Undergraduate Programmes

Additional Stream in BSc (Hons) in Computer Science Programme

With effect from the 2009-10 academic year, the BSc (Hons) in Computer Science Programme has launched an additional Stream in Health Information Technology (HIT) in its curriculum, which include the following courses: Health Information Technology, Medical Image Processing and Applications, Clinical Decision Support and Information Systems, and Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery.

The curriculum design and the series of course involved were jointly designed by our colleagues in HKBU and collaborators & advisors from the Hospital Authority (HA). Not only being our course consultants, HA experts are also project consultants to our students on their final year projects. Furthermore, HA will provide Internship and Placement program-mmes for our students and possible job alignment after their graduation.

Orientation Night for Freshmen

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The annual Orientation Night was held on 11 September 2009. All incoming freshmen were warmly welcomed and introduced to meet their professors and members of the Computer Science Society.

Besides the encouraging words by the Head and Programme Coordinator, the students also benefited from the sharing by two alumni. The mentoring session that followed immediately afterwards opened up the dialogues between the professors (mentors) and freshmen (mentees).

Scholarship Presentation Ceremony

A presentation ceremony was held on 11 September 2009 during the Orientation Night to recognize the following students:

Entrance Scholarships

The Department offers Entrance Scholarships to students who have selected the BSc (Hons) in Computer Science (CS) and BSc (Hons) in Computing Studies (Information Systems) (IS) Programmes in Band A and are admitted via JUPAS, to recognize their excellent perfor-mance in HKALE and HKCEE.

Recipients:
CS: Chu Ka Leung, Lee Tsz Ying, Tang Hew Ying Yvonne
IS: Chan Chor Kiu, Kwok Nga Wai.

Outstanding Student Scholarships in Semester 2, 2008-09

The following students were presented the Outstanding Student Scholarship for their having achieved the semester GPA of 3.4 or above in the Semester 2, 2008-09:

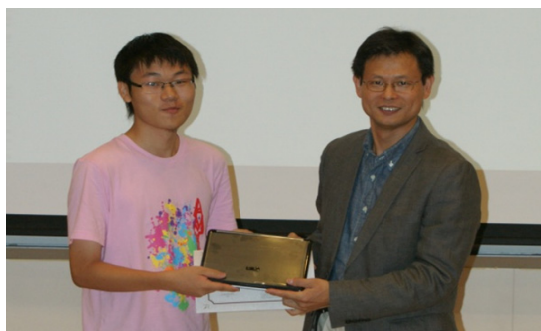CS: Kung Oi Ying, Lie Fanny, Ren Chushi, Xie Chun, Yang Xiaofei
IS: Au-Yang Lai Yi, Liu Muqi, Zhao Yize.

Outstanding Foundation Programme Student

Nian Ke, BSc (Hons) in Computer Science Year 1 student promoting from the Foundation

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Programme, was awarded a certificate and a netbook in recognition of his outstanding academic performance during the foundation year.

Peer Tutor Programme

The Department continues to provide assistance to the freshmen through the Peer Tutor Programme. While welcoming the new cohort of peer tutors on board, the peer tutors who served in 2008-09 were appreciated for their fine service.

Postgraduate Programme

MSc in Information Technology Management

New Stream in Health Informatics

To meet the increasing needs for health informatics professionals in the healthcare industry, the MSc in Information Technology Management Programme has introduced a new Stream in "Health Informatics", with effect from the 2009-10 academic year. The other Streams of the Programme include: IT Enterprise Management, Knowledge and Information Management, Internet and Web Technologies, and Business Analytics.

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MSc Scholarships Awarded in 2008-09

A total of 14 Distinction Scholarships and 25 Merit Scholarships were awarded to the outstanding students in 2008-09, who had achieved the semester GPA of 3.70 or above and 3.40-3.69 respectively. Entrance Scholarships had also been awarded to 3 freshmen with the excellent academic records during their undergraduate studies.

Research Postgraduate Programme

Computer Science @ Crossroads

A 2-day event entitled "Computer Science @ Crossroads" had been organized by the Department, with two renowned speakers delivered distinguished lectures, and also marked the 10th Postgraduate Research Symposium of the Department on 31 August to 1 September 2009.

