CSIS will honor Glen Salow, executive vice president and CIO of American Express, with its ninth annual Leadership and Service in Technology Award at a reception at the Bryant Park Grill in New York City on June 7.

Invited guest speaker Victor Zue from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) will deliver the keynote titled “Technological Innovation: Lessons Learned from Project Oxygen.”

I am very pleased to announce that Pace University, through the School of Computer Science and Information Systems, has just been designated a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education by the National Security Agency. The Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education Program is an outreach program designed and operated by the National Security Agency in the spirit of...

(continued on page 2)
Presidential Decision Directive 63, National Policy on Critical Infrastructure Protection, May 1998. The program’s goal is to reduce vulnerability in the National Information Infrastructure by promoting higher education for Information Assurance and by producing a growing number of professionals with Information Assurance expertise in various disciplines.

The CSIS curricula have always addressed computer and network security issues. But during this academic year CSIS has made great strides in enhancing this important area. In December 2003, CSIS participated in the Information Assurance Courseware Evaluation process. The process systematically assesses the degree to which university curricula satisfy the National Security Telecommunications and Information Systems Security Committee standards. We were pleased to receive formal certification for our curricula in December 2003. This certificate was accepted at the Committee on National Security Systems 2004 Annual Conference in Norfolk, Virginia, in April 2004.

In addition to CSIS undergraduate and graduate offerings including the Graduate Certificate in Networking and Information Assurance, CSIS, with the Criminal Justice Department of Dyson College, has recently established a new minor and certificate in Information Assurance in the Criminal Justice System, available to all undergraduates as well as to adult students. CSIS is also developing a multi-disciplinary minor in programming security for software reliability. Other programs, including certifications for professionals in computer security, will follow.

CSIS’ Information Assurance Education and Research Center was developed to explore computer vulnerabilities with the objective of improving prevention and detection techniques through research.

Information regarding security initiatives can be found at the CSIS Information Assurance Web site. A link to the site is located on the CSIS homepage (http://csis.pace.edu).

CSIS To Honor AMEX Executive (continued from page 1)

platform that has transformed the way the company serves and acquires customers; and has driven technology development to help introduce a wide array of products to support the company’s global payments, travel, and financial services businesses. He is a member of the American Express Global Management Team and leads the Technologies Executive Team.

Salow holds a BS in accounting from Richard Stockton College of New Jersey and an MBA from Monmouth University.

In 2002, he was named Internet Business Leader of the Year by iQ Magazine and was recently named one of ComputerWorld’s Premier 100 IT Leaders. In addition, he served as the keynote speaker at the Thomson Media 14th Annual Card Tech/Security Tech Conference and Exhibition.

Victor Zue, professor of electrical engineering and computer science at MIT and codirector of the institute’s Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, is a world-renowned researcher in the field of speech recognition and spoken language systems, and has developed spoken language interfaces to make human/computer interactions easier and more natural. He is also the first MIT faculty member to occupy the Delta Electronics Chair endowed for senior researchers. Outside of MIT, Zue has consulted for numerous multinational corporations, and has served on many planning, advisory, and review committees for the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, and the National Academy of Science and Engineering. He is also a fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and a member of the National Academy of Engineering. His talk will touch on many aspects of advanced computing technology.

Since 1995, the Award for Leadership and Service in Technology Sponsorship Committee, chaired by Judith Spitz, senior vice president of information technology at Verizon and Gary King, CIO of Barnes and Noble, both members of the CSIS Advisory Board. The reception is being underwritten, in part, by MetLife, whose executive vice president of operations and information technology, Daniel J. Cavanagh, was honored last year.

The proceeds from each year’s event benefit the CSIS Endowed Scholarship Fund. Scholarship monies generated by the fund are awarded each year to promising entering and continuing CSIS undergraduate and graduate students.

All members of the Pace and IT communities are invited to attend. For additional information, please visit http://csis.pace.edu/lst or contact Michael Lattari at michael@hrginc.net or (914) 761-7111.
Middle School Children Invade Pace

CSIS and Pace University Host FIRST LEGO League Tournament
by Bernice J. Houle, associate dean

Excitement was in the air. Children were jumping up and down screaming. The Spirit Rover was stuck on a sand dune and needed to be freed. Space dust needed to be cleared from the solar panel. Habitation Modules needed to be connected. And the robot needed to move across rugged terrain by moving into a crater. So much to do, so little time—two and a half minutes to be exact.

Did these tasks need to be completed by the NASA programmers and the Mars Rovers: Spirit and Opportunity? No, these were a sample of nine challenges designed for Mission: Mars, the 2003–2004 FIRST LEGO League Tournament hosted by CSIS and the Pace community.

On Sunday, February 8, 14 teams of children, ages 9–14, from regional middle schools, Girl Scout troops, and various neighborhoods, gathered at Pace University’s Pleasantville Campus to participate in the Lower Hudson Tournament, one of only two tournaments in New York State. The teams had been assigned the task of designing a robotic device to explore and colonize a simulated, tabletop version of the Martian surface. In addition to the predetermined tournament missions that the robot needed to complete, the teams were also judged on robot design and programming, a required 10-minute research presentation, and demonstrated teamwork.

More than 60 volunteers, including Pace students, faculty and staff, and employees from IBM’s T.J. Watson Research Center and other local companies, assisted on the day of the event to serve as judges, referees, or team liaisons. In addition to the volunteers, each participant received a gift bag that included a tote, a pen, a key chain, a bottle of water, a stress ball, and a calculator donated by various sponsors. Additional donations included breakfast for the volunteers, wood for the challenge tables, volunteers’ shirts, training sessions, and a discount on the trophies. This was indeed a community undertaking.

The FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Organization, founded by inventor Dean Kamen, has teamed up with the LEGO Company to create FIRST LEGO League so that kids can use their imagination, work with LEGOs, and learn about science and technology in a way that makes it fun and exciting. “I had a lot of fun. I love programming,” said Steven Noll, a member of the Edgemont Mars Explorers team.

Next year’s event is already in place so please save the date: Sunday, February 6, 2005. To sponsor a team, provide a donation, or to volunteer on the day of the event, please contact Bernice Houle at (914) 773-3492 or bhoule@pace.edu.

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Student Profile: Jeffrey Wheaton
by Bernice J. Houle, associate dean

Jeffrey Wheaton, a graduating senior majoring in computer science (BS), has had an impressive undergraduate experience at Pace. Among his many accomplishments is a recommendation by the U.S. National Selection Committee for a Fulbright Scholarship. The proposal he submitted for consideration by the committee described his interest in pursuing cutting-edge research in the area of amorphous program slicing.

“Traditional program slicing is the systematic deletion of components from a piece of software for the purpose of simplifying the program,” says Wheaton. “This technique of source code analysis can have dramatic effects on software engineering by giving professionals the tools needed to efficiently design, redesign, or maintain a specific software application. Amorphous program slicing is not simply limited to component deletion, as is traditional program slicing. Rather this type of slicing uses the traditional deletion techniques of normal program slicing along with other techniques of source code analysis.”

