SUNY
FREDONIA

Computer Science News

Vol. 2   Newsletter for the Department of Computer and Information Sciences at SUNY Fredonia   May 2006

Second Year in Review
By Dr. Siddiqui

The department will celebrate its second birthday on July 1, 2006. This past year was the year of growing pains. We started many new projects and accomplished many. The Self-study was completed in early summer 2005. Dr. Baldwin of SUNY Geneseo, and Professor Kingsley of JCC were the external reviewers. It was a monumental task which could not be done without the help of Mr. Szocki, and Drs. Chan and Hansen. The external reviews were very good.

Dr. Siddiqui traveled overseas to exploit the joint programs with foreign universities. With President Hefner, he accompanied the delegation to Turkey. The Turkish delegation visited Fredonia in October and a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the two institutions. Based on this MoU the Computer Information Systems Dual degree program with Ege University, Izmir, Turkey will be launched beginning Fall 2006. Another team from Japan visited the department and the possibilities of joint internships were explored. We are in the process of developing a new program in CIS with concentration in "Systems Management."

We made major strides to set policies and procedures for administrative affairs, tenure, promotions and for equitable distribution of DSI.

After a record graduating class of over 45 students in 2004-05, the number of majors in the program plummeted. But our aggressive recruiting efforts throughout the year paid off and at the beginning of Fall 2005, 43 new students joined the program. This includes 11 freshman, 20 internal transfers, 10 external transfers, and 2 readmits.

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Upgrading the Labs and the Servers
By Professors Szocki, and Siddiqui

After the original renovation and upgrade of Lab 115 in 1999 and 2000 when we acquired three servers and over 30 machines the upgrade of 2003 had shrunk the Lab back to only 15 machines and one new server. With the concerted efforts of Drs. Siddiqui, Zubairi and Mr. Szocki we acquired two servers and the number of computers in the Lab will be increased to 20+ machines at the next upgrade in Fall 2006. The support and timely funding received from Dean Ewing and Ms. Karen Klose is very much appreciated. The two servers that we already received are new Dell Power Edge 1800 servers. These servers will replace the two old workhorses we had.

One of the new servers which is used for web and email has three 300 GB 10,000 RPM hard disks, dual core Intel Xeon 3.0 GHz processors, and 2 GB RAM. The email software is Qmail running pop3 and an IMAP configuration. We will provide Computer Science majors with Computer Science email (that is in addition to their Fredonia email). The new Computer Science email will be accessible through a web interface. The web application is an Apache server running the latest versions of Perl and PHP.

The second new server has three 300 GB 10,000 RPM and two 36 GB 15,000 RPM hard disks, dual core Intel Xeon 3.0 GHz processors, and 2 GB RAM. This server will host shell accounts for the faculty and will be used for faculty storage, development, and research.

The third server we have will continue to be the student server for storage, development, and web sites. The server is running Mandrake 10.1.

We will be receiving new machines in Fall 2006 for our lab in Fenton 115. The lab currently has fifteen Windows machines. The upgrade will replace those machines and add five more. The twenty new machines will be Dell OptiPlex GX620 computers. Each machine will have 80 GB 10,000 RPM hard disk, Intel Pentium 4 3.4 GHz processor, 2.0 GB RAM, 17 inch flat panel monitor, and an optical mouse.

We already upgraded the Lab 2164 in Summer 2005. A set of new carpet, link system and chairs were added to the Lab.

Lab administration with the direct overlook of Head Proctor David Mandery with a team of 10-12 assistants, and supervision of Mr. Szocki was flawless.

For more information about the labs and our facilities, see http://www.cs.fredonia.edu/cswebpage/facilities.html.