Ms. Jenny Li, a seasoned practitioner from the IBM System and Technology Group in Poughkeepsie, NY, holding 5 US issued patents and more than 40 pending patents in the areas of Contextual Collaboration, RFID, Wireless Network, Virtual Universe, Green Data Center, etc. delivered a Keynote Talk on "You Can Build a Smarter Planet".

Prof. David Lorge Parnas presented a Distinguished Lecture on "How Precise Documentation Allows Information Hiding to Reduce Software Complexity and Increase its Agility". Prof. Parnas is highly regarded as one of the grandmasters in Software Engineering. He has developed and demonstrated many groundbreaking ideas; all of them have provided the very foundation for modern software theory and practice. Prof. Parnas has won over 20 awards, including the one-time IEEE Computer Society 60th Anniversary Award.

He received his honorary doctorates from the ETH in Zurich (Switzerland), the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium), and the University of Italian Switzerland (Lugano). He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, ACM, Canadian Academy of Engineering, GI in Germany, and the IEEE. He is a member of the Royal Irish Academy. Prof. Parnas is presently Professor Emeritus at McMaster University in Canada, and the University of Limerick in Ireland.

Apart from the Distinguished Lecture, Prof. Parnas also shared his experience with the research postgraduate students and had dialogue with the faculty members on the curriculum development, as well as presented

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the Best Paper and Best Presentation Awards to Mr. Shang Xia at the Postgraduate Research Symposium.

Best Presentation Award to Shang Xia

Mr. Shang Xia, PhD Student, received a Best Presentation Award from The 4th Beijing-Hong Kong International Doctoral Forum on 8 August 2009. The objective of the Forum is to bring together PhD students from all over the world, contributing to all facets of web, network and media computing.

Mr. Xia shared, "I am really honored to be presented with the Best Presentation Award of the 4th Beijing-Hong Kong International Doctoral Forum. This forum provides me a valuable opportunity to get in touch with the latest progress in computer science, so I can share common interests with my counterparts. For this award, it is a recognition for my previous work and also a great encouragement for my future progress.

I must emphasize that without the professional instructions of my supervisor Professor Jiming Liu and the unwavering support of my group members, I won't be awarded this honor. So this award does not just belong to me, it belongs to everyone of our group."

ACM-HK Student Research and Career Day

Jointly with the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Hong Kong Chapter, the Department hosted the ACM-HK Student Research and Career Day this year. Over 70 research students and faculty members from all six local universities attended the event, with a total of 35 postgraduates reported their latest research findings in the forms of oral presentation, poster, and demonstration.

The work presented has covered a wide range of research areas in the computer science discipline, including databases, networking, pattern recognition, artificial intelligence, computer vision, graphics, software engineering, and bioinformatics. The research results are truly internationally competitive; many of them have been or will be published in the best journals and conferences in the field. The event provided graduate students in the computer science and engineering disciplines exposures and exchange opportunities.

Our PhD student, Mr. Chang Liu, was presented the Merit Award in the poster session for his paper entitled "Human Motion Detection and Action Recognition".

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Lunchbites

The Lunchbite is a student-oriented activity which aims at encouraging postgraduate students to share their experiences and research results as well as any interesting topic in an informal atmosphere. This activity can maintain strong links for the postgraduate students to develop in both the academic and professional perspectives.

For the series of lunchbites, please visit: http://www.comp.hkbu.edu.hk/lunchbite/.

Postgraduate Students' Sharing

What do they think about Hong Kong and their study life?

Several MPhil and PhD students have expressed their thoughts about their study life in Hong Kong, visit http://www.comp.hkbu.edu.hk/v1/?page=life_in_hk to view their sharing.

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Alumni

Alumni Scholarship

The Computer Science Department Alumni Scholarship Scheme has recently been established. It aims at giving recognition and encouragement to outstanding undergraduate students who have actively participated in services for Department, University, and/or community. Besides this objective, it is anticipated that the ties with our alumni could be strengthened through this initiative.

After careful consideration by the Scholarship Panel formed by alumni, Chu Siu Hong (CS) was recipient of the Alumni Scholarship while Chan Sheung Chi (IS), Chan Sin Hang (IS), and Choy Pak Nin (CS) were awarded the Certificate of Merits.

