



Department of Computer Science

Master's Programs Newsletter

Fall 2008

Message from Chee Yap, Director of Graduate Studies

Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter for Master's Programs in Computer Science. The message I want to convey is this: *the Master's Program is on the move!* This might not be apparent to you, but let me mention three things in the last year, as they are all intimations of things to come!

- In the latest September Core Exam, we redefined the "Core" courses to include Fundamental Algorithms, Programming Languages and Operating Systems. Thus, we've dropped Compilers and plan to regroup our future academic program around this small but rigorous core.
- Last spring, we added a popular course in financial computing. Financial computing is a natural direction for our department, despite the recent events in Wall Street. The basic idea is to introduce various specializations from financial computing to graphics to intelligent systems, which will add value to your Master's degree.
- Last year, our free coffee and cookies for Master's students during the exam week was a hit. We also had the first Master's student social event. You will also read in this newsletter about our recently formed Master's Association for Computer Science (MACS). It will become an official NYU club with a charter to serve you all. Jen Conlan and I are really excited to work with these enthusiastic volunteers. In short, we want to address you as a distinct group, Master's students, with unique needs, both professionally and socially.

The Master's community is what you make it. What can you do? Get the word out to your friends, volunteer through MACS, or drop in my office to discuss your ideas and suggestions.

Tech on the Street

Wondering about tech opportunities on Wall Street? The Wasserman Center for Career Development has the answer. In recent years, Wasserman has seen the demand for technology students, especially among Wall Street employers, increase. As such, they will be hosting *Tech on the Street*. It is an opportunity for students to learn about career paths in technology, discuss the quantity and variety of job opportunities and ask questions. Wasserman has partnered with numerous companies for this event. It takes place on Wednesday, November 5th from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. at 133 East 13th Street 2nd Floor.



Master's Welcome Reception

Mark your calendar! The Computer Science Master's Welcome Reception will be on Thursday, October 16th. The reception will be from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the 13th floor Commons of Warren Weaver Hall. All Computer Science faculty, Master's 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!

Introducing MACS

The Computer Science Department is happy to announce the formation of a new student group, the Master's Association for Computer Science (MACS). MACS' mission is to develop & to foster a community for master students in the CS Department. There will be events throughout the year; keep an eye out for announcements, starting with their Halloween party on Thursday, October 30th at 7pm in the 13th Floor Commons of Warren Weaver Hall. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please e-mail macs@cs.nyu.edu.

Special Event: Ksh and the AST Toolkit by David Korn of AT&T Laboratories



The Computer Science Department is excited to welcome NYU alumnus David Korn for a special Master's event this fall. David will be presenting his talk, Ksh and the AST Toolkit.

David is a prominent leader in the field of shells and software development techniques that improve programming productivity. He is best known for his Korn shell, ksh, which is a POSIX compatible UNIX shell and a high-level programming language. The shell is one of the most important components of the UNIX operating system. One of the most widely used UNIX shells is ksh, often referred to as the Korn Shell. The shell is both an interactive command language and a powerful programming language. Ksh was introduced nearly 25 years ago. This talk will present a history of Ksh and the companion AST Toolkit. David is currently a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff in the research division of AT&T Labs. He is also a Bell Labs fellow and an AT&T fellow.

The event takes place on Tuesday, November 4th (*don't forget to vote*) in Warren Weaver Hall room 109 at 4 p.m. A reception will follow in the 13th floor Commons of Warren Weaver Hall. We invite Master's students, alumni and faculty to attend. For more information on the event, please visit:

<http://cs.nyu.edu/web/Calendar/colloquium/fall08/nov4.html>

The Wonderful World of Wasserman

<http://www.nyu.edu/careerdevelopment/>

The Wasserman Center of Career Development provides comprehensive services for Master's students across a broad spectrum of programs. The Center has developed a collection of programs and services that cater to the special needs of graduate students. The following are just a sampling of the services they provide:

Career Counseling: Experienced career development professionals work one-on-one with graduate students to assist with their career planning and job search. Assistance is provided through individualized resume, CV and cover letter critiques, interview coaching and referrals to informational resources.

The NYU Wasserman Center Mentor Network: The Mentor Network is comprised of more than 700 NYU alumni and professional volunteers who meet with NYU students for career advisement. Students can use the Mentor Network to identify professionals in their areas of interest and discuss career interests and goals, as well as learn of career opportunities.

Job Expo for Graduate Students, Alumni and Experienced Professionals: Held in the spring, this large career fair brings employers to campus specifically to meet with graduate students and other experienced job seekers for current jobs and internship positions.

The Kaplan Graduate Student and Alumni Lounge: This lounge is reserved for graduate students and alumni to provide a professional environment where students can pursue their career exploration and job search. The lounge is equipped with computers, local telephone access, printers, fax, wireless Internet and a library of career guidebooks and other reference materials.

The Computer Science Master's Programs at 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 at conlan@cs.nyu.edu