

News Spring/Summer 2014

This page contains cumulative news items for the indicated semester. You can find the news from other semesters in our news archives at the bottom of the page.

CS Department Hosts INRIA (REUSSI) Workshop



A workshop was held June 23-24 to conclude the three-year INRIA (REUSSI) program and bring together US student participants and representatives from INRIA and NSF. The workshop was organized by [Robert France](#) and [Sudipto Ghosh](#) on the US side, and Benoit Baudry and Benoit Combemale on the French side. The Research Experience for US Students at INRIA (REUSSI) program is a research internship program funded by the NSF and INRIA (the French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control). The program funded US-based research students to conduct research at an INRIA research site under the supervision of an INRIA scientist.

Nine students from various US universities, including three from CSU, attended the workshop along with the four organizers and INRIA Directors and Managers. The collaborations resulted in a number of publications in international conferences and journals, as well as open source software packages. For more information on the REUSSI program, please visit: <http://www.cs.colostate.edu/~france/REUSSI.htm>

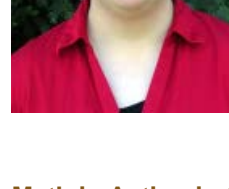
Department Announces 2014-2015 Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to all our 2014-2015 scholarship winners! The department gives several merit-based awards to students. This year's recipients are:

- Thomas J. Heidenfelder Scholarship:** Jeffrey Stern
- Patricia R. Mohlner Memorial Scholarship:** Kira Lindburg
- James Sites and Elaine Regelson Undergraduate Research Scholarship:** Jordan Messac
- The Steven Boyd, Jr. Scholarship:** Timothy Chesson
- The Frances E. Allen Scholarship in Computer Science:** Harina Pandari and Anne Ross

To read about our scholarships and view the list of past recipients, please visit our [Scholarships and Awards page](#).

Kathleen Ericson Receives 2013-2014 Anita Read Graduate Award



Congratulations to Kathleen Ericson, who has received the 2013-2014 Anita Read Graduate Award. This award is given each year to a graduate student in Computer Science with demonstrated dedication to education and excellence in teaching. The recipient is selected by the department faculty. To view a list of past recipients, please visit our webpage on [Scholarships and Awards](#).

Math in Action in Computer Science Camp Featured in Coloradoan



Last week, thirteen middle school students and 2 teachers from Cortez, Colorado came to the CS Department to attend Math in Action in Computer Science (MACS) camp. This week-long summer camp designed to teach middle school students how the math concepts they are studying in school are used in computer science. Participants not only learn about math - they have the whole college experience. They live in the dorms, eat in the dining hall, visit the Rec. Center, tour Fort Collins, and also do fun evening activities with a mentor. This year, CSU President Tony Frank attended the camp closing ceremony and handed out certificates. MACS camp is the educational outreach component of the NSF CAREER grant awarded to Shrideep Pallickara. The camp, now in its second year, has doubled in size since last year thanks to a \$40,000 supplemental NSF grant to boost the number of attendees. For more information about MACS camp:

- [Read the article in the Coloradoan](#)
- [Read the article in Today@CSU](#)
- [Visit the MACS website](#)

Computer Science Undergraduate Research Highlighted at 2014 CURC Showcase

Congratulations to the Computer Science students who participated in the 2014 Celebrate Undergraduate Research and Creativity (CURC) Showcase. This event features outstanding performers and award winners from disciplines across the university and allows them to showcase their research and creative activities.

The following Computer Science students presented work at the showcase:

- Christopher Cirulli:** *Retrieving Histograms over A Peta-scale Geospatial Time-series Dataset*
- Sahan Jayasumana:** *Real Time Detection of Anomalies for Streaming Data*
- Sahan Jayasumana, Tanner Moore, Jordan Sutton, and Maxim Fedorov:** *Thermal Aware Scheduling*
- Kira Lindburg:** *Clinical Simulation*
- Chris Ross:** *Using Bayesian Statistics on Twitter Feeds to Classify Twitter Users*
- Christopher Dean:** *Identifying Effective Ways to Teach Blind Students Computer Science*

[Visit the CURC website](#)

Dr. Robert France Named College of Natural Sciences Professor Laureate

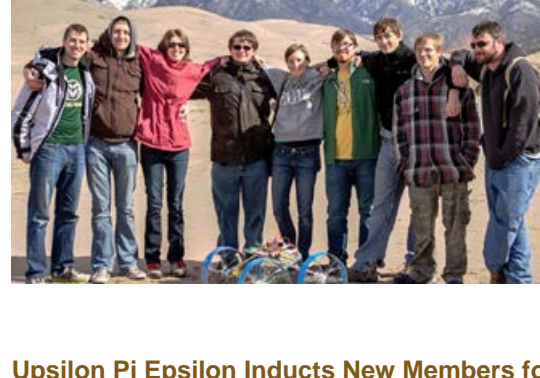


Congratulations to [Dr. Robert France](#) who has been named a 2014 Professor Laureate, the highest academic title awarded by the College of Natural Sciences. The award honors faculty who have made outstanding contributions to the college's mission in research, teaching, mentoring, and outreach. The title also recognizes the nominee's career accomplishments.