Alumni Homecoming Day

Some thirty alumni and staff joined the Reunion Dinner on the Homecoming Day 2009, to share their life after graduation and the good old days. They had an enjoyable evening together and the Department appreciates the alumni's continuous support to their alma mater over the decades.

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Other News and Events

General Research Fund (GRF) Grants Awarded in 2009-10

Principal Investigator	Project Title
Dr. Yiu Ming Cheung	Off-line Text-independent Writer Identification of Handwriting Document Using Non-separable Wavelet Transform
Dr. Byron Choi	Optimizations for the View Update Problem with Emerging Applications
Prof. Clement Leung	Semantic Access and Characterisation of Web Images
Dr. Hai Liu	Maximizing Lifetime of Sensor-Target Surveillance in Wireless Sensor Networks
Dr. Hon Wah Tam	Discrete Integrable Systems and their Applications to Convergence Acceleration Algorithms

K.C. Wong Education Foundation – HKBU Fellowship Programme

At the invitation of the University, Prof. Shuigeng Zhou, Vice Chair of Computer Science and Engineering Department, Fudan University, was the Fellowship recipient of the Programme and visited the Department in the past few months.

Colloquia/Seminars

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Regular colloquia and seminars are organized by the Department. The list can be browsed at http://www.comp.hkbu.edu.hk/v1/?page=seminars.

Staff News

Prof. Joseph Ng Wins Innovative Wi-Fi Services and Applications Award

Prof. Joseph Ng of our Department, together with his research team, won the Innovative Wi-Fi Services and Applications Award for a Wi-Fi positioning platform that they developed. The award-winning platform was showcased at the Hong Kong Olympic Piazza organized by the Hong Kong Tourism Board during the Beijing Olympics 2008. Visitors had the opportunity to make novel use of their Wi-Fi enabled mobile phones as they moved around the Piazza to read write-ups about the Olympics, to play Olympics-related games and also to find out about tourist attractions in Hong Kong.

Sharing by Dr. Dongming Xu, Visiting Scholar

"As the end of 2008 approaches and I near the end of my visiting at HKBU, a semester sabbatical at Computer Science Department will end much too soon. It seems as if I just joined in yesterday.

I've been very much enjoying the work in the department and having a great time. The students are so dedicated to their study, especially the postgraduate students. I am very proud of them and pleased for teaching and sharing this semester with them. The staffs are very helpful and friendly. No matter when and what I needed, every single person I approached has given me a warm hand and helped me to sort out the problems. Thank you! The professors are very thoughtful and supportive to help me to kick off the teaching in the beginning and to close the courses at the end of the semester. Much appreciated!

Thanks a lot for giving me this opportunity to work with you all. This is a very nice working environment. I definitely enjoy the harmony here."

New Faces

Dr. Li CHEN, Assistant Professor
MSc, Peking; PhD, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne

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Current research interests: human-computer interaction, personalization and recommender systems, user experience research and applied data mining algorithms

Research area: Agents, Machine-learning and Data-mining (AMD)

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Dr. Markus Hagenbuchner, Visiting Scholar
BSc, PhD, Wollongong

Current research interests: neural networks, processing and classification of structural data, internet applications, and data mining.

Research area: Agents, Machine-learning and Data-mining (AMD)

Dr. Xin LI, Post-doctoral Teaching Fellow
BSc, MSc, Jilin; PhD, HKBU

Current research interests: machine learning and reasoning under uncertainty, reinforcement learning, application to robotics, scheduling

Research area: Agents, Machine-learning and Data-mining (AMD)

Dr. Alfredo MILANI, Visiting Scholar
MSc, PhD, Pisa, Italy

Current research interests: automated planning and temporal reasoning, evolutionary algorithms, web applications of knowledge based technologies, information security and code theory

Research area: Agents, Machine-learning and Data-mining (AMD)

Mr. Hong ZENG, Teaching Fellow
BEng, Nanjing U of Science and Technology; MEng, Southeast; PhD, HKBU(to be conferred)

Current research interests: spectral clustering, unsupervised learning, semi-supervised learning, maximum margin methods, graph-based learning, feature selection, dimension reduction

Research area: Agents, Machine-learning and Data-mining (AMD)

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