

# DEANotes

C O L L E G E O F S C I E N C E A N D T E C H N O L O G Y

## W O N G N O T E S

### KUDOS

This is an excellent time, as we close the academic year, to celebrate our collective successes. Of course, an issue such as this could list only a small sample of the many accomplishments of our faculty and programs, but here are some Kudos and shout-outs from the Dean's Office. Way to go!!

#### **Advanced Academic Leaves Awarded for Spring, 2017**

Sara Gremillion, Biology

Jeff Secrest, Chemistry and Physics

#### **Promotions (and tenure, if applicable), Effective August, 2016**

Priya Goeser, to Professor of Engineering Studies

Wayne Johnson, to Professor of Engineering Studies

John Kraft, to Professor of Psychology

Michael Tiemeyer, to Associate Professor of Mathematics

#### **Faculty Awarded Emeriti Status - 2016**

Joy Reed, Professor Emerita of Computer Science

#### **Annual Lorrie and Kevin Hoffman Mathematics Faculty Research Award**

Sean Eastman

#### **Fulbright Scholarships**

**Felix Hamza-Lup, Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, Thailand, "Human Computer Interaction--Haptic and Web3D Technology."**

### Grants Funded

Andreas Bommarius and Brent Feske, "Generating new protein function: family of amine dehydrogenases," NSF-CBET subaward.

Andreas Bommarius, Brent Feske, and Stephan Lutz, "Center for Pharmaceutical Development (CPD) - Phase II," NSF-I/UCRC.

Tricia Brown and Joshua Lambert, "An open-source text for Quantitative Reasoning," Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grant.

Cameron Coates, Wayne Johnson, and Priya Goeser, "Each One Teach One; Engineering Maker Space Development; Future Leaders in Engineering & Technology," NASA: Georgia Space Grant Consortium.

Greg Knofczynski, Jared Schlieper, and Michael Tiemeyer, "An open-source text for Elementary Statistics," Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grant.

Donna Mullenax and Elizabeth Williams, "Georgia Rocks and Minerals (GRAM) Workshop," Georgia Department of Education - Teacher Quality Grant.

Donna Mullenax and Elizabeth Williams, "Georgia Barrier Islands Workshop," Georgia Department of Education - Teacher Quality Grant.

Ashraf Saad and Joshua Lambert, "Coding Across Georgia," GA Innovation Grant, Governor's Office subaward.

## NEW FACULTY PROFILE: DR. AMAR RASHEED, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



Dr. Amar Rasheed joined the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology in the fall of 2015. Amar earned his BS in Electronic Engineering at the University of Baghdad followed by his Masters in Computer Science at Northeastern Illinois University. Subsequently he earned his PhD in Computer Science from Texas A&M University. Dr. Rasheed then taught computer science for one year at Texas A&M Commerce before he conducted post-doctoral work at Penn State's Applied Research Lab in the area of secure mobile platforms (cybersecurity) and anomaly detection techniques. Amar was hired to support our new Center for Applied Cyber Education (CACE), help with the development of a penetration test laboratory and teach computer science courses, particularly in the area of cyber security. Amar has taught a few up-

per level and graduate level computer science courses as well as a course called Introduction to Computer Ethics. He is also excited to teach a new course that he recently developed called Introduction to Cyber Security. CACE was recently awarded a generous donation from the U.S. Army Cadet Command – 6<sup>th</sup> Brigade to host a cyber security summer camp for high school students. Amar looks forward to teaching these students how to use standard cyber security software and tools. Lastly, when he isn't working, Amar likes to build/customize large remote control planes and fly them as a hobby. He also enjoys fishing with his brother who is a recently graduated chemist who plans to attend graduate school and earn his PhD just like his brother.

### STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

Aaron Traywick, Manufacturing Engineering Manager for JCB, North America graduated from Armstrong's RETP program in 2009 and Georgia Institute of Technology in 2011. Currently, he is finishing up an MBA program as he prepares for an eventual move into an executive Manufacturing Operations role.

(CST) "What influenced your decision to study engineering?"

(A) "I chose an Engineering-Pre Med major to ensure I had a backup plan if I was unable to get into medical school. Upon entering college, it did not take long for me to realize that my heart was with my engineering subjects instead of the biology/chemistry, etc. so I chose to continue in this field of study."

(CST) "What challenges did you face as a college student?"

(A) "There were moments of my college career where I was not successful and then I was very successful, so I know what contributes to both areas. When I started college I was naïve enough to believe that I was smart enough to teach myself these subjects on my own. It was when the actual engineering courses started to hit is when this plan began not working out so well."

(CST) What did you do as a student to become successful?

(A) "I treated school as a full-time job. During the day, if I was not in class then I was doing my homework or studying in the library. When I took this type of initiative, I knew exactly where I needed to be to stay up to date with the class. That is the key, ensuring that you do not fall behind in your classes, because it's tough to pull yourself out of that hole."

(CST) Did you feel fully prepared for your transition to Georgia Tech?

(A) "Absolutely. The professors that I had at Armstrong were as good as it gets when it comes to instruction. It's more important that you leave Armstrong knowing yourself and how you do best in attacking your courses. What works for one person may not work for the next. "

(CST) What were you looking for in an employer?

