

Interface

ACM Students Start a Popular Tradition

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The ACM student chapter has begun a new, popular tradition at Elon known as F3, or the "Faculty Frag Fest." This video game contest and party was held in both spring and fall semesters last year, and has become a regular semi-annual event for the department and the ACM student club. Students and faculty come to play video games, either in teams or individually, and compete for prizes.



Students play video games in Duke Building during the Frag Fest.

In Fall 2006, the student team "L1 Cache" defeated the faculty/staff team

"Staff Infection" in the video game Quake 3. They were beaten, however, by student team "BAMFS" in the Halo 2 tournament. A total of 12 teams competed in the single-elimination tournaments. Corporate sponsors and the ACM provided food, drinks, and prizes for attendees.

The event has grown in popularity and participation, taking the entire third floor of the Duke Building. In addition to showing the fun side of "geekiness", the event draws new campus-wide attention to the department.



Dave Powell Receives Teaching Award



Each year Dean Steven House presents an Excellence in Teaching award for the College of Arts and Sciences. The prestigious award for the 2005-2006 academic year was given to two professors in Arts and Sciences, one of which is Computing Sciences' own Dave Powell! While the department has long been aware of Dave's dynamic teaching style, passion for students, and innovation in the classroom, we are pleased that his excellence has been recognized at the College level.

Congratulations, Dave!

Faculty Scholarship



This year the Computing Sciences faculty has been very busy! Here are some notes on the scholarship of the CS faculty.

- **Megan Conklin** published “FLOSSmole: A Collaborative Repository for FLOSS Research Data and Analyses” in the International Journal of Information Technology and Web Engineering and “Beyond low-hanging fruit: Seeking the next generation in FLOSS data mining.” in the Conference on Open Source Systems. In addition, she was awarded a grant from the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning Scholars Program.
- **Shannon Duvall** officially received her Ph.D. (and changed her name!) this fall. Her dissertation was entitled, “Defining the Complexity of Natural Language Dialogue System Domains”. In addition, she has made presentations on Active Teaching for Introductory CS at two conferences on Computer Science Education.
- **Lynn Heinrichs and Megan Conklin** together published, “Relevancy vs. reasonableness: Selecting a senior assessment for a small CIS program.” in the Conference of the Decision Sciences Institute Southwest.
- **Michelle Kleckner**, along with several other faculty at Elon was awarded a grant for the project “Environmental Visions: A Magazine About the World We Live In and The World We Want to Live In.” In addition, Michelle was named a Service-Learning Faculty Scholar in the fall of 2006.
- **Dave Powell** gave an invited presentation to the Evolutionary Computation in Practice Track at the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference in Seattle on July 10, 2006. His talk was titled “A No-Cost, Distributed Genetic Algorithm and its Application to Scheduling.”
- **Alexander Yap** published “Evolution of Online Grading Systems: Assessing Critical End-User Requirements” in the ACM Southeast Conference proceedings, and a Chapter entitled “Planning and Designing an Enterprise-wide Database System for E-Business.”

Student Recognition

Students in Computing Sciences continue to set the standard of Academic Excellence. The following students were recognized this year with 2006 Computing Sciences Awards:

- Eric Hydrick, Academic Achievement in Computer Science
- Dawn Guttman, Academic Achievement in Computer Information Systems
- Matt Holt and Warren Myers, Computing Sciences Department Service
- Sarah Gottfried, Carpenter Award
- Nathan Shemonski, Programming Contest



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Alumnus Avery Edwards Visits



Avery Edwards, Elon graduate in the Class of 2005, visited the department in October 2006. He works for Clarkson Consulting, three-time recipient of the SAP America Award of Excellence. Avery talked with current seniors about the process of conducting a job search and doing interviews. In addition, he promoted Clarkson Consulting and held screening interviews.

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E-Chics Provides Support for Women in CS



E-Chics women tie-dye club t-shirts at Spring event.

Weekly meetings give women a chance to discuss issues pertaining to being a minority in a technical field. The forum allows them to get technical questions answered, support each other in their classes, and network with women in the field of their choice, as well as conduct social events like tie-dyeing shirts and playing games.

This semester the E-Chics are applying to become an official Elon organization under the Student Government.

Announcing the newest student club in the Computing Sciences department, the E-Chics! The Elon Chicks in Computing Sciences (E-Chics) is a group of students in support of women in technical fields. The club includes women who are Computer Science and Computer Information Science majors and minors as well as Engineering and Math majors and minors.

Weekly meetings give women a chance to discuss issues pertaining to being a minority in a technical field.

The forum allows them to get technical



The women play dominos at a Fall gaming event.

**The Computing Sciences Department of
Elon University**

Duke 307
College of Arts and Sciences
Elon University
Elon, NC 27244

ELON.edu

www.elon.edu/compsci/
csnewsletter@elon.edu

Opportunities for Current Students and Alumni

Want to Get Involved??

Alumni:

- Contact us: Let us know where you are, how you are doing, and how well your Elon studies prepared you for the world beyond.
- Visit Campus: Schedule a visit to recruit for your company or give a research talk.
- Help Current Students: Provide opportunities for current CS students with internships and interviews.

Current Students:

- Become members of ACM or E-Chics
- Be a Teaching Assistant or Tutor for an introductory class
- Sign up for Undergraduate Research with a CS mentor
- Participate on the Programming Team
- Attend a local Computing Sciences conference