We Made It!! Now, Have a Great Summer

Dr. Edward L. Jones, Chairman

The semester is over – at last!! You made it. I made it. We made it!! I want to thank everyone for helping the department make it through the year.

In this long overdue issue of the Vision, I want to put the past year in perspective, to recognize major events and contributions, and to set the stage for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Major accomplishments this year:
- Improved CIS web site
- Outstanding student internship assignments
- Accreditation visit for the Computer Information Science major (the science option). Final decision expected Fall 2002.
- Record number of spring 2002 graduates, 56 B.S., 6 M.S.
- University funds for faculty development, technical support.
- Active undergraduate research

Major challenges this year (we're still working on them):
- Computing laboratory/staff
- Responsibility and respect
- Academic honesty
- Advisement
- Academic progression
- Faculty size growth
- Graduate program enhancement

I want to recognize a few people who made timely contributors to the department during the year.

-------------------
See Contributors, page 2
Contributors

Mrs. Lewis, CIS Department Office Manager, is the cornerstone of the department. As a participant in the As students would say, she knows the ropes. Her duties include payroll, travel arrangements, hosting departmental guests, managing office staff and student workers, "keeping the books," and just plain caring for students and faculty – and me. Be sure to show her your appreciation the next chance you get.

Dr. Usha Chandra led the effort to revamp the CIS web site. She and student Hugh Stone designed the website, took pictures, and gathered data from faculty and other sources. Everyone loves the site's clarity and speed. (Over the summer we'll take down the Under Construction signs.)

Dr. Thorna Humphries, the mother of ABET/CAC accreditation, devoted a year to pulling together the materials needed to start the accreditation process.

Dr. Deidre Williams Evans, in her role as Associate Chairperson, helped me navigate procedural issues of class scheduling and general administration. She has taken the lead in completing the final data needed for the accreditation process.

Dr. Bobby Granville swept six floors of stairwell, in preparation for the accreditation visit. Need I say more?

I am very appreciative of the helpfulness and leadership of student leaders. Gordon Radney, ACM President, represented the department in an outreach at Fairview Middle School, and has organized workshops for CIS students. Andrea Ambrose has shown an interest in enhancing the atmosphere and technical infra-structure of the department. She developed the Computing Lab User Satisfaction Survey you are being asked to complete before you leave for summer vacation. Others have shared their concerns about raising the bar to maintain high standards, and the need for more teachers.

The department can not help but move forward because of the caring efforts of these and other students, faculty and staff. I personally thank each one who has taken time to give input for improving the "system" called the CIS Department.

Raising the Bar – Get Ready!!

The challenges facing our department are many, but not insurmountable. Students play a surprisingly important role in rising to these challenges. Let me point out a few ways.

- Take responsibility for your own academic career.
  - Pass the course the 1st time
  - Go to class, keep up
  - Get advised, follow advice
  - Keep your own planning and progress worksheet up to date.
- Practice academic honesty. Do your own work. Don’t get caught up in plagiarism.
- Follow the rules; don’t expect exceptions or waivers.
- Rise to the challenge of teachers who demand more.
- Don’t get tricked into trying to lower the bar.
- Respect resources provided – faculty, staff, labs, building (don’t litter).
- Volunteer to help in areas of need – lab assistants, tutors.
- Go on an internship – see what the world is really like.
- Do things on time!
- Trust us.


Summa cum laude*** graduates are Kristina Gilliard(3.97) and Regina Joyce(3.78). Eight will graduate Magna cum laude**, and 9 cum laude*. (40% graduate with honors!!)

Congratulations to each of you. Godspeed. Stay in touch. Lead with character, success will follow.

Spring 2002 Graduates

Dr. Bobby Granville swept six floors of stairwell, in preparation for the accreditation visit. Others have shared their concerns about raising the bar to maintain high standards, and the need for more teachers.

The department can not help but move forward because of the caring efforts of these and other students, faculty and staff. I personally thank each one who has taken time to give input for improving the "system" called the CIS Department.

Computing Lab User Satisfaction Survey you are being asked to complete before you leave for summer vacation. Others have shared their concerns about raising the bar to maintain high standards, and the need for more teachers.

The department can not help but move forward because of the caring efforts of these and other students, faculty and staff. I personally thank each one who has taken time to give input for improving the "system" called the CIS Department.

... CIS Faculty & Staff ...