In the fall, Wheaton worked with Jean-Christophe Deprez, assistant professor of information systems, to build abstract syntax trees and control flow graphs for the Java programming language. The research involved creating a tree representation of a selected program and then creating a graph that illustrated the flow from one part of the program to another.

In addition, Wheaton has received numerous academic honors during his years at Pace. They include induction into Alpha Chi National Honor Society, earning either first or second honors each semester, and placing third at a Security Expo Demonstration focusing on Java class file encryption. He will also be graduating summa cum laude and receiving a Computer Science Distinguished Achievement Award at this year’s CSIS Awards Ceremony.

Currently a member of CIRCUIT, the CSIS computer society, Wheaton has participated in teaching computing technology to children from the Pleasantville Cottage School, a local resident school for emotionally disturbed children. He was also the head referee for the Lower Hudson FIRST LEGO League Tournament that was recently held on the Pleasantville campus. This task included recruiting and training referees and overseeing referee decisions during the tournament.

When asked about his Pace experience, Wheaton says, “My years at Pace University have helped me grow, both academically and personally. Pace has given me the skills necessary to succeed in the field of computer science, while helping me discover my potential to be a productive member of society.”
Nancy Treuer, National Coalition for Telecommunications and Learning (NACTEL) online registration coordinator, accepted the 2003 Institutional Service Award conferred by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) on behalf of the University in recognition of its “historical and ongoing commitment to adult learners as well as its more recent leadership and innovation in the field of online learning.”

The award was presented at the 29th Annual CAEL International Conference on November 14 in San Diego, California. It cited the collaboration between CSIS and NACTEL in an online associate’s degree program designed to train network technicians. The collaboration is led by Dean Susan Merritt, Associate Dean David Sachs, and Nancy Hale, chair of Technology Systems.

Commenting on the award, University President David A. Caputo said, “Pace’s ever-changing and advancing technology allows us to explore new learning environments and innovative teaching opportunities. This award goes to the many faculty members, administrators, and adult learners at Pace who are taking advantage of these new opportunities and meeting the challenges of online teaching and learning.”

Job Market for CSIS Graduates Rebounds

Employment opportunities for CSIS graduates and current students have improved in recent months. Ten individuals have reported being hired by prestigious companies such as Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, IBM, Merrill Lynch, NYC & Co., PricewaterhouseCoopers, 1-800-FLOWERS.COM, and Smith & Warren.

The following people have accepted job offers from a broad range of companies:

- Ericka Acosta, BS/IS ’03
  NYC & Co.
  Database Administrator
- Quinette Akpaibor, MS/IS ’03
  PricewaterhouseCoopers
  Experienced Associate
  Global Risk Management Systems Group
- Jessica Bonner, BA/CS ’04
  IBM
  Software Developer/Tester
- Rekha Gunjal, BS/IS ’04
  Deutsche Bank
  Analyst
- Nicholas Lucia, BS/IS ’03
  Smith & Warren
  System Administrator
- Melissa Ramsey, MS/IS
  1-800-FLOWERS.COM
  Jr. Quality Assurance Analyst
- Olufemi Senbore, MS/IS ’04
  Goldman Sachs
  Analyst, Operations and Finance
- Jassen Trenkov, BS/IS ’04
  Goldman Sachs
  Financial and IT Auditor
  Management Controls
- Jimmy Vasquez, BS/IS ’04
  Merrill Lynch
  Technology Analyst
- Alex Wong, BS/CS ’03
  IBM
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In addition, Joan Mark, executive director of Cooperative Education & Career Services, reports that co-op placements are up 20 percent this year.

CSIS Representative Accepts CAEL Award

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CSIS Supports City’s 2012 Olympic Bid

by Anthony Oren, BS/IS, and Pritesh Damani, MS/CS

In April 2002, Pace University teamed up with NYC2012 (www.nyc2012.com) to participate in a project called Nations of New York as part of the campaign to help New York City in its bid to host the 2012 Summer Olympics. Many people and organizations in New York are helping the City to accomplish this goal and the School of Computer Science and Information Systems is supporting this exciting campaign in a variety of ways. A Pace team comprised of faculty and students participated in this project by helping various nonprofit organizations develop Web sites so that they can broadcast their support for the 2012 Olympics. The team included Professors Dennis Anderson, Nancy Hale, David Sachs, Kitty Daniels, Pauline Mosley, and Babette Kronstadt, director, and Sylvia Russakoff, associate director of the Pace Computer Learning Center as well as CSIS students Pritesh Damani, Anthony Oren, and Alicia Trotman, among others.

Every nonprofit client has its own unique identity in terms of culture and activities. Thus, we learned new things from each. Once the materials were received, whether in the form of fixed documents, brochures, or pictures with descriptions, we had to reexamine them and plan how they would be incorporated into the organization’s future Web site. One client in particular, the Hispanic American Sports Coalition, sent us much more information than we asked for, but instead of overwhelming us it actually motivated us because we knew that with each new client we were contributing to the mission. We also had the task of choosing what should be included and what had to be omitted, a process which exemplified the difficulty in moving physical documents into a virtual arena.

Since then, our team received roughly 220 more clients to potentially work with and new team members were added. By the end of the fall semester, we had made significant progress and had contacted every single nonprofit organization at least once, and set to work to develop eight Web sites. In the spring, additional clients were added to the project. On March 25, 2004, the team hosted the Nations of New York Kick-off Event at Pace’s Midtown Center. In attendance were the directors and members of NYC2012 as well as representatives of the nonprofits that we developed Web sites for. The organizations included American Chinese Women’s Associations, American Irish Teachers Association, Asian American Consulting Services, Chay Pa Lou Community Center, Coalition of Korean American Social Services, Cultural Association of Bengal, Federation of Italian American Organization of Queens, Flatbush Haitian Center, German American Society of Westchester County, Hispanic American Sports Coalition, Hispanic Young People’s Alternatives, Korean American Association for Rehabilitation of the Disabled, Norwegian Folk Dance Society of New York, and Young Dancers in Repertory.

In the end, we learned a great deal from this experience. Initially, we were nervous because we felt that the communication barrier would be great because of the diversity across the organizations. However, those notions quickly faded once we spoke with the nonprofit representatives. In fact, there were more similarities among them than we had thought; they were all dedicated to promoting an important cause and wanted the best for their organization. As a whole, we are glad that we were part of this exciting effort and wish all the NYC2012 clients luck in their endeavors. Hopefully, New York City will win the bid for the 2012 Summer Olympics and all New Yorkers will be hosting this very special event in their own city.