New Members Join the Department
By Dr. Siddiqui

Beginning Fall 2006 the department added following new faculty members on its roster:

1) **Dr. G. Singh** who was hired as a Visiting Asstant Professor for one year in Fall 2005 will return for another year (2006-07). In Fall 2006, he is scheduled to teach two sections of CSIT 107. We're familiar with him; he has taught for the Department in 2001 and has over three years of experience at Fredonia. He has a PhD in Physics, over 100 publications, and over 15 years of teaching (CS, IT, Engineering, Math, Physics, etc.) experience at various colleges and universities.
2) **Dr. Natalie Nazarenko** will join us as a Visiting Assistant Professor for the year (2006-07). In Fall 2006, she is scheduled to teach two courses, CSIT 251, and CSIT 104. She has a PhD in Math/CS, and was a Post-doc fellow at Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and has widely published. She has been teaching in the US since 1996 and currently lives in Buffalo.
3) **Professor Derrik Decker** will join us this Fall. In Fall 2006, he plans to teach CSIT 104 and other service courses. Professor Decker is the retiring Director (Technology) and Chair (Math) from Gowanda Central School. He has a MS degree and over 30 years of teaching experience.

The department is still busy in recruiting two more tenure-track and one visiting positions.

Another New Program: Computer Information Systems – Systems Management

The School of Business Administration has recently suspended the Business Administration - MIS program. After several brainstorming meetings of the CS Chair with Drs. Rich Robinson, Seyedian, and the Dean Ewing we decided to house the MIS program in the CS department. The department decided to structure this program as a new track in the Computer Information Systems degree program. This option will be called "Systems Management" track and the existing CIS degree will be packaged as a Systems Development track. If approved, we hope to institute the program in Fall 2006.

There is a well-acknowledged demand for MIS professionals in the country. The shortage of qualified staff can be attributed to inadequate curriculum, lack of interest in the MIS programs among students, and inability of such programs to produce trained professionals. The department plans to address these issues in the development of the new program. The introduction of the Systems Management track in the CIS degree will produce professionals with expertise in both the Computer Science and (business) information systems management. The availability of a CIS-Systems Management program will allow majors to become (technology) systems managers. This program would also address the needs of potential content specialists with scientific industrial careers who intend to move into the field of Computer Information Systems management. This program is intended for students who want to earn a Bachelor's degree with a focus on systems management. Tentatively, this 66 credit hour degree program will include 24 credits of CIS core, 12 credits of Business core, 15 credits of track requirements and 15 credits of CIS and Business electives. The program is set up to be completed in 4 year.

New Undergraduate Programs, Courses and CCC Courses

Although it was an odd year for the catalog revisions, the department continued to develop and revise the catalog, add and offer new courses and programs. The proposal for CIS-Systems Management was submitted. Following new courses were or will be offered:

1) CSIT 312 Computer Structures.
2) CSIT 224 Problem Solving Using Objects.
3) CSIT 251: Information Systems Structures

CSIT 104 was approved to be a CCC-2 course (it joins the list of our CCC classes such as CSIT 120, CSIT 121, CSIT 413, CSIT 425, CSIT 437, CSIT 441, and CSIT 462). New CCC courses are being planned as well.

The Department Offers Graduate Courses

This academic year the department started offering graduate courses in the framework of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program. The following courses were offered:

- CSIT 536: Advanced Network Programming (Summer 2005, Dr. Zubairi)
- CSIT 591: Selected Topics in Computer Science (Fall 2005, Dr. Siddiqui)
- CSIT 580: Computational Biology (Spring 2006, Dr. Barneva)
- CSIT 591: Selected Topics in Computer Science (Spring 2006, Dr. Ehrlich)

Dr. Reneta Barneva Receives the Wilkes Best Paper Award

One of Dr. Barneva's paper, "Analytical honeycomb geometry for raster and volume graphics", **48** (2), 180-199 has been chosen by the British Computer Society as the best paper published in 2005 in The Computer Journal, Oxford University Press. She and her co-author will receive a medal named after Sir Maurice Wilkes, Director of the Cambridge Computer Laboratory and purchase voucher from Oxford University Press. Dr. Barneva has over 20 refereed journal papers and a significant number of conference papers. She published in top journals such as Pattern Recognition Letters, Discrete Applied Mathematics, and Theoretical Computer Science. She is also a Program Committee Member of several international conferences. Dr. Barneva's research is mainly in Computer Graphics and Multimedia. However, her research has applications in engineering, medicine, art, pattern recognition systems, data compression, distance learning, computational biology, and many other fields.