Dr. France's work on software modeling and the Unified Modeling Language has been very influential. In addition to his Professor Laureate award, he is the recipient of the 2014 AITO Dahl-Nygaard senior prize for his research on adding formal semantics to object-oriented modeling notations. This AITO annual prize was created in the name of Ole-Johan Dahl and Kristen Nygaard to honor their pioneering work on object-orientation. Dr. France has also been named an INRIA International Chair. Established in 1967, INRIA is the only public research body fully dedicated to computational sciences, and its 3,400 researchers strive to invent the digital technologies of the future.

- [Read about the College of Natural Science Professor Laureates](#)
- [Read about AITO and the Dahl-Nygaard prizes](#)
- [Read the Professor Laureate announcement in the Coloradoan's @ColoradoStateU Spring Edition](#)

Robotics Club Participates in 2014 NASA Space Grant Consortium Robotics Challenge



On April 5, the intercollegiate Robotics Club participated in the 2014 Space Grant Consortium Robotics Challenge. Hosted by Adams State University and NASA, the event simulates an autonomous robot mission on Mars. This annual challenge is held at Great Sand Dunes National Park near Alamosa, Colorado because the park's terrain is similar to the terrain seen on the first Mars images returned by the Viking landers. The Challenge is designed to further robot development and challenge teams to learn about electronics, programming and operating in a difficult environment.

- [Visit the NASA Space Grant Consortium Robotics Challenge website](#)
- [Visit the CSU Robotics Club website](#)

Upsilon Pi Epsilon Inducts New Members for 2014



The department is pleased to announce the new members of Upsilon Pi Epsilon who were inducted at a ceremony on April 16. UPE is the international honor society for the computing sciences. It was founded in 1967 to recognize scholarship and professionalism and is the only international honor society for this discipline. It is officially recognized by ACM and the IEEE Computer Society. To view a list of past inductees, please visit the UPE website at: <http://www.cs.colostate.edu/upe/>. Congratulations to our new members:

Christopher Huval, Casey Pore, Todd Burt, Olga Evans, William Brannock, Robert Paulson

Dr. Sangmi Pallickara Featured in the Coloradoan "Meet the Professor" Series

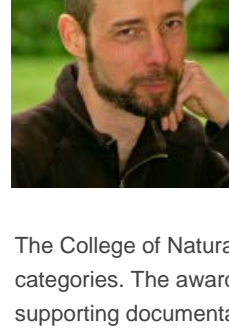


Sangmi Pallickara is featured in the April 8th Coloradoan in their popular "Meet the Professor" series. Her research interests are in the area of Big Data for the sciences including issues related to storage, retrieval, analytics, metadata, provenance, and visualization. She particularly enjoys working with students and sharing what makes research challenging and fun. [Visit Dr. Pallickara's webpage](#) to learn more her research work in Big Data.

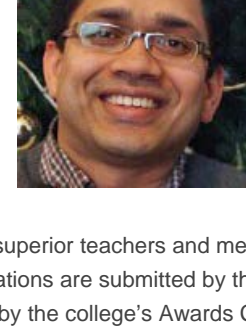
[Read the full Coloradoan article here.](#)

Asa Ben-Hur and Shrideep Pallickara Win College of Natural Sciences Teaching and Mentoring Awards

Congratulations to [Dr. Asa Ben-Hur](#) and [Dr. Shrideep Pallickara](#) on winning 2014 College of Natural Sciences teaching and mentoring awards!



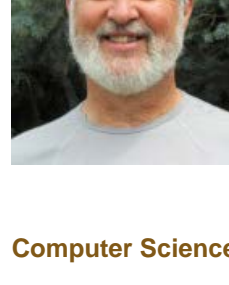
Asa Ben-Hur
Faculty Excellence in Graduate Education & Mentoring



Shrideep Pallickara
Faculty Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

The College of Natural Sciences annually recognizes superior teachers and mentors in the college by giving teaching and mentoring awards in several categories. The awards are highly competitive. Nominations are submitted by the college's eight departments and include letters of nomination and supporting documentation. Winners are then selected by the college's Awards Committee. Recipients receive a plaque and monetary award and will be honored this year at a ceremony and reception on April 16 at 4:30PM in the Cherokee Park Room, Lory Student Center.

Dr. Chuck Anderson's BCI Work Highlighted in the Collegian



Chuck Anderson and his colleagues are developing ways to translate thoughts into computerized action. Brain-computer interfacing works by using an EEG cap to measure the brain's electrical activity. A computer is then programmed to recognize that activity and translate it into action. This research has many valuable applications, one of which is helping people with disabilities function in daily activities. [Visit Dr. Anderson's webpage](#) to learn more about his work in BCI, machine learning, EEG pattern recognition, and neural networks.

