



Computer Science Program

Luay A Wahsheh, PhD, Assistant Professor and Information Assurance - Research, Education, and Development Institute (IA-REDI) Faculty Member, received \$453,000.00 as PI on a new grant award entitled "Addressing the Shortage and Quality of Cybersecurity Workers through Relevant and Dynamic Training" from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) from September 28, 2012 through September 27, 2013. This is a collaborative grant with North Carolina A & T State University, Bowie University, Voorhees College, University of the Virgin Islands and Sandia National Labs.

Chunsheng Xin, PhD, Associate Professor, received \$450,000.00 as PI on a new grant award entitled "NeTS: Small: RUI: On-Demand Spectrum Access: Application-Oriented Dynamic Spectrum Access" from the National Science Foundation (NSF) from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015.

Chunsheng Xin, PhD, Associate Professor, received \$125,000.00 as PI on a new grant award entitled "EARS: Collaborative Research: Enhancing Spectral Access via Directional Spectrum Sensing Employing 3D Cone Filterbanks: Interdisciplinary Algorithms and Prototypes" from the National Science Foundation (NSF) from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015.

This work will be done in collaboration with University of Toledo, University of Akron, and Ohio Northern University.

Chunsheng Xin, PhD, Associate Professor, received \$38,875.00 as PI on a continued grant award entitled "NeTS: Small Collaborative Research: Learning to Help: Trading Spectrum Ownership for Performance" from the National Science Foundation (NSF) from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013.

IUL Computer Science Students Ernest Thomas, Kenneth Davis, Alexaye Geeter and Gregory Henderson Jr. (Team 1) and Woodrow Conklin, Jamari Jones, JaJuanHoke, Tyrell Hite and Craig Eddings (Team 2) won 1st place in the first IUL-101 Service Learning Fair. The students presented their Recycling projects in a poster competition. Our winning team proposed two very ingenious projects. Team 1 proposed to have students, faculty and staff recycle electronic equipment through the campus bookstore in exchange for "Spartan Bucks" which could then be used to purchase items in the Bookstore. Team 2 proposed increasing the number of recycling containers on campus at strategic locations and outlined the logistics of how this could be accomplished. Both teams were advised by **Cheryl V. Hinds, Ph.D.**, Instructor of Computer Science with Norfolk State University's Department of Computer Science.

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Cyntrica Eaton, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Computer Science and NSU Alumna, was recently featured in a ScienceLives article/video answering ten questions about her



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personal and professional experiences as a scientist. A link to the article/video follows:
<http://www.livescience.com/37410-computer-science-cyntrica-eaton-nsf-sl.html>

Computer Science Department

Cyntrica Eaton, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science was recently accepted into the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Summer Research Program for Minority Serving Institutions. Dr. Eaton will conduct research in User Interface Design at the University of Massachusetts Lowell as a part of the ten-week program. Rising Computer Science Junior, Aaron Smith, will also participate in the program as a member of Dr. Eaton's research team.

George C. Harrison, Ph.D., Professor of Computer Science, was appointed as Commission Member of the 2013-2014 ABET Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) by the ABET Board of Directors Executive Committee. This is a second one-year appointment effective with the installation of the 2013-2014 ABET Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) at the close of the 2013 Summer Meeting. Duties include appropriate training, attendance at the 2013 and 2014 Summer Meetings and service as team chair for one or two visits during the 2013-14 visit cycle.

Luay A. Wahsheh, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Computer Science, participated and presented at the NNSA MSI cybersecurity meeting in the Livermore Valley Open Campus at Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore, California on Tuesday, March 5 and Wednesday, March 6. The presentation was titled "HBCUs: A Vital Component of the Cybersecurity K-12 Pipeline". Participants in the meeting included HBCUs, Charleston County School District, DOE Labs and HQ, Industry, Congressional and Local Government, and other Federal Agencies. The meeting resulted in an agreement that faculty in the Information Assurance Research, Education, and Development Institute (IA-REDI) at Norfolk State University will be helping Charleston County School District in South Carolina in the K-12 pipeline, including providing Curriculum Development, Teachers Professional Development, and Student Engagement.

Good News for the week in CSET (Mar. 21-Mar. 28)

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Computer Science students Jasmine Blunt, Darryl Walden, Justin Glymph, Sean Michael Galvin and Ashley Hall represented Norfolk State University in the Dominion Enterprises 5th Annual Hack-a-Thon on March 21-22, 2013 competing against students from The College of William and Mary, Virginia Commonwealth University, Christopher Newport University, ECPI University and Tidewater Community College. Our students developed a web application for ForRent.com during the 2-day competition and won the "Cleanest Code" award. Their code will be implemented into the live online site.