Dr. Barneva visited and worked at leading research institutions in several countries such as Bulgaria, France, Italy, and Slovakia. In addition, Dr. Barneva is a referee for a number of journals.

She joined the university in 2001 and in her short stay at Fredonia, she made significant contributions to the department and the campus.

Student Research and Creative Endeavors

Drs. Arnavut, Barneva, Ehrlich, and Siddiqui supervised many students on various course/research projects. Three students of Dr. Arnavut, four students of Dr. Barneva, three students of Dr. Ehrlich, and one student of Dr. Siddiqui participated in the university's Research and Creative Endeavors Exposition this year. The projects their students worked on were:

- RSA Encryption – D. Henning

- Creating a web-based system for FSA catering – S. Cleeton, R. Ostrowski, and M. Saputo
- Using Flash to write a virtual tour of Computer Science Department – J. Keller
- Intelligent Shopping Support System – S. Glass
- Project CATIE – J. Satterley, R. Olson, M. Mendez
- Exploring Algorithms for EEG Signal Compression – S. Kindlon, B. Kandemir

Congratulations to Our Scholarship Recipients!

The following students received scholarships from the department for the 2006-07 AY:

- **Arthur R. Maytum Scholarship**: Devin Grady, and Andrew Slutsky.
- **J. Beck Memorial Scholarship:** Jeffrey Satterley.
- **Endowment Scholarship:** Bryan Woodard.

The Scholarships Committee Chair, Dr. Chan, the Dept. Chair Dr. Siddiqui and all faculty members extend their heartiest Congratulations to all recipients. Keep up the Good Work!

In addition, 14 students from the department received the **MACS scholarship** for the 2005-06 AY, and many others will receive it in the next academic year.

The MACS scholarship program invited David Lemmon, a 1999 graduate, who is currently employed at Locheed-Martin at Owego, Ferat Sahin, a professor at the Department of Electrical Engineering at RIT, and Jeff Majka, a 2002 graduate, who is employed with Information Technology and Geographic Information Systems Group at Buffalo, as speakers to SUNY Fredonia. In the coming years, MACS scholarship program is planning to invite more alumni to campus.

For more information about the MACS scholarship, visit the grant's website http://www.cs.fredonia.edu/~macs or contact Dr. Arnavut at arnavut@cs.fredonia.edu or Dr. Zubairi at zubairi@cs.fredonia.edu.

Internships and Jobs
By Dr. Siddiqui

The department continued to offer internships and employment opportunities both on and off campus. During the academic year 2005/06 four students did the internship, two students were sponsored for employment. Ten students were hired as proctors for Lab 115 for each semester and 4 students as lab assistants. The department chair continued to help prepare student resumes. All graduating seniors are encouraged to seek help from the Career Development Office and their advisors in building a professional resume and obtaining good recommendation letters. Frequently, employers contact Department Chair to recruit fresh graduate. If you are graduating this year, contact Dr. Siddiqui for any such possibility.

For Spring 2006, the proctors were: David Mandery (Head Proctor), Scott Cleeton, Bahar Kandemir, Steven Kindlon, Steven Morse, Brian Woodard, Amy Sak, Garrett Raymond, Timothy Olow, and Devin Grady. The lab assistants were: Steven Morse, Amy Sak, Devin Grady, and Steven Kindlon.

Student Recruitment
By Dr. Khalid Siddiqui

After a record graduating class of over 45 students in 2004-05, the number of majors in the programs plummeted.

Concerted efforts through Open Houses, individual invited visits of students/parents, letters at various stages of admissions process, emails, presentations to liberal arts students, and phone calls were made to recruit new students. All brochures were rewritten and updated. Summer advising material was updated. Admission fact sheets were revised and articulation agreements with SUNY sister campuses and other area colleges were revised.

Our aggressive recruiting efforts paid off and at the beginning of Fall 2005, fortythree new students joined the program. This included 11 freshman, 20 internal transfers, 10 external transfers, and 2 readmits.

Proctorship Experience
By David Mandery – CS Senior

I worked for the department in a few different roles. Times have changed throughout the years. Starting out as a proctor of the Computer Science lab back in my sophomore year (that was before Computer Science separated from Math), things were less organized. All the proctors had equal access to the machines and could make changes on them. This freedom caused problems and the computers at times became a mess. Restricting the privilege to install software to only the head proctor enabled to better manage the lab. If the proctors need to install software, all they need to do is to contact the Head Proctor.

