Elon Computing Sciences is proud to add Dr. Duke Hutchings to the team. Dr. Hutchings received his Ph.D. from Georgia Tech and comes to Elon after having taught for two years at Bowling Green State University.

Dr. Hutchings will be teaching CIS classes as well as continuing his research efforts in Human-Computer Interaction, Usability, and Information Visualization. In particular, he has published work on the use of picture passwords and the usability of multiple-monitor environments. He is a welcome and prestigious addition to the Computing Sciences department.

From the Chair, Dave Powell

Elon University is a special place with outstanding students, passionate faculty, dedicated staff, visionary leadership and successful alumni that collectively has caused Elon to continually climb in national recognition. Calendar year 2008 had many significant accomplishments made by students and faculty that are proudly described in this newsletter. I would like to ask your help as we strive to continually improve. Please send me an email at dpowell2@elon.edu or give me a call to let me know your successes, your technology challenges and your suggestions to better prepare students for a lifetime of rewarding challenges. Current students and prospective students are eager to hear about your successes and we are most proud to tell your stories. On behalf of the department, I wish you success in the upcoming year of economic uncertainty.
Megan Squire Wins Research Award

Dr. Megan Squire’s research on FLOSSmole, a project that studies Free, Libre, and Open Source Software earned her the 2008 Excellence in Scholarship award for the College of Arts and Sciences. The international project includes 14 developers and over 100 contributors. She has earned two grants from the National Science Foundation for the project, including five terabytes of storage on the TeraGrid network. She has also completed pedagogical scholarship relating to the use of the role-playing “Reacting to the Past” game used to teach about the impact of technology on society. Congratulations, Megan!

Faculty Accomplishments

The following are some of the accomplishments of the Computing Sciences faculty for 2008:

- **Lynn Heinrichs** published an article entitled “Should Home and Micro-based Businesses Take Disaster-Planning Advice from On-line Sources?” in the *Journal of Research in Business Information Systems*. She also coauthored a paper entitled “A Comparison of Student Use and Understanding of Text Messaging Shorthand at Two Universities” for the International Association for Computer Information Systems. Finally, Lynn has been awarded a sabbatical for the fall of 2009 to complete a research project “A Case Study in the Diffusion of a Knowledge-Sharing and Collaboration Platform.”


- **Michele Kleckner** co-presented a workshop on “Using the Global Experience: How Faculty at Elon University Engage Students in the Study of Global Issues” at a Global Studies conference in Chicago. She also presented the paper “The Use of an Action Item Based System to Implement and Document Embedded Assurance of Learning Activities in Support of a School/Program’s Strategy Elements” at the International Association for Computer Information Systems.

- **Michele Kleckner and Shannon Duvall** co-authored a paper entitled “Lessons Learned: The Creation of a CS/CIS Gateway Class” for the International Association for Computer Information Systems.

- **Shannon Duvall** published an article called “A Mental Makeover for the Graduate Student” in the magazine *IEEE Potentials*. She also co-presented a panel entitled “The ABCs for ABDs” at the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing in Keystone Colorado.
Greg Galante won the 2008 Computer Science Academic Achievement award.

Sarah Gottfried and Maggie Presley won the Information Systems Academic Achievement Award for 2008.

Christian Funkhouser was awarded the Computing Sciences Department Service award.

Greg Galante, Evan Morris, and Nicholas Harper won the Elon University Programming Contest award.

Tess Stamper was awarded the 2008 Carpenter Award.

Svetlin R. Tzolov presented his research, “Internet Communities” at the 2008 Student Undergraduate Research Forum under his mentor, Alex Yap.

Two programming teams competed in the 2008 Mid-Atlantic programming contest: Kyle Schutt, Brad Nock, Vic McLaughlin, Tyler Anderson, Tess Stamper, and Evan Morris.

Hollingsworth Introduces Mobile Devices to CS Department

Joel Hollingsworth is mentoring Vic McGlaughlin in a research project using mobile devices. Here is what Vic reports about the project:

"Over the past ten months, I’ve been working on a software framework for the iPhone under the mentorship of Joel Hollingsworth. We’ve been able to take a graphical model created by a 3D computer graphics program and render it to the screen of an iPod Touch. The model can be animated on the screen (our robot model hovers). The user can trigger various animations by swiping a finger in different directions along the screen or by waving the device in different directions. Finally, the model can be sent over a wireless network to another device, where it will show up on the screen and continue animating."
This year Shannon Duvall was awarded a grant from Elon's Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning to redesign the Graphics and Game Programming Course. This fall, students were able to program games using Microsoft's XNA Game Development package. As a result, the final games are playable on the Xbox 360. The student teams made some incredible video games during the course, including Z-Day (right), in which zombies take over Elon, Shipwrecked (left), in which you must complete mini-games to get off a desert island, and Grape Stomper, in which you battle during the Grape Picker's strike of 1966. Shannon will travel to the Foundations of Digital Games conference in April 2009 and hopes to present work there based on the course redesign.