



# Department of Computer Science Master's Programs Newsletter

Fall 2010

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## Courant Institute Alumni Organization

The Courant Institute Alumni Organization kicks off its second year with a meeting on Tuesday, November 9th at 7:30 p.m., in the 13<sup>th</sup> floor lounge of Warren Weaver Hall. The association was created to provide meaningful interactions, such as networking and start-up activities, for Courant alumni. Through these activities, alumni not only develop relationships with each other, but also throughout Courant and NYU. The group's commitment is to build a community that will benefit both alumni and Courant students, while increasing the recognition of Courant's excellence in industry and in the community.

A volunteer steering committee will meet each semester to discuss group development and activities. To join the alumni organization or the steering committee, email [courant.alumni@nyu.edu](mailto:courant.alumni@nyu.edu) with your name, address and phone number. To be eligible you must be a graduate of Courant.

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## MACS Update

The Master's Association of Computer Science (MACS) is looking forward to another event-filled year. MACS is a student organization, in which all MSCS and MSIS students are automatically members. Their goal is to enhance students' time at NYU, by hosting a variety of events throughout the school year and by connecting students with other disciplines.



Last year, they hosted a trip to IBM, several software hack-days and a programming competition. They also had a series of 'technology-to-business' events, which included founders of several prominent New York City tech companies, Stern professors, and Google professionals, to name a few.

MACS has already begun planning events for this year. The MACS Fall 2010 Open Source Program is underway. A large group of students attended the kickoff event and chose to develop the official node.js driver for MongoDB, with Kristina Chodorow of 10gen. Meetings occur every two weeks. MACS also has a variety of upcoming events ranging from a company tour to a professor battle.

To learn more about MACS and their events, visit their [website](#). If you are interested in getting involved in the group, contact them at [macs@cs.nyu.edu](mailto:macs@cs.nyu.edu). They welcome input and involvement from students, alumni and faculty. MACS looks forward to seeing you at their events this year and building a stronger master's community together.

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### Computer Science Graduate Student Reception

Mark your calendar! The Computer Science Graduate Student Reception will be on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. in the 13<sup>th</sup> floor commons of Warren Weaver Hall. All Computer Science faculty, master's students, PhD students and alumni are invited. The night will be filled with camaraderie, fun and refreshments. We hope you will join us for this festive kick off to the fall semester!

### Master's College Program Board

The [Master's College Program Board](#) is made up of current GSAS students interested in helping create a vibrant and active community within GSAS. In conjunction with the Master's College, they hold numerous events throughout the year. Upcoming events include Oktoberfest, apple picking and karaoke. Visit their [events page](#) to see their complete list of upcoming events. If interested in applying to be on the Master's College Board, please email Susanne Collado at [suzanne.collado@nyu.edu](mailto:suzanne.collado@nyu.edu).



## Student Spotlight: Apoorva Vadi



Apoorva Vadi, an MSIS student, wasted no time getting involved in the NYU community, when she enrolled in the Spring 2010 semester. In an effort to make new friends and learn more about NYU, she started attending events held by the GSAS Master's College Program Board. Enjoying the experience so much, she soon began helping them plan events. Her leadership and interpersonal skills were quickly noted and she was nominated for senator in the GSAS Graduate Student Government, a position she received.

As a senator, Apoorva serves on the GSAS Executive Board. As part of that role, she organizes events for the student body, assists with granting funds for student clubs and plans numerous community service projects. Her involvement allows Apoorva to have a direct impact on building a strong and vibrant community for the master's students in GSAS and at NYU.

One of Apoorva's responsibilities is to serve as the GSAS representative on the Student Senators Council. This organization is made up of representatives from schools across campus. As part of this responsibility, she attends the University Senate meetings, which are comprised of the Student Senators Council, the Faculty Senators Council, the Deans Council and the Administrative Management Council. Apoorva serves a vital role in this group by giving a voice to students' concerns and issues. They have brought to focus many issues facing graduate students, including on campus housing and the challenges that face international students.

She also serves on the University Committee for Student Life, where she sits on three committees: All Square Student Budget Allocation Committee; International Affairs Committee and Public Relations.

Apoorva explains that her involvement has been a great learning experience and has allowed her to meet people from different majors, departments and schools. She emphasizes that getting involved, "enriches your experience at NYU." She adds that it is, "important to utilize the resources that NYU provides to enrich your student life experience and to have fun as a student." She also stresses the importance of networking for young professionals, a skill her involvement has allowed her to hone.

Apoorva encourages students to learn more about the [Graduate Student Government](#) and to visit the [Master's College Program Board Facebook Page](#). Students can also tweet the Master's College Program Board at NYU\_GSAS\_MA.

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### Job Searching?

Need your resume reviewed? Worried about how to answer tough interview questions? Unsure how to network effectively? Then, the Wasserman Center for Career Development is the place for you! You can meet with a career counselor for individualized career guidance, resume and cover letter critiques and mock interviews. They also have an array of events, seminars and services.

Whether you are looking for a full-time job or an internship, take advantage of all the services available at Wasserman. You can visit them in person at 133 E. 13<sup>th</sup> St. 2nd floor or [online](#).

### Congratulations!



The Computer Science Department would like to congratulate Ravi Malhotra and Ai Nguyen on winning the 2010 Matthew Smosna Award. The Matthew Smosna Prize is given each year to the master's student(s) with the highest level of academic achievement.

Congratulations Ravi and Ai on your academic achievements! The department wishes them and all our other recent graduates success in all of their future endeavors.

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The Computer Science Master's Programs at The Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences

<http://cs.nyu.edu/web/Academic/Graduate/index.html#MS>

Comments or suggestions for this newsletter can be addressed to Jennifer Conlan Darlington at [conlan@cs.nyu.edu](mailto:conlan@cs.nyu.edu)