For my junior and senior years, I have been the head proctor. The job of the Head Proctor has changed recently by adding more responsibilities. Working as the head proctor enabled me to undertake a greater leadership role. Playing a leadership role is a key to success in the business world.

Being a proctor is a privilege that should not be taken lightly. Becoming a proctor provides a role in how to run the lab. You can help keep the lab running smoothly by making sure students do not make the lab a mess and keeping the lab a welcoming place. In addition, being a proctor allows you to be in the lab whenever you want. If you think you can take the responsibility, not abuse the privilege, and make the lab run better then you should definitely apply for a proctoring job for the Computer Science lab in Fenton 115.

Since my time in the department is running out, I want to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a proctor and then Head Proctor for these years. It has been an interesting and fun experience. Enjoy Fenton 115 and its speed demon new computers that are coming next semester.

David Mandery is a CS senior who will be graduating at the end of the spring semester. David worked for the department as a proctor and a Head Proctor for the Computer Science lab in Fenton 115 and also as a lab assistant.

Computer Science Club

CS Club News
By Jordan Bommelje

Changes were made on the E-board of the CS Club in the spring semester. Jordan Bommelje was promoted to President and Kevin Price was appointed Vice President. The CS Club meets often to discuss possible events that the club can hold about subjects that are of interest to the members of the club. In mid April, the CS Club hosted a three session seminar on "Understanding Public Key Cryptography: How and Why it Works.".

Our programming team attended the ACM and CCSCNE competitions this year. The team members are: Devin Grady, Ed Parker, and Bryan Woodard.

In late April or early May, the CS Club will be holding elections for the Fall 2006 CS Club. If you are interested in joining the CS Club, please contact Jordan Bommelje at bomm6831@fredonia.edu or the CS Club advisor, Mr. Mike Szocki at szocki@cs.fredonia.edu.

I think the only thing that needs to be improved is the number of members in the CS Club. I don't think it's very well publicized; therefore CS majors are not interested. I am definitely going to try to change that, however I think that it would be great if the CS teachers at the beginning of each semester announce to their students that there is a CS club on campus.

I think that's my only complaint. Other than that, I like all of the teachers, and all of CS.

For more information about the Computer Science Club, see the club's website http://www.cs.fredonia.edu/~csclub.

My Experience
By Kevin Price

I started college at SUNY Fredonia as an engineering/physics major in fall of 2004. I had a rough start at the college, and like many of my friends who had the same major, I started with an atrocious GPA. After deciding that my major was primarily the reason for such grades, I switched over to computer science, which had always been an interesting topic for me.

After having been a computer science major for a year now, I would say that I already hold a viewpoint very similar to most students within the major. Yet, despite some difficulties one may come across, I would still have to say that I am thoroughly enjoying the experience.

When talking to most professors, I have gotten the feeling that they genuinely care, and are often interested in talking to students just about anything that is on their minds. And when it comes to advising, I've gotten nothing but the best encouragement and help in planning out my major.

Overall, I feel that SUNY Fredonia not only offers its students the chance to mature through learning, but also encourages relationships with its professors that prepare us for life later on.

Summer, SLN, and J-Term Courses

The department continued to offer courses in the J-term and summer and courses through SUNY Learning Network (SLN). The Computer Science department was the first on the campus to offer SLN courses in 1998 and J-term courses in 2003.

In the J-term of 2006, the department offered: CSIT 120 (SLN – Dr. Siddiqui), CSIT 456 (SLN – Dr. Siddiqui), and CSIT 462 (Dr. Barneva).

In the first summer session of 2006, the department will be offering: CSIT 104 (Mr. Szocki), CSIT 120 (Dr. Zubairi), CSIT 351 (SLN - Dr. Siddiqui), CSIT 425 (SLN - Dr. Barneva), and CSIT 536 (SLN - Dr. Zubairi). In the second summer session, the department will be offering: CSIT 107 (SLN - Mr. Steiger), and CSIT 455 (SLN - Dr. Siddiqui).

