Upcoming Events

Visionaries in Information Technology — September 29, 7:30-9:00 AM at BWI Airport Marriott. Featured Speaker: Jim Traficant, VP and Senior Executive Account Manager for Healthcare Solutions at Harris Corporation. For more information, and to RSVP visit the web site: www.umbc.edu/visionaries

Alex Brown Center for Entrepreneurship — September 29, 12:00-1:00 PM at UMBC Commons Room 331. Featured Speaker: Dr. Paul Behrens, Co-founder and Director, Martek Biosciences Corporation. Topic: “Algae: From Scientific Curiosity to Commercial Products.” For more information, visit the web site: www.umbc.edu/entrepreneurship

Cyber-Security Information Session — October 13, Noon-1:00 PM in ITE Bldg, Room 456. For more information, and to RSVP visit the web site: www.umbc.edu/cyber

The 2010 Alumni Association Awards will be presented on October 14, 2010 in the Albin O. Kuhn Library on UMBC campus at 7:30 PM. Michael George '87, Information Systems, is the recipient of the 2010 Alumni of the Year & Distinguished Service Award. After the presentation, there will be a reception for the campus community. For more information, visit the web site: www.umbc.edu/alumni

Welcome to the College of Engineering & Information Technology at UMBC

COEIT and UMBC are dedicated to research, innovation, and education. The College works in partnership with state and federal agencies and industry to promote the transfer of research applications that benefit society. We distinguish ourselves by our continued commitment to cross-disciplinary research and education. We provide outstanding education opportunities to graduate and undergraduate students to contribute to the professional workforce in engineering, computer science, and information systems.

Welcome to COEIT News!

Welcome to the first issue of the College of Engineering and Information Technology newsletter. “COEIT News” will be published twice a year, during Fall and Spring semesters. In each issue, we will include news about people, research, and events. We look forward to sharing information with you about our faculty, alumni, and students. We will also share information about research activities, and upcoming events and news in the College and at UMBC.

We have a lot to be proud about! From the achievements of our faculty members to the research and creative projects of our students, this is an exciting time for our College. Undergraduate enrollments are up—the greatest percentage of growth can be seen in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Computer Science. Our graduate programs continue to do well, and we are looking forward to admitting our first group of students to complete either a Master’s degree or graduate certificate in Cyber-Security.

The College continues to be an important part of the national picture by providing the IT workforce of the future. We are in the top five for total degrees awarded, and rank 31st for Ph.D. degrees awarded in information technology fields. Our research expenditures are just under $15 million, which helps us to support our graduate student, and brings our per faculty research expenditures in range and competitive with much larger program in the U.S.

Our faculty members have received honors for their continued contributions to their fields and research.

Anthony Johnson, Professor of Computer Science and Director of Center for Advanced Studies in Photonics Research, was named “Laser Pioneer” by Laserfest (a yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of the laser). Wendi Zhu, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, was elected as Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers—this brings the total number of COEIT faculty to receive this recognition to 16.

Please also join us as we extend our congratulations to the achievements of our current students and alumni. UMBC’s 2010 SAE Mini-Baja team completed the Spring 2010 season as the number one team in the U.S. Jim Clements, who received all of his degrees from UMBC (M.S. and Ph.D. in Information Systems and B.S. in Computer Science) is the new President of West Virginia University, and was honored as 2009 Alumni of the Year. The recipient of the 2010 Alumni of the Year is also a graduate of our Information Systems program.

These are only a few of the many achievements that make UMBC and the College of Engineering and Information Technology “Exceptional by Example.” Please take some time to read “COEIT News” and visit our web site: www.coeit.umbc.edu

We look forward to hearing from you!
UMBC Recognized as National Leader in Higher Education

UMBC is proud to be recognized by the U.S. News & World Report America’s Best Colleges Guide for third year in a row

Our 13,000 students from more than 150 countries take full advantage of the business, cultural and recreational resources of Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

Help us share in the pride of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni, as we congratulate them for yet another year of collective achievement!

Original Story Available on the UMBC web site: www.umbc.edu/Bestcolleges/

UMBC is the place that has most capably connected research with undergraduate education.

“[UMBC] is the place that has most capably connected research with undergraduate education.”

Anthony Johnson [R] (CSEE and Physics) and UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski [L] was recently awarded 2010 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

Brandon James Johnson, ’08, Mechanical Engineering, (C), pictured with his father, Professor Ralph Semmel, ’92, Computer Science, is the new Director of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physical Lab (JPL). APL is located in Laurel, MD, and has close to 5,000 employees conducting and supporting research related to national defense and security.

Brandon is currently enrolled in a M.S. program at Stanford University and is studying Aeronautical and Aerospace Engineering. He plans to take his Ph.D. qualifying exam in Fall 2010.

Ralph Semmel focused his dissertation research at UMBC on the problem of how to get information from a database without knowing beforehand how the database is structured.