CSIS Faculty Receive IBM Grant to Study XP

Fred Grossman, program chair, DPS in Computing, and Joseph Bergin, professor, CS, New York City

CSIS was recently notified that it had received a grant from IBM to study Extreme Programming (XP), one of several new agile software development methodologies. Pace faculty will collaborate with IBM research personnel to evaluate the effectiveness of this approach within the IBM corporate domain. It is anticipated that additional grants will be forthcoming in the near future to advance this work.

Traditional methodologies for developing Web-based applications are not always responsive to requirements change or to situations in which the ultimate clients have difficulty stating stable requirements with precision. The latter can arise when the business needs are volatile and also when the technology opportunities are not well understood by the customer. This scenario is not unique to IBM, and has been observed in many organizations. A response to this has been the development of Agile Methodologies such as XP that tend to shorten the distance between decision-makers and developers and to increase flexibility.

XP is a high discipline process in which a number of synergistic practices bring business value to the customer in short (two week, say) iterations with deployable software coming at a slightly slower (once a month, perhaps) rate. This project envisions applying XP to a project in the Webmaster’s domain that would have characteristics that may not make it particularly suited to traditional methodologies.

The anticipated work on this project will include the training and coaching of IBM personnel in XP practices. As the principal from CSIS, we will undertake this work. Another aspect will be to capture the successes and challenges of the current process and then measure the outcomes of the agile process against this baseline. Other members of the Pace team, Susan Merritt, CSIS dean, Olly Gotel, computer science, and David Sachs, CSIS associate dean, will be working on this aspect of the project.

The main question to be asked is “Does XP make sense as a development methodology in the IBM Webmaster’s environment?” This environment includes distributed teams and close coordination with visual designers and information architects. The potential is to make the development process more responsive to users’ needs and changing business requirements. This could have high impact on outcomes of the development process, decreasing cost, decreasing time to deployment, and increasing user satisfaction.
The educational vision of community service learning is frequently transformed through practices that integrate the World Wide Web. These practices were recently introduced in a CSIS course and field study titled Web Design for Non-Profit Organizations, that is focused on connecting learning in a Community Access nonprofit agency in downtown New York to the needs of the agency in empowering mentally challenged but dexterous and highly prolific artists in social interaction. The course educates students in the empowerment of the Web that helps the artists in displaying and sharing their art on a multimedia enriched Web site that was developed by the students in collaboration with the artists.

The main focus of the course is to engage students to serve as Web consultants in designing innovative Web sites for the mentally challenged artist-members of the agency. Members from a community of over 300 artists selected by the agency clarified their art needs to the students in frequent interaction in actual field locations. From this interaction, the content and functionality of the new Web site considered critical to the members was highlighted in a museum equivalent Art Gallery of Artist Portfolios and Virtual Tour that will ultimately include an estimated 3,000 examples of member art.

The engagement of the students in the development of the new Web site was enhanced noticeably in five functionality teams composed of three to five students per team on which one to two students had an advanced technical background in the development of Web sites. The students additionally elected project facilitators for their teams who interfaced with the instructor. Importantly, two to three of the prolific artist-members and one to two employees of Community Access were included on each team in order to collaborate with and efficiently guide the students when the teams were in the field locations or in the classroom.

The students who had the technical background implemented site functionality and the other students, along with the agency artist-members, employees and the instructor, ensured usability and accessibility of the functionality and the Web-based community. Concurrent with the development and implementation of their project, the students were required to independently critique their interactions with Community Access, by contrasting their personal experiences to those in instructor chosen stories of disadvantaged citizens, in self-reflection journals.

The students, in fall 2003, evaluated the benefits of the course in terms of enjoyed and increased learning, not only in the technological context of community Web design, but also critically in the social dimension of community engagement:

“This was a great contribution... I made a difference... Other [citizens] will come to the site and realize that these artists are not strangers. They are like you and me.”—Liliya Berezovskaya (BS/IS)

“This was a great experience to engage myself in community service.”—Rodnei Caria (BS/IS)

The interaction of new students continues in spring and fall 2004 with the employees and the artists of Community Access, as the agency requested additional functionality on its new Web-based community site. The course is now one of the leading models of service learning at Pace and in New York City and is implemented through the technology of the Web.

Professor Lawler participated as a presenter on this course at the annual NERCOMP “IT Matters! Supporting Educational Enterprise in Challenging Times” Conference in Worcester, Massachusetts, in March 2004, and was published in the Proceedings.
Online Accelerated BS in Telecommunications Gains Momentum

by David A. Sachs, associate dean and NACTEL codirector

In August 2003, Pace University’s School of Computer Science and Information Systems launched the Online Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Telecommunications program. This degree is taught completely online to students located throughout the United States and is taught in an accelerated fashion. There are three 12-week terms each year (fall, spring, and summer) and one five-week term (winter). Students come into the program with an associate’s degree or 60 credits. If students take seven courses each year, they can complete the degree in two years.

The degree was approved during summer 2003, and the first classes began in September with 10 students. However, 52 students enrolled in the following spring 2004 term. The average age of these students is 48. Twelve students are female and 40 are male and they live in 12 different states. Thirty of our students come to us from Verizon’s Next Step Program, a program that enables select Verizon employees to pursue an AAS in telecommunications. All of us are excited to have had such a positive response to a new program in such a short time.

When asked why they chose the Online Accelerated BS in telecommunications, Tom Bosco, one of our new Next Step students, said, “I chose this program because of the convenience of the online classes and their relevance to the telecom industry.”

One of our NACTEL graduates, Casey Windrider, had a number of interesting observations: “The telecommunications marketplace is undergoing some terrific changes, and has become a very competitive marketplace. After I had received my AS in telecommunications from Pace in May 2003, I searched the Web, looking at employment opportunities with other telecommunications companies. The majority of the companies that I looked at (Verizon, BellSouth, AT&T, SBC, to name a few) had many employment opportunities for people with a BS in electronics, but few specified an AS.

Added Windrider: “Although I had already made the decision to continue my education and to pursue my BS long before I was finished with my associate’s degree, the search for employment opportunities proved that I will be much more marketable nationwide, after I attain my BS. I have tried the traditional method of education, in the classroom 2-3 times per week on a schedule set by the school. It took me eight years to acquire my first AS degree by this method. During that time, some of my classes were distance education classes, requiring telephone tag between my professor and me to get a question answered before I could proceed with my assignments. So when looking at pursuing my BS, why would I look to any other education alternative than the Pace/NACTEL program? I achieved my AS in telecommunications within a two-year timeframe.”