Industry and Academia Experience
By two recent CS graduates

Industry
By Dave Bateman

Since graduating last May from Fredonia, I have had the chance to work for a couple of companies.

My biggest suggestion for CS students who will be graduating shortly (if they have not already started) is to know how to learn new languages and architectures on their own. While at Fredonia, I thought I had a wide range of programming knowledge. But companies do not always use C++ or JAVA as their main languages. The first company I worked for uses other languages that I had never heard of.

It is very useful for students to look at the job requirements at some career websites. If the student is not familiar with a language there, he/she has to do some research to become familiar with its syntax and style. Seniors should be able to do that. That is why at Fredonia we take some of those core classes like Paradigms, Data Structures, C++, and JAVA. Such classes are not meant to teach the student everything he/she needs to know about programming, but they help the student understand the concepts of different languages so he/she can learn new ones on his/her own in order for him/her to be able to keep his/her job and remain an asset for the company he/she works for.

David Bateman of Chili, NY graduated from the department last year. He was one of our top students. When he graduated, Dave decided to work in industry. At first, he worked at Paychex in Rochester, NY. At present, he works at Valore Books in Fredonia.

Graduate School
By Mamadou Balde

My decision to do a Master's immediately after graduating was because of the motivation I received from SUNY Fredonia.

I did not have much trouble getting into graduate school. In fact, I have been accepted without a problem at Pace University and have been awarded the Dean's scholarship.

At present, I am pursuing a Master of Science in Information Systems.

One remark I can make about graduate education at Pace University is that there are many presentations that have to be done. But with an average of five presentations a semester at Fredonia, I was already prepared for the challenge.

I expect to finish the degree in one year (that is in Fall 2006).

Living in a city is completely different than living in a village like Fredonia . But there is one thing that doesn't change: education. Education is the same everywhere.

Mamadou Balde of Guinea graduated from the department last year. He was one of the few students to have three majors. Mamadou decided to continue his education. He is working on his Master's in Information Systems at Pace University.

In History

1957-8: FORTRAN appears.
1959-60: COBOL appears.
1963: IEEE is founded.
1964: Basic appears.
1967: IBM creates the first floppy disk.
1969: Unix is developed by AT&T Bell Laboratories.
1970: Pascal appears.

1972: C appears.
1975: Scheme appears.
1986: C++ appears.
1987: Perl appears.
1991: Visual Basic appears.
1994-95: Java appears.
1995: PHP and JavaScript appear.
2000: C# appears.

What Do Two of Our First Master's Students Say?

By Rob Olson

I'm a first year graduate student in the Interdisciplinary Studies Department, with a focus on cognitive science and artificial intelligence. Along with Michael Mendez, I am one of the first two students to take graduate classes in computer science at Fredonia. As an undergraduate at Fredonia, I majored in computer science (Systems Software Track) and minored in philosophy, taking classes that focused on the areas of ethics and metaphysics.

During my senior year, I spearheaded a software engineering project in natural language understanding. None of us were really familiar with the field, and we dived headfirst into the subject with the goal of creating a program that could understand and generate English sentences. While working on it with Michael Mendez, Jeff Satterly, Cameron MacVean, and Justin Fransico I became intensely interested in computational linguistics, issues relating to knowledge representation, and the philosophical problems associated with the field of Artificial Intelligence.

As a graduate student, I've continued to examine that problem further with classes such as Introduction to Cognitive Science and Advanced Artificial Intelligence with Dr. Ehrlich, and Psychology of Language with Dr. Richard Weist of the Psychology Department. Moreover, I have taken Pattern Recognition with Dr. Siddiqui and Computational Biology with Dr. Barneva, which are areas of application for intelligent programs.

My research, up to this point, has primarily been focused on developing a language-driven artificial intelligence using the SNePS software developed at the Unversity of Buffalo, with classmates Michael Mendez and Jeff Satterly. This semester we have been focusing on developing an input grammar to convert English into a semantic representation, an output grammar that can express segments of a semantic network, and creating special network contexts for both short term memory and sensory memory. We intend to continue developing this project for as long as time permits.

