Faculty Bits

Bill Marcy and Don Bagert participated in meetings involving the final votes of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers to license software engineers (the first state in the U.S. to do so). The CS department at TTU is in the process to gain approval for a Master’s in Software Engineering to educate future licensed Software Engineers.

During the past year, John Antonio and his research assistants have been working on a research project sponsored by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). This summer, Dr. Antonio traveled to DARPA (in D.C.) to present his group’s annual review for this effort. While on the east coast he also made presentations and toured the facilities at Mercury Computer Systems, Inc. and Annapolis Microsystems, Inc. These two companies are providing some equipment for the project, which involves the integration and combined use of two technologies: parallel embedded systems and reconfigurable computing systems. In July, a reporter from the Avalanche-Journal (the Lubbock newspaper) interviewed Dr. Antonio regarding this project - the article will be printed later this summer. Dr. Antonio is also busy with professional service activities. He is the General Chair of the 1999 Heterogeneous Computing Workshop and General Vice-Chair for the 1999 International Parallel Processing Symposium. Both of these events will be held in San Juan, Puerto Rico in April of 1999.

CSAA News

Greetings fellow alumni!

Just a brief note to fill you in on a few things. First off, congratulations to our Alumni of the Year, Barry Salmon. Yes, Barry Salmon, believe it or not. All kidding aside, Barry has been as active in his role at Texas Department of Health as he was as a student serving on the programming team in various roles and is quite deserving of this honor. Also, congratulations to Dr. Don Bagert and Mysti Digby, our winners of the Friend of Computer Science. While the vote for Alumni was close (4 votes separated the three nominees), the vote for Friend actually ended in a tie, so congratulations to both of these equally deserving friends of the CS department. Salute!

On other related matters -- because the voting this year was not as high as it has been in years past, we (Mysti Digby, Barry Salmon, and myself), after talking to some of the other alumni, have decided to set up an alumni web site. What this has to do with the voting is simple -- in addition to helping alumni keep in better touch with each other, we are going to accept nominations and votes via the website. Hopefully this will encourage more participation. I personally know there are lots of alumni out there deserving of the Alumni of the Year award and we need to see that they get recognized! More on this as it comes together.

A reminder -- HOMECOMING is October 10, 1998 with the CS Open House being held from 2-4 pm in the CS Library as usual. Please try to make plans to come by, get free food, see what is going on in the department, and offer your contribution on how the make the department and the Alumni Association better. Even more importantly --- come see my new little girl. Yes, for those who didn’t know, there is now a fourth member of the Payton family, Miss Jessica Lynn Payton born June 7, 1998 (on a Sunday, just like her dad!).

Ok. Enough of the proud dad stuff -- remember the alumni association only works as well as the alumni who contribute to it want it to.

Take care,
Tom Payton: tomp@ttu.edu
In & Out

After two years in the Dean of Engineering office, Mysti Digby has returned to Computer Science as Business Manager. Mysti is replacing Jill Cypert, who transferred to the Texas Tech Transition Center in June. While we're all sorry to see Jill go, it's nice to have a familiar face back in the office.

Jon Burgin, Lecturer, has accepted a position with Onboard Software in San Antonio. We'll miss Jon's unique sense of humor, and wish him all the best in the real world.

Bill Marcy has been named Interim Dean of Engineering. Dean Jorge Auñón will step down as Dean of Engineering August 31. Dr. Marcy is also still serving as Chair of Computer Science.

CS Alumni Website Premiers!

At last, the Computer Science Alumni can communicate to the department electronically! Oh I know, we've always had email, but the new Alumni website has an interactive form that you can send in with your update information, as well as information about upcoming CS Alumni Events, the CS Alumni Newsletter, and even a page about Homecoming events! One feature we'd like to have is an alumni directory, with any information you'd like your fellow alumni to access (email address, your company, websites, etc.). So get cracking, and jump online to the New CS Alumni Website at

http://www.cs.ttu.edu/Alumni/

and keep us informed!