Windrider noted that she found the support from the administration (counseling, billing, class programming, etc.) at Pace University to be “outstanding. It is similar to having your own private cheering section rooting you on during the process. The professors at Pace University are superb work-along-with-the-student professors, making every effort to make themselves available to their students through the discussion boards, e-mails, and by phone. If (continued on page 10)

CLOUT Offers EPIC Parenting Workshops

by Faith L. Faulk, Database/Student Services coordinator, CLOUT Westchester, and Charlene Labenda, director, CLOUT Westchester

The CLOUT program continually seeks support services, both internally and externally, to enhance and enrich the learning experience and the lives of its students. Through outreach and efforts to augment the personal development component of CLOUT, Helena Guerin, counselor in CLOUT Westchester, introduced a new parenting workshop series, which was presented by EPIC (Every Person Influences Children, Inc.) to students in the Personal Computer Applications for the Workplace Professional Certificate program. This national nonprofit organization was founded in 1980 with the overall mission of helping parents, teachers, and members of the community raise children to become responsible adults.

EPIC offers a variety of comprehensive skill building, training, and educational programs at all levels to support its mission. The Character Education Program is designed for teachers and support staff in K-6 schools. This training program presents information on how to incorporate innovative, grade-level appropriate curriculum, which promotes nine character traits directly into lesson plans. The Parent Advocacy Training is a workshop series for parents designed to help them understand their role as advocates for their children and how to be effective in this capacity. The Parent Leadership Institute consists of five sessions designed to train parents for leadership roles in their children’s school, as well as in their local community.

EPIC also offers Facilitator Training, which provides individuals in the community or other organizations with the tools to present the parenting workshop series. Two CLOUT staff members, Helena Guerin and Faith L. Faulk, participated in this program. The training workshops were two Saturday, all-day sessions. Participants included teachers, guidance counselors, parents, and a leader of teen groups at a community-based organization. All trainees were given the task of leading the group in a specific situation relating to parenting to give them first-hand experience with how to present the topics. By participating in the training, Guerin and Faulk acquired the tools to facilitate the parenting workshop series in the CLOUT Program.

The EPIC Parenting Workshops were first offered to CLOUT certificate students in spring 2003. Funding awarded to EPIC made it possible for their facilitators, along with Helena and Faith, to present the program three times over the past year. The fourteen-week series addresses issues and topics relating to four age groups: infants and toddlers, young children, young adolescents, and adolescents. Since all certificate students have a child one year of age or younger, and sometimes other young children, the series for infants and toddlers was offered. (continued on page 10)
IS Faculty Research and Scholarly Activity Expand

by Catherine Dwyer, lecturer, IS, New York City, and James Gabberty, associate professor, IS, New York City

At the urging of Dean Susan Merritt, the Information Systems faculty is responding to the specific critical need for faculty to publish as much quality scholarship material as possible in support of the upcoming Lubin School of Business’ 2005–2006 reaccreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). For those unfamiliar with AACSB accreditation, it is a designation for business schools of excellence that is conferred upon a select group of institutions.

With the ten-year anniversary quickly approaching, Lubin’s accreditation is up for renewal. Since information systems courses are an important component of the MBA as well as the BBA curricula, the IS department is actively involved in the reaccreditation effort. IS faculty have enthusiastically embraced the Dean’s call to redouble their publishing efforts so as to establish the academic qualifications among faculty for Lubin-related courses.

ISRC Formed

To support IS research, the Information Systems Research Committee (ISRC) was formed. The group is proud to announce that much progress has been made in its nascent year and continues to press forward in developing a robust and highly participatory research environment. It also serves participants by providing members with an “idea incubator” to promote the growth and subsequent development of relevant IS research topics and to obtain feedback from faculty, students, and industry.

Chaired by Professor Catherine Dwyer, the primary goal of the ISRC is to foster development of topics suitable for presentation at leading national and international conferences and for publication in scholarly journals. The committee is an extension of informal “brown bag” seminars initiated by Dr. Constance A. Knapp. It meets monthly, and utilizes videoconferencing technology to link Pace campuses so that faculty and students do not have to travel. Although only in its second semester of existence, the ISRC seems to be on the right track indicated by the following:

• In the pervasive field of IS, which touches nearly every aspect of the global business environment, publishing opportunities exist in a variety of academic venues. So it follows that the first task of the committee was to identify and evaluate potential outlets for IS research. Through the hard work of three graduate assistants, Rhett Daniels, Yvette DeLeon, and Udohuchkwu Nwachukwu, a comprehensive electronic listing of 450 IS journals was compiled. Information relevant to each journal was collected such as its Web site address, its area of interest, acceptance rate, and overall response time indicating how long an author would have to wait to learn about acceptance of their paper.

• These dedicated graduate assistants also queried IS faculty as to their individual research interests, and produced a table consolidating the results. This has encouraged collaboration and identification of common research interests.

Another regular activity of the committee is presentations by prospective authors. For example:

• Linda Jo Calloway and James Gabberty discussed the progress of their paper “The Driving Forces of China’s March toward IT Maturation: A Global Comparative Assessment.”

• David Ulmer (DPS), a third-year doctoral student, discussed his dissertation topic, “Architectural Solutions to Agent-enabled e-Commerce Portals with Push/Pull Abilities.”

• Daniel Farkas presented a review of his doctoral research.

• Ronald Frank gave a talk about Web services.

• DPS student Barbara Edington made a presentation on “The Impact of Outsourcing on IT Management.”

• Zheng Li, our newest IS faculty member, demonstrated a Web-based survey management and social decision support tool that she developed to be used to enrich online classroom discussion activities as well as to support fundamental IS research projects.

AMCIS

The ISRC is making a special effort to participate as fully as possible in representing Pace at the Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS), the largest annual information systems conference. AMCIS will be held this August in New York City. This year, for the first time, Pace University will serve as a host of this highly visible gathering of IS academicians and practitioners. In addition, two Pace faculty members are volunteering their services to further extend Pace’s representation at the conference. Linda Jo Calloway is serving as chair of Placement and Recruitment, and Dennis Anderson is serving as cochair of the conference program guide.

As an indication of the level of commitment, faculty have submitted these papers for presentation at the conference:

• Linda Jo Calloway and James Gabberty, “Can China Innovate?”

• David Ulmer (DPS), a third-year doctoral student, discussed his dissertation topic, “Architectural Solutions to Agent-enabled e-Commerce Portals with Push/Pull Abilities.”

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AMCIS

The ISRC is making a special effort to participate as fully as possible in representing Pace at the Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS), the largest annual information systems conference. AMCIS will be held this August in New York City. This year, for the first time, Pace University will serve as a host of this highly visible gathering of IS academicians and practitioners. In addition, two Pace faculty members are volunteering their services to further extend Pace’s representation at the conference. Linda Jo Calloway is serving as chair of Placement and Recruitment, and Dennis Anderson is serving as cochair of the conference program guide.

As an indication of the level of commitment, faculty have submitted these papers for presentation at the conference:

• Linda Jo Calloway and James Gabberty, “Can China Innovate?”

• David Ulmer (DPS), a third-year doctoral student, discussed his dissertation topic, “Architectural Solutions to Agent-enabled e-Commerce Portals with Push/Pull Abilities.”