In addition, I have been doing research on child language acquisition and related cognitive development issues with Dr. Weist of the Psychology Department. In particular, we have been examining the acquisition of the past progressive verb form to determine when children acquire the ability to use a second temporal identifier. I plan on expanding this research over the summer to include a greater sampling size and, pending the results, investigate publishing it.

After completing my Master's degree at Fredonia, I intend to get a Doctorate in Cognitive Science, Computer Science, or Philosophy.

By Mike Mendez

Being a part of pioneering a new endeavor always comes with unique challenges and blessings. When faced with the looming choices of life after graduation, the option of working towards a graduate degree became more and more desirable as I considered what I wanted to do (or, at least, start out doing). Looking at different universities throughout SUNY and CUNY, there were a number of both business and computer science oriented IT programs available. Even with those options, when I found that one was in the works at Fredonia, I decided to stay and be a part of it, and work towards an interdisciplinary program I could design myself.

While there have been obvious pitfalls of limitations in offerings and schedules as the courses are developed, the quality of the coursework and effort put in by the faculty involved in the process has made it worthwhile. I have always enjoyed the Fredonia tradition of close communication between the faculty and student populations, and those relationships are only strengthened through graduate work both out of necessity and as the freedom to focus your research puts you in touch with others who share the same interests as you.

Those considering staying at Fredonia for Master's in Computer Science are strongly encouraged to do so, I have yet to regret the decision I have made. Even during the period of developing the program and before having a full offering in place, I would still encourage those considering the program to stay and be a part of creating and supporting the program. The flexibility of Fredonia's Interdisciplinary program allows you to explore aspects of your studies that stretch across other fields and work towards exactly what you're looking for. The Interdisciplinary Department (Life Long Learning, 2nd floor Fenton) has graduate course catalogs for those interested in seeing what is currently offered across the entire campus.

Our Seniors Say Goodbye

At least 13 majors and three minors graduating or will be graduating this year. A party to honor our graduates, scholarship recipients, and programming teams, will be held on May 12, 4:00-6:00 PM in the English Reading Room (Fenton Hall). All students in the department are invited.

One of the students who will be graduating in the spring semester is David Mandery (from Greece, NY). Dave joined Fredonia in Fall 2002. Dave's future plans are to find to a job and eventually go to graduate school.

Here is what Dave says about his experience at Fredonia:

It seems like just a short time ago that I got a phone call saying I was accepted to SUNY Fredonia to be a Computer Science major. The decision to come to Fredonia instead of going to the other schools I considered has truly affected the course of my life in both good and bad ways, but mostly good.

Living in Fredonia and being a part of the institution has changed the way I think about the world.

As graduation gets closer and closer, I have been looking at the greater picture of things. What is this thing called education about, and how have the last 4 years and the previous pre-undergrad education shaped me into what I am today? Looking back, I have seen how

things are related to each other and how you can use what you learn in totally different contexts than how they were meant and taught to you. For example, since Fredonia is a liberal arts university, you can use what is learned in general education classes in an abstract way to use it differently in a major class and vice versa. You can apply the problem-solving skills learned in computer science classes and apply them to other classes.

Having a variety of majors here at SUNY Fredonia makes education better; it brings about a greater combination of people and ways of thinking.

Being a part of the Honors Program, I got to take different courses than other students. These courses usually give you a look into a topic without having previous knowledge in it. For example, taking Architecture and Society introduced me to the idea of suburban sprawl. It made me think about how towns and cities are structured. I can take this knowledge and apply it to how things work in society.

Choosing Fredonia and living here also made me appreciate what living in a town the size of Fredonia can be like. Having most needed places within walking distance is great. You don't have to worry about driving and finding a parking spot in some huge lot; you can just walk.

Completing my undergraduate degree has shown me that the whole education experience can be utterly rewarding, especially higher education. What you get out of it is not just the classes that you are paying for, but also what you learn outside of class. These things are considered a bonus, but they can be just as important as the class material. One example is the social aspects of the university on and off campus. Places like the CS Lab are great for enriching the person's social experience; people there discuss ideas about how to do things related to computers and networking.

