Friedman to direct major networking project

Starting in September 2008, Timur Friedman (UMass Amherst CS Ph.D. '02) will be the Scientific Director of OneLab2, a European computer networking project that aims to facilitate the emergence of the future internet. The project brings together researchers from 26 academic and industrial laboratories to develop a common test bed on which radically new networking technologies can be tried out at a global scale. The project's total budget is 8.9 million euros (14 million dollars) for two years, of which 6.3 million euros is provided as a grant from the European Union.

Shortly after completing his dissertation under the supervision of Distinguished Professors Don Towsley and Jim Kurose, Friedman became a Maître de Conférences (assistant professor) at UPMC Paris Universitas (formerly known as the University of Paris VI) in France, and he joined the Networks and Performance Analysis research group of Professor Serge Fdida at the university's LIP6 computer science laboratory. Friedman worked with Fdida to assemble a coalition of ten research groups and obtained funding for the initial OneLab project, which started in September 2006.

As Director of OneLab, Friedman has put in place the PlanetLab Europe test bed. "We've taken the highly successful free open-source PlanetLab software and used it to create an infrastructure for European researchers," says Friedman. "Our test bed is federated with the original PlanetLab run by Princeton University." Researchers on each platform have access to the combined system. The INRIA research center in Sophia Antipolis in the south of France, a OneLab partner and technical lead on the project, has become a co-developer of the PlanetLab code base. "This gives us the ability to introduce functionalities that meet the demands of researchers in Europe," says Friedman, "such as our emulation capabilities for new wireless technologies."

As a result of this work, OneLab is at the center of the European Union's Future Internet Research and Experimentation (FIRE) Initiative

Photo by Cynthia Tolentino

for developing new internetworking paradigms and providing experimental facilities upon which to test them. OneLab2 will be one of FIRE's two flagship projects. Friedman and his colleagues are taking on a global leadership role in this area of research. "We are in regular dialog with similarly-motivated initiatives, such as GENI/FIND in the United States, and AKARI in Japan, which are also promising to devote considerable resources to this area," says Friedman. "It is an exciting time in computer networking."

Career planning panel session

Three UMass Amherst Computer Science alums and a career specialist spoke to CS undergrads during a March panel session titled "Whatcha Doin' This Summer … And Beyond?".

Panelists included (l. to r.): Vitaliy Lvin (BS '05; MS '07, Bay State Scholar), currently at Google; Irene Ros (BS '06), currently working for IBM; Jeff Silver from the UMass Amherst Career Services office; and Esha Ray (BS '02, MS '04; Bay State Scholar), currently at Sun Microsystems.

The panelists discussed planning for graduate school and also provided information on job hunting for summer jobs, internships, and careers in computer science. Fifty students listened to brief presentations from each of the panelists on how to find an internship or summer job, tips for interviewing, career options, and help with deciding on whether or not to go

to graduate school.

The panel session was part of the "First Friday" series of events held on the first Friday of the month to provide undergraduates with critical information about their current studies in the department and career opportunities.

The University Council of the University of Macau appointed **Wei Zhao** (Ph.D. '86) as its 8th Rector. He will take office in the next academic year (2008/2009) for a term of 5 years. Zhao will leave his current post as Dean of the School of Science at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Before he joined RPI in 2007, he was a Senior Associate Vice President for Research at Texas A&M University. Between 2005 and 2007, he also served as the Director for the Division of Computer and Network Systems at the National Science Foundation. During his career, he has also been a faculty member at Amherst College, the University of Adelaide, and Texas A&M University.

MIT's **Sai Ravela** (Ph.D. '03) is working with Kevin Mc-Garigal, UMass Amherst Assistant Professor of Natural Resources Conservation, on an NSF-funded project to develop tools for employing digital photography to identify and monitor movements of individual animals in the environment. Ravela, whose advisor was Professor Allen Hanson, is currently a Research Scientist at MIT conducting research in earth systems and computational vision.

This past fall, CIIR graduate **Victor Lavrenko** (Ph.D. '04) accepted a position as a Lecturer at the University of Edinburgh School of Informatics. While at UMass Amherst, Lavrenko was advised by Distinguished Professor Bruce Croft and Associate Professor James Allan. Lavrenko's current research interests include formal models for searching text in multiple languages, annotating and retrieving images, and detecting and tracking novel events in the news.

Jayanta K. Dey (Ph.D. '98) holds the position of Director of Engineering at Network Appliance, working out of Sunnyvale, CA. He leads a team that develops storage solutions to retain data efficiently for long periods of time, an area that is seeing very high growth in industries worldwide. Previously, he was responsible for overall architecture and strategy of the digital media storage division of Avid Technology. He worked with Distinguished Professors Don Towsley and Jim Kurose while he was a UMass Amherst CS student.

Ramachandran Ramjee (Ph.D. '97), advised by Distinguished Professors Don Towsley and Jim Kurose, gave a research talk to the department in March titled "TrafficSense: Rich Monitoring of Road and Traffic Conditions using Mobile Smartphones." Ramjee is currently a Senior Researcher at Microsoft Research, India.

Other CS alums who spoke in the department this semester include **Don Metzler** (Ph.D. '07), currently a Research Scientist at Yahoo! Research, and **Sally Waisbrot** (MS '82), R&D Manager at McKesson Provider Technologies.

Alums at TripAdvisor

UMass Amherst Computer Science alums (r. to l.) Keith Fitgerald (B.S. '98) and Max Hansmire (B.S. '05) discuss their latest projects with Scott Mega (B.S. '89, UMass Amherst Computer Systems Engineering). The three alums work at TripAdvisor headquarters in Needham, MA.

"The UMass Amherst computer science program produces outstanding engineers and we're proud to have a number of them on the TripAdvisor team, where their skills and abilities have taken them to key leadership positions," says Steve Kaufer, TripAdvisor founder and CEO.

TripAdvisor-branded sites make up the largest travel community in the world, with more than 25 million monthly visitors, six million registered members and 15 million reviews and opinions. Featuring real advice from real travelers, TripAdvisor-branded sites cover 300,000+ hotels and attractions.

ACM taps Dwyer for achievements in computing

The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) named Matthew Dwyer, UMass Amherst CS alum (Ph.D. '95), as an ACM Distinguished Scientist.

ACM has named 20 of its members as recipients of a recently created recognition program for their contributions to both the practical and theoretical aspects of computing and information technology. The program, initiated in 2006, recognizes those members with at least 15 years of professional experience and 5 years of continuous professional membership who have made significant accomplishments or achieved a significant impact on the computing field.

Dwyer, advised by Professor Lori Clarke while at UMass Amherst, is a Professor and Henson Chair of Software Engineering at the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Unive[...] coln. His research interests are [...] and analysis. Professor Dwyer [...] in combining different forms of [...] and static, lightweight and hea[...] randomized.