• Daniel Farkas presented a review of his doctoral research.

• Ronald Frank gave a talk about Web services.

• DPS student Barbara Edington made a presentation on “The Impact of Outsourcing on IT Management.”

• Zheng Li, our newest IS faculty member, demonstrated a Web-based survey management and social decision support tool that she developed to be used to enrich online classroom discussion activities as well as to support fundamental IS research projects.
Over budget. Behind schedule. Limited functionality. U.S. companies spend more than 200 billion dollars each year on IT projects, yet time and cost overruns occur half the time and only 28 percent of IT projects succeed (Standish Group, 2001). There are many reasons for project failure, including separation of business and technology, lack of common language and process, and failure to communicate and act as a team. As these reasons suggest, “when projects fail, it’s rarely technical” (Jim Johnson of the Standish Group).

Current surveys of businesses frequently indicate that managers want their technical staff to develop more business skills, including project management (PM). For example, in a survey of 1,400 CIOs from a stratified random sample of U.S. companies with 100 or more employees, project management skills were named by 23 percent of the CIOs surveyed as the area in which their IT staffs needed the most improvement. This was cited second only to improved technical skills. According to Ryan Gilmore, of GHI Consulting, the sponsor of the survey, “project management skills are critical to the success of a business.”

As businesses are focusing on the importance of project management, they are increasing their investment in implementation of project management improvement initiatives. A 2002 survey of the value of project management by the Center for Business Practices indicated that the two most frequently included initiatives were implementing a PM Methodology (84.6 percent) and training staff in PM tools and techniques (83.5 percent).

While business-sponsored training may or may not focus on certification, individuals are increasingly choosing to pursue certification. The most sought after certification is the Project Management Institute’s (PMI) Project Management Professional (PMP), and is currently the standard in the industry. It is frequently cited in job ads and the number of people holding the certification nearly doubled between 2000 and 2003 from 25,500 to 50,000.

PMP certification requires training and experience in addition to passing a test (see chart). The test is based on PMI’s Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) which is intended to describe “the sum of knowledge within the project management profession.” The current version of the PMBOK, published in 2000, identifies 39 processes critical to the completion of projects. (This number will be significantly increased in the next version of the PMBOK, which is currently in development.) These processes are organized into five process groups (initiating, planning, executing, controlling, and closing the project) and nine project management knowledge areas (management of project scope, time, cost, quality, communication, procurement, human resource, risk, and integration).

Because of the increasing importance of project management in the IT field, the Pace Computer Learning Center (PCLC) is expanding its course offerings to include a full spectrum of PMI-aligned project management courses. PCLC is using curriculum developed by Boston University’s Corporate Education Center. The curriculum has been used nationally and internationally for a decade and is continually updated to reflect changes in current project management best practices. All instructors and PMPs are certified by B.U. to teach the curriculum.

These courses are generally applicable to people involved in projects in any field. The only exception is that the introductory course for IT professionals is Managing IT Projects instead of Principles and Techniques for Project Management. Additional offerings include:

- Project Management Evening Certificate Program—a unique 72-hour comprehensive program designed to cover all of PMBOK’s functional areas while emulating the real world environment and dynamics of project teams
- How to Assess & Manage Risk—additional two to three day classes are offered in each of the PMBOK knowledge areas, such as risk management
- Fast Track Project Management—a five-day project management boot camp that will help participants understand and pull together all of the knowledge areas and processes of project management in order to plan and execute successful projects; includes a PMP prep component

In addition to providing public classes, PCLC is working with area corporations to customize project management training for their employees and can offer consultation and facilitation in related areas such as developing a project management framework.

For more information on PMP certification, PCLC’s full calendar of Project Management offerings, a White Paper on the Art of Project Management, and a slide presentation of Project Management and ROI visit PCLC’s Web site at http://csis.pace.edu/pclc/mgmproj.htm.

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**Attention All Alums!**

Stay in touch with your classmates through the official alumni online community of Pace University, free to all alumni. In addition to the online alumni/ae directory and permanent e-mail forwarding, the community now features online ClassNotes where you can read and post messages on what’s new with you—weddings, births, career moves, and more! Visit and register for the online community today at http://www.pace.edu/alumni.
Pace Computer Society Takes On New Initiatives

by Louise P. Kleinbaum, assistant dean and director of Communications

According to Oleg Yunakov, president of the Pace Computer Society, the student computing organization on the New York City campus, the society has undertaken a number of exciting new initiatives to help revitalize the organization. They include:

- Hosting guest speakers
- Notifying students about internship opportunities
- Cosponsoring “Secrets to Success in the Field of Technology” in conjunction with Cooperative Education and Career Services
- Holding bi-monthly technology talks
- Establishing a lending library at 163 William Street
- Planning a Computer Assembly Workshop

Other interesting activities are in the pipeline. To learn more about the Pace Computer Society, visit their Web site at www.pacecs.org or linked through Undergraduate Clubs on www.csis.pace.edu; or contact Oleg Yunakov, outgoing president, at yunakov@hotmail.com; incoming acting president Aaron Samaroo, as58858n@pace.edu; or Anthony Joseph, faculty advisor, ajoseph2@pace.edu.

S.T.E.P. Activities Complement Graduate Curricula

by Eric J. Heinen, MS/ITE ’03, president, S.T.E.P., and John Robinson, LBS MBA, vice-president, S.T.E.P.

Over the past year and a half, Students for Technology and Entrepreneurial Pursuits (S.T.E.P.) has helped many students to realize their personal and professional goals. S.T.E.P. has provided tutorials, information sessions, real world projects, and support to its members through its relationships with local businesses and Pace University faculty. Since S.T.E.P.’s inception, two groups of members have incorporated, several students have consulted with industry professionals regarding their own business ideas, and many others have gained a better understanding of what it takes to succeed in today's fast paced and demanding business environment.

Monthly meetings and projects continue and students who are ambitious and have a passion to succeed are welcome to join. The S.T.E.P. Web site, http://webpage.pace.edu/step, offers additional information for anyone interested in learning more about the organization. The site displays who we are, our mission and goals, current projects, past meeting notes, and other member information.

Through a strategic alliance with a local venture capital group and the City of Yonkers, Pace has formed a business incubator program for early-stage companies. This program offers qualified individuals and businesses the resources and expertise needed to succeed. Successful businesses, in turn, bring more jobs and services to Westchester.

With Pace University’s commitment to the community, its student’s success driven enthusiasm, and the resources of local businesses, S.T.E.P. members have a unique and exciting opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed.

Online Accelerated BS in Telecommunications Gains Momentum (continued from page 7)

necessary, they will provide added lecture materials, answers to questions by their students, and any one-on-one help a student may need. Although my university is in New York, and my professors and my classmates are spread nationwide, the communication lines are always open, and I am never left feeling alone to work out my problems by myself. I can, however, access and complete my assignments at times that are convenient for my 40+-hour work schedule. If all goes according to plan, I should complete my BS in telecommunications within two years.”