Personally, in the past I have learned a lot of information about how things work from the upperclassmen, and now as an upperclassman I share my knowledge with the underclassmen. As my Fredonia experience comes to an end, I can see how my Fredonia education has made me ready for the real world.

To be honest, my Fredonia experience has been pretty positive. There hasn't been too much negative that is worth writing about. For example, sometimes there could be differing opinions or maybe not liking when an exam was scheduled. But those examples are not really significant.

Other News and Events

Faculty News

1) Dr. Ziya Arnavut was elected representative at-large for the College of Natural and Social Sciences for the University Senate.
2) Dr. Reneta Barneva was elected Vice Chair of the Senate for 2006-07.
3) Dr. Barneva served as a Governance Officer of the University Senate in 2005-06. She was elected Vice Chair pro tempore Fall 2006. She was also elected Vice Chair of the Faculty and Professional Affairs Committee. Next year she will serve Chair of the Committee.
4) Dr. Barneva delivered the Kasling Lecture on October 4, 2005. It was well attended and many faculty members from the department were present as well. Attendees enjoyed the lecture.
5) Dr. Zubairi has received SUNY UUP Individual Development Award 2006. It involves support for chairing special session on collaborative networking and participating as publication chair in Collaborative Technologies Symposium to be held in May 2006.
6) Dr. Zubairi will be on sabbatical next year.
7) Drs. Hansen and Siddiqui served on Campus Technology Focus Group.
8) Many professors had papers accepted/published and some are chairing sessions and organizing conferences.
9) Dr. Siddiqui is working on the Incubator project.

Systems and Facilities

1) During summer Mike Szocki prepared the AV cart, laptops, desktop, and cleaned/updated Lab 115 equipment.
2) Upgrade (new machines, link system, chairs, paint, carpet cleaning, etc.) for Lab 2164 was completed last summer.
3) New equipment ordered/received: two refurbished laptops, refurbished desktop, new desktop, projector, digital camera, two printers, and some accessories for faculty machines.

4) The department's website has been updated.

Visits

1) A delegation from Fredonia that included Drs. Hefner, Siddiqui, and others, visited Ege University in Turkey.
2) A delegation from Japan visited Fredonia. Their meeting with Drs. Barneva, Hansen and Siddiqui was arranged on Sept. 30 to brief them about the department programs, student/faculty projects and labs. The possibility of partnership and exchange was discussed.
3) A delegation from Ege University, Izmir, Turkey visited the campus in October and a Memo of Understanding between the two institutions was signed to develop Dual Degree programs in CIS and International Studies. The CS team (Drs. Barneva, Hansen, and Siddiqui) and Ege team (Drs. Ikiz (VR), Eren, and Turksever) developed the joint curriculum.

Other News

1) Professional partnerships with community organizations and area companies was sought: visited Trinity and Unitedways, and two interns are working on a number of community projects as interns.
2) Academic partnerships with international (Pakistan and Turkey) universities is moving well.
3) Five-year review was completed. Some corrections were made during summer. Final report from the reviewers received. It was delivered to everyone.
4) The Department received two tenure-track lines and a visiting F/T position.
5) Course 251 was approved and it will be offered in Fall 2006.
6) Several books were ordered from the funds allocated to the department for the library acquisitions.
7) Subscription to ACM was reinstated and started a new subscription to IEEE.

Other projects include, upgrade of Lab 2164, acquisition of several faculty machines, two servers for the Fenton 115 Lab and the department, several printers, a digital camera, a display cabinet, several refurbished computers, and many more computer peripherals.

We lost Mr. Greutman and added Dr. Singh as the new member at the Visiting Assistant Professor rank. Another pleasant addition was that of Debbie Cambria, the half-time secretary. Her work for the department has been outstanding to say the least. The department now has 9 full-time faculty members including the chair and the systems administrator, and 5 part-time faculty members. One of the faculty members whose appointment was split between Computer Science and Math was permanently moved to the CS department. We were successful in obtaining two tenure-track lines including one temporary adjunct line being a conversion into a tenure-track line. We also got the approval for a visiting position. The search Committee is currently busy in the recruiting process. The committee's tireless efforts including that of its chair are commended very much.