Computer Science alum Nikki Jackson '03, '05, BAE Systems Senior Lead Software Developer is a coach, mentor and volunteer for a number of organizations that promote



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science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education for students of all ages. She was recently interviewed about her involvement with the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Organization. Nikki will be serving her as a judge for the Washington DC Regional FIRST Robotics Competition on March 29-30, 2013. The story is being featured on the company's website and Facebook page, BAE Systems Information & Security.

NSU CS Students place in 5 competitions at the Annual ARTSI Conference and Spelman College Computer Science Olympiad. The NSU CS team composed of Troi Williams, Brian McClanahan, Mark Deschamps, and Brian Rose won first place in the ARTSI Robotics competition which consisted of a total 22 competing teams. In the Robotics Research Poster competition, Mark Deschamps won 2nd place and Christopher Okonkwo won 3rd place, competing against 17 other students. 23 teams completed in the Olympiad. NSU team composed of Brian McClanahan, Aaron McFall, Vanessa Hammond, and Darius Jefferson won 3rd Place in the Hardware/Software competition. Lastly, NSU team composed of Brian Rose, Mandalyn Putnam, Joshua Sherfield, and Christopher Okonkwo won 3rd place in the Web Design competition.

Brian Rose, Computer Science senior, presented a poster at the Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM, February 28-March 2, 2013, in Washington, D.C. He won second place in the Computer Science & Information Management Undergraduate Poster category. His poster, with his advisor, Mona Rizvi, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Computer Science, was entitled, "Towards a framework/middleware for location-aware mobile information systems using NFC."

NSU has been approved by US Navy SPAWAR as a subcontractor on the team led by SAIC for the Battlespace Awareness Pillar contract. SAIC is one of the eight prime contractors selected for the indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity, performance based contract with an estimated cumulative value of hundreds of millions of dollars over a five-year period (if all options are exercised). Dr. George Hsieh, professor of Computer Science, is the primary technical contact for NSU.

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Jonathan Graham, Ph.D., Information Assurance- Research, Education and Development Institute (IA-REDI) Director and Associate Professor of Computer Science with Norfolk State University's Department of Computer Science, was awarded \$398,864 by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the grant entitled "Cyber Service Training and Education at Norfolk State University"



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Luay Wahsheh, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Computer Science with Norfolk State University's Department of Computer Science, was awarded a contract entitled "DoD Information Assurance – Information Security Grant Program" by the National Security Agency (NSA) in the amount of \$33,861.00 for the project period September 28, 2012 through September 27, 2013.

Computer Science

Thorna Humphries, PhD and **Mona Rizvi, PhD**, Associate Professors of Computer Science, visited Microsoft Corporation in Redmond, WA on October 4, 2012. They were the guests of Dr. Benjamin Zorn, who is one of the directors of the Research in Software Engineering (RiSE) group. While at Microsoft, both Dr. Humphries and Dr. Rizvi presented their research in computer science education. The talk was entitled, "Overview: A Scratch-based CS0 Course and its Associated NSF Type 1 Study". Dr. Humphries and Dr. Rizvi also met with two research teams in the RiSE group and learned about several of their research initiatives. Also, while in Washington, Dr. Rizvi gave a talk entitled "A Scratch-based CS0 Course for At-Risk Computer Science Majors" at the Frontiers in Education (FIE) conference.

Nikki Jackson, Computer Science Alumni, MS-2006, BS-2003, has been named a 2012 Technology Rising Star by the Career Communications Group Inc. - a group that hosts the well-known Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA) and Women of Color (WOC) conferences. Nominated and submitted by BAE SYSTEMS, the awards are given based on technical accomplishments as well as corporate and community achievements. Nikki will travel to Dallas for the 17th annual Women of Color STEM Conference to receive the award on October 11, 2012.

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Aftab Ahmad, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Computer Science, was appointed Editor in Chief of a new journal 'Advances in Internet Technology' published by Human and Sciences Publication. The journal information is on the humanpub.org website.

DeMarcus Thomas, MS, Computer Science 2012, has been accepted as a GEM fellow. He will use the opportunity to pursue a PhD at Mississippi State University.

Christopher Lanclos, MS, Computer Science 2012, has been accepted as a GEM fellow. He will use the opportunity to pursue a PhD at Mississippi State University.

Jasmine Berry, BS, Computer Science 2012, has been accepted to University of Southern California as a PhD candidate.