



# E-Newsletter

Spring 2010 Highlights

## Howdy!



This past spring semester was certainly busy. We are happy to announce that many awards were given to our deserving faculty and students. This edition of the E-Newsletter highlights the national and international recognition that our faculty has received during the past year; please read the main article for details. Also, please see the sidebar for more well-deserved promotions, awards, and recognitions.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Jeffrey Vitter on his new position as University of Kansas provost and executive vice chancellor, effective July 1, 2010. It has been a great pleasure having Jeff here at Texas A&M University as professor in our department, and we thank him for his service and dedication.

Spring 2010 was also a time to honor our distinguished former students. This year's Distinguished Former Student Awards were presented to Jeanne Bayless BS '79, Managing Partner of STAR Ventures, and Dr. Steven Swanson PhD '98, astronaut for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). For more information about our awardees, please visit our [Former Students website](#).

Nominations for our 2011 Distinguished Former Student (DFS) Awards are now open and are due by 15 August 2010. The nomination packet should consist of a brief citation (not more than 80 words) describing the nominee's technical accomplishments and contributions to the computing profession, a current vita or resume, and up to three supporting letters. There is no limit to the number of nominations you may submit. We look forward to receiving your nominations! Nominations may be submitted via fax, email or mail to:

Ms. Leah Lewis  
CSE DFS Award Committee  
301 Harvey R. Bright Building  
3112 TAMU  
College Station, Texas 77843-3112  
Fax: (979)845-1420  
Email: [cseaggies@cse.tamu.edu](mailto:cseaggies@cse.tamu.edu)

I encourage you to visit the Computer Science and Engineering homepage or contact me at the email address below to learn more about the department. I look forward to continuing to work with our excellent faculty, students, and friends during the upcoming 2010 fall semester.

Valerie E. Taylor  
Department Head and Royce E. Wisenbaker Professor  
Texas A&M University

Contact Dr. Taylor by [email](mailto:valerie.taylor@tamu.edu)

## CSE Faculty Receives Recognition

During the past year, several of our faculty have received significant awards at the national and international level. These accolades are testament to the excellent quality of their research. The following mentions are just a few of the awards received by our well-deserving faculty.

Assistant Professor James Caverlee recently received a 2010 Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency Young Faculty Award (DARPA YFA) for his research on the technical challenges associated with monitoring, analyzing, and distilling information from the massive-scale social systems that are present in today's internet. The Young Faculty Award is a highly sought-after award given to outstanding junior faculty whose research will enable revolutionary advances in the areas of the physical sciences, engineering, and mathematics.

Assistant Professor Guofei Gu received a 2010 National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER award for his research in computer and network security. The highly-prestigious CAREER awards are given to exceptional junior faculty members in order to help them further advance their research and teaching activities. Guofei's award continues the yearly trend of our junior faculty receiving this honor. Our department currently hosts twelve CAREER awardees.

Two of our senior faculty were chosen as Fellows of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Professor Nancy Amato was honored for her contributions to the algorithmic foundations of motion planning in robotics and computational biology. And, Raytheon Professor Robin Murphy was cited for her contributions to rescue robotics and insertion of robots into major disasters. The prestigious IEEE Fellow award is given to members whose research is considered to have significant impact in advancing technology for the benefit of humanity.

Murphy was also selected to receive the prestigious Motohiro Kiso Award from the International Rescue System Institute (IRS). This was a very significant event, as it was the first time the award has been presented to a researcher from outside of Japan. She was chosen for her outstanding academic contributions in establishing a new research field in rescue engineering.

Professor and newly appointed University of Kansas provost and executive vice chancellor Jeffrey Vitter was awarded the distinction of Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Election as a Fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers, and honorees are chosen because of their efforts to advance science or its applications. Dr. Vitter was elected for his distinguished contributions to the design and analysis of efficient computer algorithms and data structures, particularly those involving massive amounts of data.

Professor and College of Engineering Endowed Chair in Computer Science Bjarne Stroustrup was presented with the Rigmor and Carl Holst-Knudsen Science Prize, Aarhus University's oldest and most prestigious award. Dr. Stroustrup was honored for his contributions to science for developing and implementing the C++ programming language. The Rigmor and Carl Holst-Knudsen Science Prize is awarded annually to internationally renowned scientists who began their careers at the University of Aarhus.

As you can see, this is an exciting time for our department; our faculty are reaping the well deserved awards for their research. To learn more about our faculty and their research, please visit <http://www.cse.tamu.edu/research>.

## Save These Dates!

Sept 3: Current and Former Student Picnic  
Sept 14-15: [Industrial Affiliates Program Meeting](#)  
Sept 27-28: Texas Research Exchange Fest  
Oct 2: [CSE Contest: Texting 2010](#)  
Dec 17: Fall 2010 Graduation Reception

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## Faculty Recognition

### Awards

Nancy Amato — E.D. Brockett Professorship, TEES Senior Fellow

Ricardo Gutierrez-Osuna — Association of Former Students College-level Distinguished Teaching Award

Dr. Jaakko Järvi — TEES Select Young Faculty

John Keyser — William Keeler Faculty Fellow

Hank Walker — Charles W. Crawford Service Award

### Faculty Promotions

Bjarne Stroustrup — Distinguished Professor\* (\*note: This is the first distinguished professorship awarded to the department!)

Rabi Mamhapatra — Professor

Jaakko Järvi — Associate Professor with Tenure

Eun Jung Kim — Associate Professor with Tenure

Dezhen Dong — Associate Professor with Tenure

### Appointments

Riccardo Bettati — Director, Center for Information Assurance and Security (CIAS)

### Student Awards

Brittany Duncan — NSF Graduate Fellowship

Carla Villoria — Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship & Microsoft Scholarship

William Hamilton — Honorable Mention, Computing Research Association (CRA) 2010 Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award

Travis Carr, Nick Mai, Matthew Mullins, Luke Murray, Ankur Nandwani, Robert Schumacher, Kyle Willmon, and Sandeep Yadav — 1st Place, Southwest Regional Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition

Heeyoul Choi — 1st Place, Spring 2010 IAP poster competition

Jason Smith — 2nd Place, Spring 2010 IAP poster competition

Mayank Singh — 3rd Place, Spring 2010 IAP poster competition

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