CCT Supports Computer Science Intensive Orientation for Students

Several CCT faculty and staff assisted the LSU Department of Computer Science to host the University’s second Computer Science Intensive Orientation for Students, or CIOS, Aug. 10-14. CCT faculty were instrumental in helping the department develop the first CIOS last fall, modeled after similar initiatives in biological sciences and physics.

The orientation is aimed at incoming freshmen who intend to major in computer science at LSU. CIOS allows these students to meet the faculty, get some hands-on experience working with LSU’s computer science facilities and learn realistic expectations about the work required when majoring in computer science. There were 20 incoming freshmen participating in this year’s CIOS.

Faculty hope CIOS will give students a strong foundation so they will be more likely to stay in the computer science program and graduate in that area. Similar efforts with the biological sciences orientation showed students who attended that orientation were two times more likely to graduate from the program.

Several CCT faculty with the Department of Computer Science and graduate students supported the department’s efforts with this orientation through teaching short sessions and offering demonstrations.

For more information on CIOS, please visit http://csc.lsu.edu/cios/Welcome.html.

Pats on the Back:

• Professor Thomas Sterling was invited to give one of the formal presentations of the first meeting of the new High Performance Computing Task Force of the National Science Foundation, which took place in Chicago, and was invited to give the opening presentation at the final technical meeting informing the DARPA UHPC Program management team at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California.

• Sterling also was invited to attend the DOE workshop on Scientific Grand Challenges, Aug. 12-14 in Bethesda, Maryland. This meeting brought together national experts in the physics problem areas involved in future energy devices such as photovoltaic and energy storage among others, along with experts in relevant computational tools and techniques. Sterling was involved in a number of discussions during the workshop leading to possible conclusions.
CCT in the News:

In Hurricane Waves and Storm Surge, Prof Sees Threat to Louisiana Coast
Source: U.S. News and World Report

CCT Welcomes:

• Xiaolang Wan, an assistant professor of mathematics who will work in the Core Computational Science Focus Area at CCT.

• Andrew Barker, a postdoctoral researcher in mathematics who will work in the Core Computational Science Focus Area at CCT.

Please Note:

• The Fall 2009 semester begins Monday, Aug. 24. If you have questions about student worker hours or needs for the fall, please contact Brittany Juneau at bjuneau@cct.lsu.edu.

• Future ALL CCT meetings for summer and the Fall 2009 semester will take place Aug. 26 (there will be a special presentation by LSU Intellectual Property at this meeting!), Sept. 23, Oct. 21, Nov. 11 and Dec. 16. All meetings are at 3 p.m. in Johnston 338 unless otherwise announced. Please make every effort to attend these important meetings.

• IEEE Cluster 2009 will take place Aug. 31-Sept. 4 in New Orleans. Daniel S. Katz is general chair, and Thomas Sterling is program chair for Cluster 2009. To register or learn more about the conference, please visit: http://www.cluster2009.org.

• Registration is now open for the Supercomputing 2009 Education Program at the conference in Portland, which will take place Nov. 14-17. The Education Program helps educators and students learn more about computational science topics and gives educators ideas to bring these topics into their classrooms. The program is open to undergraduate faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, and high school teachers. To register or for more information, please visit http://computationalscience.org/sc09.

• Please feel free to suggest nominees, including yourself, for the SC 09 Education Program Awards: http://sc09.sc-education.org/opportunities/index.php. Contact Kristen Sunde at ksunde@cct.lsu.edu if you need assistance with this process.

  o The Dr. Robert M. Panoff Student Award for Explorations in Science Through Computation is open to high school, undergraduate, and graduate students exploring science made possible through computation. Deadline to
apply is Monday, August 31, 2009.

- The SC09 Student Contest Program is accepting team registrations. This is a competitive programming event, where teams of no more than five students will be given eight to 12 problems from various scientific problem domain areas. The competition will take place Monday, Nov. 16 at the SC09 conference in Portland, Oregon. Awards will be announced on Tuesday, November 18 at an SC09 Education Program plenary session. Register your team today, http://sc09.sc-education.org/conference/studentcomp_signup.php. Deadline to register is Thursday, October 1, 2009.

- Please remember to send your news concerning grants, awards, conferences, or other pertinent information that should be communicated to CCT to PR Manager Kristen Sunde at ksunde@cct.lsu.edu.

**Upcoming Grant Deadlines:**

Note: Please see the CCT deadline Web site, as many NSF deadlines are listed here: http://www.cct.lsu.edu/about/grants/deadlines/events.php

- Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS): Core Programs
  August 30 2009 10:00 am
  At Most $ 3,000,000.00 available

- Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF): Core Programs
  August 30 2009 10:00 am
  At Most $ 3,000,000.00 available

- CISE Cross-Cutting Programs: FY 2010
  August 30 2009 10:00 am
  At Least $ 3,000,000.00 available