Most committees were very active throughout the year. Five committees, namely Assessment (Drs. Arnavut, and Siddiqui), CS&F (Dr. Zubairi and Mr. Szocki), Search (Dr. Barneva), Graduate (Dr. Barneva), and Outreach (Mr. Szocki, Dr. Siddiqui) were particularly noticeable. In addition Dr. Abu-Jeib volunteered to lead the High School Competitions.

After a semester-long sabbatical leave at RIT, Dr. Arnavut retuned to the department in Fall. Dr. Zubairi will be on the similar leave during 2006-07.

Our students and faculty participated in many on and off-campus scholarly activities. Drs. Barneva, Siddiqui and Zubairi presented their work at the Faculty Research Expo. Various projects of many students with the supervision of Drs. Arnavut, Barneva, Ehrlich, and Siddiqui were displayed and presented at the Student Expo. Dr. Barneva delivered her Kasling Lecture in October. She also received the

best paper award of 2005 from the British Computer Society.

In short, all members of the department have tirelessly contributed to the growth of the department.

Message from the Chair
By Dr. Siddiqui

It has been a busy and very productive year for the Computer Science Department, and we hope it has been for you too. As this column is being written, we are in the midst of searches for three faculty positions. We already recruited three part-time members, two of whom hold a PhD degree.

We continued to function through strong and fairly independent committees each of which is administered by a member of the department.

Despite the national trends of low enrollment in computer science, our enrollment remains strong and we just hit the 100+ majors/minors mark this past week. We upgraded most of the computer equipment of faculty and Labs, and more is on the way. Faculty and students produced outstanding research and scholarship and were prominent at their respective expos. New programs, particularly the Dual CIS program with Ege University, Turkey, and new courses were developed and we continued to adapt to the changing face of computer and information sciences education.

It is always both a sad and happy occasion as we say farewell to our graduating seniors. We, all members of the department wish you success in your careers. Stay in touch and keep us informed what you are doing.

In the last, I, on behalf of the department thank Drs. Ewing, Horvath and Hefner for providing their full support to our programs and in accomplishing many of our objectives throughout the year.

Dual Program with Ege University
By Dr. Siddiqui

During the academic year of 2004/05, a team from the SUNY Systems Administration visited several SUNY campuses to seek a suitable partner for the Turkish Universities. Due to the flexibility of the programs and willingness of the Department and the University, the Department of Computer Science was selected to develop a joint degree program in Computer Information Systems with Ege University, Izmir, Turkey. The students participating in the program will receive a Fredonia degree, BS in Computer Information Systems (CIS), and an Ege degree, BS in Computer Engineering, upon completion of the curriculum designed for the program at the two institutions.

During the visit of the delegation of Fredonia to Ege University in June 2005 and the subsequent visit of the delegation from Ege University in October 2005, the representative faculty members from the two departments sorted out the curriculum for the dual degree program. Drs. Barneva, Hansen, and Siddiqui represented the Computer Science department whereas Ege University was represented by Drs. Fikrit Ikiz, Saban Eren, and Mostafa represented Ege.

This program will start this Fall at Ege University and the first batch of students will arrive Fredonia in Fall 2007.

The Department Holds Its Third Annual High School Contests

The department will hold its third annual High School Contests on May 15. Seven schools will participate in several contests. The contests involve programming, scavenger hunt, spreadsheet, Web design, and a quiz show. During the contests, high school teachers who attend the contests, will be engaged in the following activities:

- A small presentation on state of the Computer Science Education in WNY schools.
- A 30 minutes discussion on state of high school programs, identification and proposed solution of issues.
- How SUNY Fredonia can help in coping with High School issues?
- Satellite campus and online courses.
- Action plan for the future.

SUNY Fredonia Computer Science News

Computer Science Endowment

The department thanks many alumni and sponsors who have contributed to our endowment and scholarship accounts. As the support from the state is dwindling down every year, we have in many ways become a private institution. We need more of your support to provide that margin of excellence in our programs. Your support has helped us provide scholarships and awards to deserving students. So THANK YOU and please continue your support. You can send your donations to the Fredonia Foundation's office or the department.