[Read the full Collegian article here.](#)

Computer Science Graduate Program Ranked among Best in the Nation by U.S. News & World Report



The CSU Computer Science graduate program ranked among the top 100 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* in the magazine's 2015 "Best Graduate Schools" edition. Computer Science was one of 22 graduate programs at CSU that were ranked among the top 100. CSU ranked 60th overall in the 2014 U.S. News national rankings of public universities, climbing seven spots from the previous year.

Read the article in [U.S. News and World Report](#)

Read the article in [Today@Colorado State](#)

Researchers Awarded \$1.4M DOE Grant for Biofuels Research



[Dr. Asa Ben-Hur](#) and [Dr. Anireddy Reddy](#) (Department of Biology) have been awarded a \$1.4M grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for their project, *Global analysis of epigenetic regulation of gene expression in response to drought stress in Sorghum*. The researchers will examine how different varieties of sorghum react to drought and identify specific genes that may be important for drought tolerance. The goal is produce drought resistant grasses and trees for bioenergy.

This study attempts to analyze genome-wide changes in gene expression and generates very large amounts of DNA and RNA sequence data, which requires development of new computational tools. Dr. Ben-Hur and his team will be developing computational methods to analyze the data generated in Reddy's group.

This project is one of seven funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the agencies' joint plant biomass genomics initiative.

Read the article on [Today@Colorado State](#)

Read the Department of Energy [award announcement and project abstract](#)

CSU Competes in Windward Code Wars 2014

Teams ROFLCOPTER DOWN SEND AID and Conceptual Peace of Pie advanced to the semi-final round in this year's Windward Code Wars competition.

Windward Code Wars is a student hackathon where teams from top universities around the world have just 8 hours to analyze a programming problem, create a solution, and then pit their skills against other programming experts. This AI based coding competition is hosted on campus by [ACM](#) and sponsored by Windward, and its software development company in Boulder, Colorado. While neither team made the final round this year, CSU's Team Meh won first place in 2013.

- [Read the Rocky Mountain Collegian article about Code Wars](#)
- [Visit the Windward Code Wars website](#)

Dr. Denny Georg Receives Department Distinguished Service Award



We are pleased to congratulate Dr. Denny Georg, who has received the Computer Science Department Distinguished Service Award for his sustained support of the department. Denny is the longest serving member of the Computer Science Department Industrial Advisory Board and has provided valuable input on topics such as course offerings and faculty hires.

Denny has a long affiliation with CSU. He began teaching at CSU as an Assistant Professor in 1975 immediately after graduating from Iowa State. He enjoyed teaching courses in operating systems, simulation, and programming languages and supported graduate students with research contracts with the US Forest Service. Denny became Associate Dean of the College of Natural Sciences in 1976.

He left CSU to join Hewlett Packard in 1978 where he spent 25 years developing products, technology, and leading businesses. He retired from Hewlett-Packard in 2003 after holding management positions including Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of HP Services, Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of Information Technology Strategy Corporate IT, and Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of E-Services Solutions Business Customer Organization.

We are grateful for Denny's dedication, involvement, and contribution to the success of our department as both a professor and industry advisor.

Congratulations Fall 2013 Graduates

The Computer Science Department congratulates the following students on the completion of their graduate degrees in Fall 2013:

Doctor of Philosophy

- Joseph E. Gersch,** *ROVER: A DNS-Based Method to Detect and Prevent IP Hijacks.*
- Mohammad N. Teli,** *Face Detection Using Correlation Filters.*
- Mark C. Roberts,** *A Tale of 'T' Metrics: Choosing Tradeoffs in Multiobjective Planning.*
- Mark F. Rogers,** *From RNA-Seq to Gene Annotation Using the SpliceGrapher Method.*
- Christopher D. Krieger,** *Generalized Full Sparse Tiling of Loop Chains.*

Douglas R. Hains, *Structure in Combinatorial Optimization and Its Effect on Heuristic Performance.*

Master of Science

Wenxiang Chen, Nand K. Sharma

Master of Computer Science

Matthew R. Klein, Luis A. Rosas, Anoop Yadav, Namitha Channa Venkate Gowda, Wenjun Ni, Ben Y. Lopez, Srinivasa R. Sakhumuri, Brian W. Merrill, Steven J. Ridges, Jeremy A. Freed.

Bachelor of Science

Adam T. Goss, Danielle N. Alexander, Russell E. Geroche, Cameron D. Tolooee, Rachel A. Franklin, Nicholas S. Heyn, Spencer R. Hale, Bradley M. Jakobitz, Devin M. Wilson, Matt T. Rakel, Kyle N. Rudd, Rachel L. Wree, Charles B. Nelson, Benjamin L. Todd, Matthew S. Evans, Garrett J. Schmidt, James A. Rodgers, Zachary P. Lighthart, Shane H. Forman, Gerard K. Bortorff, Jason K. Lewallen, David M. Roberg, Annika M. Muehlbradt, Zachary L. Ofarell, Thaddeus M. Johnston.