Many people in CSIS have worked extremely hard to develop telecommunications courses and administrative support systems in a very short timeframe. These include Nancy Hale, NACTEL codirector; Fred Dreyfus, NACTEL assistant director; Nancy Treuer, NACTEL online student advisor; Nancy Uhl, NACTEL graphics and course support; Lisa Slingerland, NACTEL Billing and Support; Tricia Vogel, NACTEL online testing coordinator; Paulette Muller-Girard, NACTEL database coordinator; and others.

The program is off to a great start this spring 2004 semester, and we are looking forward to many more students enrolling in the future. For additional information about the Online Accelerated BS in telecommunications, visit http://csis.pace.edu/bsintelecom.

CLOUT Offers EPIC Parenting Workshops (continued from page 7)

Through small, supportive discussion groups, the facilitators present a structured workshop series designed to help individuals strengthen their parenting skills and to empower them to take a greater and more active role in their children's education. The environment is not a teaching environment, rather an open sharing environment where discussion is the primary ingredient. All participants are encouraged to express their ideas and feelings, so they may learn from each other, as well as from the experiences of the facilitators. Participants are provided with parenting manuals, which accompany discussion topics covered in each session of the series. Upon completion, the students are awarded certificates.

In the infants and toddlers workshop series, parents explore the following areas: knowing yourself as a parent, tuning-in to your child, fostering self-esteem, helping your child to cope, setting limits, building independence, learning to talk, establishing routines, learning through play, and promoting literacy in your child. One student who participated in the workshop series wrote to the EPIC facilitators: “You have made a big difference in our home because you have inspired us to be better parents by sharing all of your knowledge, as well as your personal experiences. This program has helped us in many positive ways by encouraging us to be more patient, consistent, loving, and understanding with our precious children.”

In the literacy session, the EPIC facilitator brought in copies of 12 recommended books, and a number of the students came back to tell us that they had purchased many of them. Prior to this session, many of the students did not recognize the importance of reading to their children during infancy. They learned that by reading to their children on a regular basis their children would not only look forward to reading time, but they would also have an advantage when they reached school age.

A number of the students shared that through the workshops they learned alternate ways to discipline their children. As young mothers, this was a particularly important lesson. In a thank you letter to the EPIC facilitators, one group of students wrote, “Your advice has been helpful. It is wonderful to know that there are programs that can help us raise and discipline our children. This program has really helped us to be better parents.”
Two CSIS Faculty/Administrators Earn Doctorates

The week of March 22 was a very special one for two members of the CSIS community. Both Daniel Farkas, associate professor and chair of the Information Systems Department in Westchester, and Bernice Houle, associate dean and adjunct instructor in the CLOUT program, completed their doctoral studies by successfully defending their dissertations.

Dan Farkas received a PhD in educational communications and technology from the Steinhardt School of Education at New York University where he wrote a dissertation titled “The Effect of Computer Programming on Performance, Computer Anxiety, and Attitude Towards Computers.”

Bernice Houle also earned her PhD from N.Y.U.’s Steinhardt School of Education in Administration, Leadership and Technology. Her dissertation is titled “Adult Student Persistence in Distance Education.”

CSIS Retiree Remains Academically Active

Although retired and living in southern California, Carroll Zahn, former professor of computer science in Westchester, is hardly idle. He has taken advantage of his newly found leisure to continue work, begun while at Pace, in the mathematical analysis of baseball, and to explore the field of mathematical education in grades K-12.

Zahn recently gave a talk on “Productivity in the Game of Baseball” at a joint meeting of two mathematical societies held in Phoenix, Arizona. He hopes to publish a paper based on his talk in the Baseball Research Journal. In July, he will travel to Denmark to present a paper “A Geometry Lesson Using Signed Area” at the Tenth International Congress on Mathematical Education that will appear in the conference proceedings. He is considering testing some of the ideas outlined in the paper at a local California high school.

In addition to his intellectual pursuits, Zahn and his wife, Sandy, are enjoying local cultural and culinary offerings. Zahn has taken up swimming again after an absence of 40 years and is training to swim competitively in the 65–69 age group.

Who ever said retirement was boring?

CSIS Faculty and Staff Members Recognized

Bernhey and Dwyer Receive Top Honors

by Louise P. Kleinbaum, assistant dean and director of Communications

Bill Bernhey, CSIS IT support specialist, is this year’s recipient of the 2003 President’s Extra Mile Award in Westchester, one of the highest honors given to a staff or faculty member within the University. This award was established by President David A. Caputo to honor those individuals who perform their day-to-day responsibilities by providing extraordinary service in helping others, and who regularly demonstrate their commitment to the University and Pace pride in all they do.

Cathy Dwyer, lecturer in information systems, was honored with the University Award for Distinguished Faculty Service, a prestigious award given to faculty members who have shown unusual initiative or creativity in giving outstanding service to students, meeting special needs, or in contributing to the attainment of Pace University’s mission and goals.

These awards were conferred at the annual holiday parties held during Employee Recognition Week on the Pleasantville and New York City campuses, respectively.

A number of CSIS faculty and staff members also received service awards in recognition of their 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service to the University. They include:

**New York City**

5 Years
Kimberly Dunbar
James Gabberty

10 Years
Catherine Dwyer
James Lawler
Francis Marchese
Said Reda

25 Years
Edgar Ducasse
Michael Gargano

**Pleasantville**

25 Years
Mary Courtney
Bonnie Gartner

**White Plains**

5 Years
Nancy Uhl

10 Years
Matthew Poli

15 Years
Marie Iadavaia

20 Years
Louise Kleinbaum
Zheng Li joins the information systems department in New York City as an assistant professor. She recently completed her PhD in computer and information science at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

During her five years at NJIT, Li worked as research/teaching assistant while completing her dissertation on Group Decision Support Systems. Her research areas include computer mediated communication, information systems analysis and design, virtual classroom and eLearning, Web-based multimedia technology, and asynchronous learning networks. Her skills lie in programming, database management, statistical packages, and system administration.

Zheng began her studies at Tsinghua University, which is considered one of the most competitive universities in China. She received her BS in industrial automatic instrumentation and installations in 1991 and began working as a systems developer where she assisted in creating a device used for cancer treatment. She then decided to continue her education at Tsinghua and earned an MS in systems engineering. She worked as a system engineer in Northern China’s Institute of computer technology and went then on to a position managing an IT division in Beijing, where she focused on computer network systems integration for nationwide insurance companies.

At that point, Li decided to come to the U.S. to continue her education. She earned a second master’s degree at NJIT in 2000. While at NJIT, she became the president of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association, and later chaired the division of Public Relations of the Association of Chinese Students and Scholars in the Greater New York Area (ACSSNY). Li is teaching two classes this semester, IS 481 and IS 613, both database management courses.

