

Upcoming Events

- September 4:
Labor Day, no
classes
- September 6:
HCI Supervisory
Committee Meet-
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New HCI Students for Fall 2006

The HCI Graduate Program admitted nine students to the program this fall semester. They include:

Troy Abel: Troy is working on a PhD in HCI along with an MFA in Graphic Design. His major professor is **Roger Baer**. He came to ISU from Valparaiso University in Indiana where he earned his BA in Communications and his BSFA in Graphic Design.

Denise Bacher: Denise is working on her MS in HCI with **Steven Herrnstadt**. She received her BS in Computer Science from ISU in 2006.

Lisa McGarthwaite: Lisa is the HCI fellowship recipient for this year. She earned her BA in Computer Science and Graphic Design from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota in 2005 and is currently working on her MS in HCI with **Julie Dickerson**.

Michael Oren: Michael is working with **Chris Harding** on his MS in HCI and hopes to be able to complete his PhD in the future. He earned his undergraduate degrees in Computer Science and English from DePauw University, in Greencastle Indiana in 2006.

Shiva Parimi: Shiva came to ISU this fall from India and is working with **Alex Stoytchev** on his MS in HCI. He also plans to co-major in Mechanical Engineering. He earned his undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering from Acharya Nagarjuna University in India in 2006.

Jeremiah Still: Jeremiah earned his BS in Psychology from Missouri Southern State University in 2004, his MS in Psychology from ISU in 2006 and is currently working on his PhD in HCI with **Veronica Dark**.

Li-Shan (Eva) Tao: Eva is working on her PhD in Hospitality Management with a co-major in HCI. She is working with **Gary Hackbarth** on her HCI co-major. Eva earned her BS in Tourism from the Chinese Culture University in Taiwan and her MBA from St. John's University, New York in 2001.

Tanasha Taylor: Tanasha is working with **Shana Smith** on her MS in HCI. She earned her BS in Mechanical Engineering from ISU in 2006.

Sridher Kaminani: Sridher is working on his PhD in HCI while employed full time at Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids. He earned his undergraduate degree in Computer Science and IT from India and his MS in Computer Science from Western Kentucky University. **Jim Oliver** is his major professor.

We welcome all of these students to HCI!

The HCI Graduate Certificate Program admitted 7 students from 3 states into the program since March 2006.

HCI Grad Certificate

The HCI Graduate Certificate Program admitted seven off-campus students into the program since it was officially approved in March. These students are working for the following companies:

Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids

Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Des Moines

Iowa Foundation for Medical Care in West Des Moines

HyVee in Johnston

Lockheed Martin in Texas

Ceridian in Minnesota

There has been an increase in interest in the program this fall, with off-campus enrollments in two of the core certificate courses up significantly, and we anticipate many more applications to the program in the coming semester.

Tyler Streeter's Summer Internship

Tyler Streeter spent the summer at IBM's TJ Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, New York as an intern in the Biometaphorical Computing Research Group. This group includes researchers with backgrounds in electrical engineering, biology, and brain imaging. The group's overall focus is on global brain modeling, and Tyler's project was to implement and test a new computational model of the cerebellum.

The IBM TJ Watson Research Center is the headquarters for the IBM Research Division, the largest industrial research organization in the world. Established in 1961, the Watson Research Center spans three sites and four buildings and employs approximately 1790 persons between the four facilities.

Tyler's mentor at IBM was Dr. Charles Peck. Dr. Peck's interdisciplinary background encompasses neuroscience, machine learning and pattern recognition, engineering, computer science, and software engineering, among other areas. His work includes research on the relationship between neuroscience and computing.

Tyler received his MS in HCI in the Fall of 2005 and is currently working on his PhD in HCI.



Tyler Streeter

SPIRE-EIT Program a Success

The Summer Program for Interdisciplinary Research and Education-Emerging Interface Technologies (SPIRE-EIT), led by **Derrick Parkhurst**, wrapped up their nine week session with a joint poster session with students from other Research Experience for Undergrad (REU) programs on campus on the afternoon of Friday August 4. The fifteen interns in the program presented posters and technical demonstrations to those attending.

Even though this program was new for HCI/VRAC, there have been several REUs on campus in the past. New this year was coordination between the programs on campus that was led by Adah Leshem-Ackerman from the Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology Department. All of the colleges and units that had REU students on campus participated in a welcome picnic at the beginning of the summer, gathered to listen to speakers, including John Brighton, Vice Provost of Research, and enjoyed social events throughout the summer, in addition to the joint poster session. Kevin Saunders from the Provost Office also helped the programs develop assessments that were unique to each program. Each of the programs and the students in the programs benefited from this coordination.

Women in the SPIRE-EIT program also participated in the Program for Women in Science and Engineering (PWSE) REU program.



The REU program for HCI/VRAC received funding from NSF for three years.

Student Profiles on Web

Students should check their profiles on the HCI student webpage at <http://www.hci.iastate.edu/studentlist.php>.

If the profile is missing or needs updating, please email **Pam Shill** and let her know the text you would like to have posted. She can also send you a survey to fill out that will give you ideas about what to include in the text.

If your picture is missing from the website, please see **Karen Koppenhaver** in the VRAC front office to have your picture taken.

HCI Student Group to Meet Weekly

The HCI Student Seminar Group will meet weekly this semester. They plan to meet every Tuesday from 4:10—5 pm in Room 20 Howe Hall. All HCI students are invited to attend. They plan to ask several students to present their research at these meetings, invite speakers in, and hold social events throughout the semester.

The first student presenter will be **Susana Vidrio Baron** who will talk about her research in information systems. She is from the University of Colima in Mexico and is new to ISU this summer.

All HCI students are welcome to attend. Please contact **Matt Heying**, president of the group, for more information.

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Human Computer Interaction Graduate Program

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HCI Student Demographics

Fall 2006

Number of HCI students in program = 60

MS Students = 23

PhD Students = 37

Males = 44

Females = 16

Students with Co-majors = 23

HCI Supervisory Committee

The HCI Supervisory Committee is the group of faculty members responsible for review of all aspects of the HCI program, for guiding the establishment of policy, and for interpreting and implementing policies that have been established by the HCI membership.

The membership of the committee includes the Chair and Associate Chair in addition to four other faculty members and the president of the HCI Student Seminar Group. Faculty members of the committee serve three year terms.

The committee meets monthly on the first Wednesday of the month at 9 am in the VRAC Allbaugh Conference Room.

HCI Supervisory Committee Members for this year include:

Jim Oliver, Mechanical Engineering, Chair

Derrick Parkhurst, Psychology, Associate Chair

Julie Dickerson, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Chui Shui Chan, Architecture

Steven Herrstadt, Art and Design

Brian Mennecke, Logistics Operations, and Management Information Systems

Matt Heying, President of the HCI Student Group

Chad Harms from Journalism and Tony Townsend from LOMIS just completed their terms on the HCI Supervisory Committee.