COEIT Alumni in the News

Anthony Johnson (R) (CSEE and Physics) and UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski (L) was recently awarded 2010 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

Keep up with current news from the College of Engineering & Information Technology at UMBC.

Visit our website: www.coeit.umbc.edu

2010 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR & DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Michael George ’87, Information Systems, has spent the past 12 years with Amazon.com in Seattle, WA. Mike started his Amazon career as the Director of Systems and Networking Operations. Since then, he has held senior positions that span several functional areas; Director of WW Third Party Platforms, G6/Other of WW Marketplace, VP of Human Resources, VP of WW Payments, VP of Spoken Word Audio, and now VP of a yet-to-be-announced new business. Mike joined Amazon through the acquisition of the Junglee Corp, in mid-1998; where he was VP of Business Development. Prior to Junglee, Mike spent 14 years in the newspaper industry; working for the Baltimore Sun, USA Today and the Washington Post Co. Mike is named on several patents and pending patents related to marketplace, payments, and group buying business processes and technologies.

For more information about UMBC Alumni, visit web site: www.umbc.edu/magazine

We Want to Hear From You!

Share your news and accomplishments that you would like for us to include in future issues of the COEIT Newsletter.

If you would like to submit a news item or an update, send your requests by e-mail to us at coeit@umbc.edu, by August 5 or January 5. The COEIT Newsletter comes out two times a year in February and September, at the beginning of the semester.

If you are a COEIT alumnus, please be sure to include the year you graduated, your major.

You may subscribe to the electronic version of this newsletter by sending an e-mail to: coeit@umbc.edu.

Please also include your first and last name, and e-mail address where we may contact you if we have questions.

Thank you!
Anthony Johnson, Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, and Director of the Center for Advanced Studies in Photonics Research, was recently named a Laser Pioneer by Laserfest (a yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of the laser, which was first demonstrated in 1960, and is a collaboration between the American Physical Society, the Optical Society, SPIE, and IEEE Photonics Society). Dr. Johnson, like most laser pioneers, is pleased about the future of the device. When asked where the laser might go next, he said, “Where isn’t it going? The laser is ubiquitous...Every day we find new uses for it.”

Hajun Su, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, was elected as Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for his “seminal contributions in the areas of distributed-parameter system vibrations and vibration-based methods of system identification and structural damage detection.”

Fewer than five percent of ASME’s 120,000 members are elected to the grade of Fellow. Dr. Zhu joins 16 individuals in COEIT who are Fellows of at least one professional society.

Weidong Zhu, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, was named a Laser Pioneer by Laserfest (a yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of the laser, which was first demonstrated in 1960, and is a collaboration between the American Physical Society, the Optical Society, SPIE, and IEEE Photonics Society). Dr. Johnson, like most laser pioneers, is pleased about the future of the device. When asked where the laser might go next, he said, “Where isn’t it going? The laser is ubiquitous...Every day we find new uses for it.”

Amy Hurst, Assistant Professor, Information Systems

Tinoosh Mohsenin, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering

Chintan Patel, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering

Gynama Slaughter, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering

Richard Forno, Lecturer, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering

Tashome Jiru, Lecturer, Mechanical Engineering

NEW MASTERS DEGREE AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS IN CYBER-SECURITY

Whether you already have a degree in an information technology discipline or are seeking to enter the cyber-security field from another profession, UMBC’s new Cyber-Security graduate programs will leverage your experience and provide a range of opportunities in the cyber-security marketplace. For more information, visit web site: www.umbc.edu/cyber

Submit updated faculty news items to coeit@umbc.edu

Online Course Offerings

Submit updated faculty news items to coeit@umbc.edu
After competing in three international Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) events this year, UMBC finished in second place for the 2010 season. The UMBC Baja team is the number one team in the U.S. First place went to École de Technologie Supérieure (ETS) of Montreal.

In April, the UMBC Baja team travelled to Greenville, SC to compete in the first SAE Baja race of the year. They placed sixth in the overall competition, their highest ranking in the history of the program.

In May, the team competed the second SAE event of the year in Bellingham, WA, where they competed against over 100 international teams and captured second-place overall in the design event. They were one of 34 teams to finish the maneuverability course, and went home with an eighth-place title—another top ten finish.

In June, the team travelled to Rochester, NY for the last SAE event of the season. For the first time, the team competed in a race that required water maneuverability and performed well. The UMBC team placed first for cost-effectiveness.

After all three events had passed, UMBC held the title of second place overall, and number one in the U.S. Congratulations to the team on a job well-done!

The Center for Women and Information Technology (CWIT) is pleased to introduce our 9th class of CWIT Scholars this fall. This year’s freshman cohort is made up of 103 students; is 2/3 female and includes students from all departments in the college.

In addition to serving our CWIT and SITE Scholars, there are 33 Affiliates, new freshmen and transfer students, who will...