When asked about her initial impression of Pace, Li said: “Pace has highly motivated students. It is my great pleasure to share my knowledge with them, and help them develop a wonderful career.”

As the new academic advisor for the School of Computer Science and Information Systems in New York City, I, Jessica Bantje, am very excited about joining the CSIS team and look forward to working in the Pace community. My responsibilities include academic and career counseling for undergraduate and graduate students, assisting in the development and implementation of recruitment activities, and working with students who are on academic probation.

I came from the College of New Rochelle where I was an admission counselor. My primary responsibilities included recruitment, academic counseling serving as a liaison for Today’s Student’s Tomorrow’s Teachers (TSTT), and working as a transfer and financial aid counselor.

I received my BS in human services and psychology in 2001 from the University of Hartford, where I also played on the women’s tennis team. I then went on to earn my master’s degree in guidance and counseling from the College of New Rochelle. While pursuing my graduate studies, I worked as an infant teacher in Rye Brook, New York.

Congratulations Are in Order!

TO:

Kimberly Dunbar, academic counselor, on her engagement to Benjamin Brazaitis. An August wedding is planned.

Ellen Tilzer, IS adjunct, on the marriage of her son Andrew to Elizabeth Baldwin in Fiji on January 14.
Welcome!

The following individuals have recently joined CSIS:

**Full-time Faculty**
- **Zhang Li**, Assistant Professor of Information Systems, New York City
- **Visiting Scholar**
  - **Sung Soo Yoon**, Computer Science, Westchester
- **Adjunct Faculty**
  - **Woody Batts**, Kristina Leonardo, Cathline Marshall, Computer Science, Westchester
  - **Abdoulaye Samb**, Information Systems, Westchester
  - **Barbara Edington**, Information Systems, New York City
  - **William Bernhey**, Daniel Cocciardi, Technology Systems
- **Student Aides**
  - Carolina Mendez, New York City
  - Phu Tran, New York City
- **Graduate Assistants**
  - William Daley, Information Systems, Westchester
  - Sudha Inuganti, Technology Systems
  - Udochukwu Nwachukwu, Information Systems, New York City
  - Hazel Thomas, Dean's Office
  - Mayank Upadhyay, 1st Course, New York City

**Staff**
- **Jessica Bantje**, Academic Advisor, New York City
- **Wilfredo Pena**, Staff Assistant, New York City

**Student and Alumni/ae Accomplishments**

**William Daley**, MS/IS, and **Isaac Gabriel**, IS adjunct, have collaborated on a paper titled “System for Audience Participation in Event Scoring at the 2004 Olympic Games” that they presented at the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Conference in April as part of an ACM-sponsored Student Design Competition. The paper will be published in the conference proceedings.

**Arthur Evans, John Sikorski, Patricia Thomas, Jie Zou, and George Nagy** coauthored “Interactive Visual System,” Technical Report, No. 196 (December 2003) with **Charles Tappert**, computer science, and **Sung-Hyuk Cha**, computer science. The paper was an outgrowth of a team project undertaken in Tappert’s graduate software engineering seminar.

**Karina Hernandez**, DPS, presented the paper “Improving Problem Determination by Learning an Accurate Dynamic Probabilistic Model,” which is based on her doctoral research, to the IBM Academy of Technology: 2nd Proactive Problem Prediction, Avoidance and Diagnosis Conference: Techniques, Algorithms and Best Practices for Computer Systems held in Fishkill, New York, in April. Hernandez is employed by IBM as a systems engineer.

**Satty O. Joshua**, DPS, coauthored the paper “On the Performance of the HIPERLAN CAC Layer Protocol” with **Constantine Coutras**, computer science, which was published in WSEAS Transactions on Communications.


**Ilya Tilevich**, BA/CS ’97, who is now known as Eli, has stayed in touch with Joseph Bergin, computer science, since graduating from Pace. Tilevich had been pursuing a promising professional career as a musician until he fell and broke his wrist. No longer able to play the clarinet at the level required, Tilevich switched direction and came to Pace to study computer science in which he excelled. Bergin reports that Tilevich is now a candidate for a PhD at Georgia Tech, where he is pursuing research in “Language Tools for Separating Distribution Concerns,” his dissertation topic.

**Oleg Yunakov**, BS/CS, **Kevin Ellis**, BS/CS, and **Pritesh Damani**, MS/CS, recently participated in a live, global, interactive Web cast featuring Vinton G. Cerf, an accomplished scientist and mathematician who is considered one of the founding fathers of the Internet. This event was cosponsored by New York City’s Millennium High School and the National Technology Hall of Fame.

CSIS Faculty and Staff Assume New Roles

Several CSIS faculty and staff members are wearing new hats or have taken on new roles in addition to their current responsibilities:

**Bill Bernhey**, CSIS IT support specialist, has been appointed adjunct instructor in Technology Systems.

**Kim Dunbar** has been promoted to academic counselor in New York City.

**Guari Ghare**, adjunct assistant professor, is also working for the CLOUT program as a database administrator for the Welfare to Careers Research Project.
Faculty Achievements

Linda Jo Calloway, information systems, recently attended the International Conference on Information Systems held in Seattle, Washington. She also copresented a paper titled “The Driving Forces of China’s March Toward ICT Maturation” with James Gabberty, Information Systems, at the International Applied Business Research Conference held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The paper won the Best in Session award.

Catharina Daniels, technology systems, and Susan Feather-Gannon, technology systems, attended the 23rd Annual Organizational Systems Research Association Conference held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where they both participated in a panel presentation on the new OEIS model curriculum. Feather-Gannon also served as a moderator for a session on “Intellectual Property Issues for Information Technology” and as a panelist on another session titled “Qualitative Case Study Research, OEIS Technologies, Learning, and Performance.”

Daniel Farkas, IS chair/Westchester, and Narayan Murthy, CS chair/Westchester, attended the K-State Academic Chairpersons Conference held in Orlando, Florida.

Dietrich Fischer, computer science, is currently on sabbatical at the European University Center for Peace Studies in Stadtschlaining, Austria where he is teaching courses on Violence, Security, and Demilitarization and on United Nations Reform.

Anthony Joseph, computer science, served as a judge at the 2004 New York Academy of Sciences Expo Science and Engineering Fair for high school students and as a National Science Foundation (NSF) reviewer for the Federal Cyber Service: Scholarship for Service program at NSF Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

In addition, Joseph, along with John Teall, Lubin Finance, received a $10,000 grant from the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA) for the development of an upper level undergraduate course in entrepreneurial financial computing to teach students working in E-teams to develop commercially viable software of quantitative financial models for different types of analyses.

Richard Kline, computer science, James Lawler, information systems, and Lixin Tao, computer science, received Released Time grants for fall 2004. Kline will use the time to pursue study in advanced visualization and analysis tools for sociological data sets; Lawler to investigate security education in the era of cyber-terrorism; and Tao to research architectural solutions to agent-enabling e-commerce portals with pull/push abilities.