(A) “I was looking for an employer to give me a shot and a good opportunity. I wanted to work in a dynamic environment with little monotony. I wanted a challenge each day. JCB took a chance on me as a paid intern and then hired me on full time.”

(CST) As an Engineering Manager what are you looking for in a candidate?

My advice is to get experience through internships and co-ops, where you can figure out exactly what you want to do and gain experience. Learn what you like and don't like. The first two years of engineering school are foundational, but by your junior/senior year it is necessary to gain experience. When I look at a candidate, I weigh experience more heavily than grades.

(CST) What didn't you learn in school that could have helped you in your current position?

“Effective communication. Engineers are notorious for being introverted intelligent people without an adept ability to communicate effectively with others, especially the “layperson”. The engineers that end up being the most successful tend not to be the most talented engineer, but the one who can communicate across all types of people within the organization.”

(CST) What advice would you give an engineering student just starting out in the program?

(A) “Go to Class and keep up with the pace of the instruction. Engineering programs build upon each other. If you fail to understand a particular concept fully at an early stage then you will never be able to understand those that follow. Learn how you work best, reorganize when overwhelmed and reach out for help. Avoid distractions and make school your full time job.”

Thank you Aaron for taking the time to share your experiences and providing our students with sound advice.

If you would like to contact Aaron for more information email, [Aaron.TRAYWICK@JCB.com](mailto:Aaron.TRAYWICK@JCB.com)

## **NEW STAFF PROFILE: MR. SCOTT C. SCHEIDT, MBA**

Scott C. Scheidt received a BA in Economics from Armstrong Atlantic State University in 2003 and a Masters in Business Administration from Touro University International in 2006. He is coming to us to lead the Center for Applied Cyber Education (CACE) as its new Director. Prior to this role, Scott served for 4 years as the Senior Intelligence Trainer for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, GA, training approximately 7000 adult learners annually. As a Certified Instructor, he was responsible for all the training the soldiers and their leaders needed to track, engage, and neutralize threats that would be encountered in the varying parts of the world. Scott is also a member of the GA Army National Guard, where he holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) and serves as the Chief of all Cyber Mission Forces for the state. His formal military training includes the Military Intelligence Advanced Officer course, Port Operations and Security Manager from the Merchant Marine Academy, Command and General Staff College, Army Space Cadre Course certification, Electronic Warfare Integration Course certification, Army Cyber Operations Planner Course, and, most recently, Comptia Security +. Scott is currently engaged in initiatives for the university through CACE that include developing memorandums of agreement with the US Army Cyber Command, United States Transportation Command, the Defense Cyber Crime Center, and National Cyber Watch Consortium. Initiatives such as these are designed to bring guest faculty to help teach in the areas of Cyber Education across the university as well as open up options for Armstrong Faculty to teach in these government organizations while also identifying and developing internship opportunities of our students. Scott will be seeking to partner with representatives from across the University's Colleges to bring Cyber Security or Cyber Education awareness flavoring to all desired courses. Scott is currently ABD in a PhD program with Trident University where he is finishing his dissertation: “Determinants of Interactional Justice.”



**WONG NOTES (CONT'D FROM PAGE 1)****Student Competition Awards**

The team of Benjamin Hamlin, Abraham Ladha, and Jack Wagner won third place in the Team Problem Solving Contest at the Eagle Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, Statesboro, GA, February 13, 2016. (Dr. Tim McMillan, Coach)

**Presentations and Publications by Faculty (number based on self-reports; see insert for specific information)**

Biology: 31

Chemistry and Physics: 17

Computer Science and Information Technology: 3

Engineering Studies: 4

Mathematics: 10

Psychology: 21

**Academic and Service Awards and Recognition**

Cynthia L. Graves was inducted into the National Society for Leadership and Success on November 19, 2015

Cynthia L. Graves was on the College of Education Dean's List for the Fall 2015 Semester

Scott Mateer was inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Cameron Coates was selected to participate in the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center Faculty Fellowship Program, Summer 2016

**Dates and Deadlines**

May 7<sup>th</sup> – Graduation

May 9<sup>th</sup> – 9 AM – Grades due

May 11<sup>th</sup> – CCG positions in PeopleAdmin must be complete

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Jane's Farewell reception in Burnett Hall lobby

May 27<sup>th</sup> – Jane's last day 🙄

June 6<sup>th</sup> – Summer session 1 starts

June 17<sup>th</sup> – CCG positions for summer must be filled

July 5<sup>th</sup> – Summer session 2 starts

August 11<sup>th</sup> – CST welcome reception

August 15<sup>th</sup> – First day of fall classes

September 2<sup>nd</sup> – SRS Reports are due

Every end  
is a new  
beginning.

**Thank you and Farewell**

It has been my honor and privilege to serve the faculty, staff, and students of Armstrong's College of Science and Technology as its Interim Dean over the past two years. I am humbled to learn how much you do for our students, sometimes with very few resources and even less time. I hope that CST is in a stronger and better place than today than it has been previously, but, more important, I hope that under the leadership of Dr. *Candidate*, you and your students would flourish and achieve your professional aspirations.

*Jane L Wong*