with faculty presenting their research in that forum.

Faculty Participation in "tagging" Networking opportunities as contributors to salient bodies of knowledge, i.e. "social bookmarking": Kevin Teske and Chris Harding presented this topic to VRAC/HCI faculty/staff meeting earlier this semester.

Under the Marketing Priority:

Website Review and Upgrade to include Faculty Accessibility: The web team is being created and work has begun on this.

National Media Event: A serious media outlet such as Science Friday or the Discover Channel was discussed. Chad Harms will be asked to look into this in conjunction with the HCI Forum or C6 Opening.

PKG Core Strengths: The Newsletter team will be asked to see if they have the time to work on some way to package our program's uniqueness.

The committee did not get through the list of action items, so this discussion will continue at the next meeting.