Susan Merritt, CSIS dean, was recently appointed a member of the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (CAC/ABET). In addition, she was named vice president for academic affairs of the Society for Information Management, Westchester/Fairfield chapter. She also presented an invited talk “Leadership” at the IT Deans Meeting held in Washington, D.C. and another on “Preparing for Accreditation” at the Association for Computing Machinery’s (ACM) Computer Science Education Conference held in Norfolk, Virginia.

Namchul Shin, information systems, chaired the e-Business track at the 3rd ISOneWorld Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lixin Tao, computer science, has been named to Academic Keys’ Who’s Who in Sciences Higher Education.

Jennifer Thomas, information systems, attended the annual board meeting of the Education Special Interest Group (EDSIG) of the Association of Information Technology Professionals held in San Diego, California.
Combinatorics, Graph Theory and
Proceedings of the Thirty-Fifth
that Self Adapt a Genetic Algorithm,”
“Multiple Genomic Representations
practice
of Innovation, Management, Policy and
China, Japan and the U.S.A.,”
“Revving the Innovation Engine in
Information Systems Education Journal
Curriculum (Why? Now? Never?),”
“Quantum Computing (QC),
Quantum Encryption (QE)
Quantum Information (QI), and
The Quantum Computing (QC),
Ronald Frank
“The Quantum Computing (QC),
Quantum Information (QI), and
Quantum Encryption (QE)
Curriculum (Why? Now? Never?),”
Proceedings of the Information Systems
Education Conference—ISECON ’03
(December 2003).
“The Quantum Computing (QC),
Quantum Information (QI), and
Quantum Encryption (QE)
Curriculum (Why? Now? Never?),”
Information Systems Education Journal
(December 2003).
James Gabberty
“Revving the Innovation Engine in
James Gabberty and
Robert Vambery
Michael L. Gargano,
Maheswara Kasinadhuni, and
Joseph DeCicco
Michael L. Gargano,
William Edelson,
Paul Benjamin, Paul Meisinger,
Maheswara Kasinadhuni, and
Joseph DeCicco
Michael L. Gargano,
Krystyna T. Balińska,
Krzystof T. Zwierzynski, and
Louis V. Quintas
Michael L. Gargano and
Louis V. Quintas
Anthony Joseph and
Ahmad Alnimrat
Richard Kline
James Lawler
Namchul Shin
Namchul Shin, Mihail Stoica, and Nimit Chawat
Jennifer Thomas
CSIS Technical Reports
Dennis Anderson, James Lawler,
Mohamed Elkassas, and
Jonathan Hill
Arthur Evans, John Sikorski,
Patricia Thomas, Jie Zou,
George Nagy, Sung-Hyuk Cha, and
Charles Tappert
Edward J. Farrell,
Michael L. Gargano, and
Louis V. Quintas
James P. Lawler
Lixin Tao

doctoral dissertations
Bernice J. Houle. “Adult Student Persistence in Distance Education,” New York University (March 2004).

computer science
Master’s theses
Shosha Shen. “Converting Labanotation to 3D Animation,” (December 2003).
last issue we discussed the definitions and blurring of characteristics of viruses, trojans, and worms. And yet these nasty critters are not the only items to plague us as we stroll through cyberspace on the Internet. Have you ever wondered if all those Windows updates are only designed to slow down your PC? (I can’t prove that they are, but I do know it’s still a good idea to make sure you’re up to date or else something is bound to exploit those vulnerabilities and really slow it down). But it seems like nothing runs better than a new PC right out of the box. You are almost afraid to start using it as you know that programs will soon take longer to open, browsing will slow, and odd things will begin to happen.

Trust me, the PC is much more useful out of its cardboard and cel-lophane protection. And yet you ask what can cause these problems? You have an antivirus program installed (you DO have an antivirus program installed, right?) and after the initial setup you haven’t installed any new software... at least that you know of. And there is the rub. You may have not installed anything new but someone else certainly has. Who you ask? Your wife/husband, son/daughter... the cat/dog? No, while many of us would like to blame the cat (the dog only looks guilty) our culprit is someone I like to refer to as Little Brother (LB for short).

As many of you may recall in his classic novel, 1984, George Orwell described a totalitarian society in which the government, referred to as the Party, had almost complete control over the people. The supreme ruler of the Party was Big Brother who was “always watching.” While Big Bother may not exist in our current society, his little brothers certainly do, on the Internet. Tracking cookies, spyware, and malware (malicious software) abounds on the Internet awaiting unsuspecting travelers of cyberspace to visit a site where these items can be delivered to a user’s PC. LBs want to know where you have been, what have you seen, where you come from, what information you have entered, etc. Some LBs go so far as to install mini-programs called malware that automatically create shortcuts on your desktop (no matter how often you delete them), force your browser’s default homepage to be their site, have page requests routed through their site, as well as a plague of other items that can cripple your PC and browser. Why would someone do this? It’s all about the money. The more these Internet tracking companies know about you, and the more they can route you through their sites, the more revenue they can generate from advertising. Other than being rather annoying, these mini-programs also run as processes on your PC eating up system resources thus slowing down boot time, and overall speed.

As you would expect, this has irritated enough people to bring to market a variety of products that will clean up PCs of these unwanted spies. Two popular (and free) tools are called Adaware and Spybot. You should use both because, between the two of them, you are bound to catch the majority of offenders. On the downside, these products are primarily cleaners, so they usually won’t eliminate the problem altogether. But a new feature of Spybot does have the ability to allow you to immunize your computer against some spyware. It basically tweaks internal Internet Explorer settings to block the installation of known spyware (and similar threats) installers. Simply click on the button called “Immunize” to enable this feature. Of course LB is a determined and creative foe, so, if you are a heavy Internet browser, you may still want to run them frequently. Just make sure you always click on their “Check for update” links within the programs before you run the scans (and perhaps apologize to the cat). This useful software can be found at:

- Adaware
  www.lavasoftusa.com/
- Spybot
  www.safer-networking.org/

upcoming events

May
18 CSIS Award Ceremony, Westchester Pleasantville 5:45 p.m.
20 CSIS Award Ceremony, New York City 6:15 p.m.
23 Graduate Commencement, Westchester Pleasantville 2:30 p.m.
24 Undergraduate Commencement, Westchester Pleasantville 10:45 a.m.
25 Undergraduate Commencement, New York City, Radio City Music Hall 10:30 a.m.

Graduate Commencement, New York City, Radio City Music Hall 4:00 p.m.

June
7 Leadership and Service in Technology Award Presentation and Reception, Bryant Park Grill, New York City 6:00 p.m.
19 DPS. Barbecue, 78 North Broadway Campus, White Plains 5:00 p.m.

“And this is Charles, our Web master.”

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