

EDITOR'S NOTES

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The Debugger **Spring 2009 Issue**

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Hello from the editor's desk. We had a very productive Spring 2009 semester. This edition of the Debugger details all of the happenings.

We have some very exciting faculty news and some news from Carol that she is excited about, but the department and the chair in particular are concerned about. How's that for a tease? I report about the use of IUP Foundation funds and want to acknowledge the generosity of the alumni and friends of the department. We have another report from "Alumni Corner" which again shows the wide range of career opportunities and successes of our graduates. Joe Shyrock provides news from the labs and Dr. David Smith introduces our two new faculty.

Congratulations to Jason Plank (computer science major) who was named the recipient of the Wienkens & Associates Scholarship for the 2009-10 academic year. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding science major.

I would like to thank Li Casanova, current undergraduate computer science major serving an internship with PNC, for his efforts at formatting this edition of The Debugger.

Enjoy reading and stay in touch.

--Charley Shubra, Editor

FROM THE CHAIR

--Charley Shubra

This issue marks the end of my first year as chairperson of the department. When I took the position, I was not sure if there would be an electric chair or a throne waiting for me. Well so far I may be sitting in an electric chair, but no one has thrown the switch. I think the pressure of knowing it may happen helps motivate my performance.

We have had a very productive year. In my model of the department, we need: motivated students, faculty and staff, curriculum and facilities. Enrollment is up with the current freshman class and projections are for that trend to continue with the Fall '09 freshman class. With the limiting of enrollments at IUP, the SAT scores of the incoming students are also on the rise.

On the faculty side, we were able to hire two exceptional new faculty members. Dr. Debzani Deb and Dr. Terry Fries will be joining the department in the fall '09 semester. Dr. David Smith provides an introduction to the new faculty later in The Debugger. Yes, I do mean "Dr. David Smith". David completed his Ph.D. program just this May and he and Dr. Waleed Farag have been granted tenure at the university. Two **big congratulations** to Dr. Smith and Dr. Farag on being tenured and two **big welcomes** to our new faculty.

Through the efforts of many, but primarily the leadership and hard work of Dr. Oblitey and Dr. Shumba the Computer Science Department received notification from the Committee on National Security Systems and the National Security Agency that our curriculum meets the National Training Standard for Information Systems Security Professionals NSTISSI No. 4011, Senior System Managers, CNSSI No. 4012 and System Administrators, CNSSI No. 4013E.

Further, Indiana University of Pennsylvania has been re-designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education for academic years 2009-2014. Both of these recognitions are significant to the department and its students.

The efforts to secure ABET accreditation for the Language and Systems track progressed this spring semester. While several major tasks remain (completion of the Self Study Questionnaire, administering a survey to our alumni and analyzing the results), we plan on applying for accreditation in January 2010 which should result in a Fall 2010 site visit from ABET. We were hoping for a Fall '09 site visit, but have not graduated a student from the program which is a requirement for application. This Fall we will be running a dress rehearsal using a consultant to assure that all the planets are aligned for the official visit.

In a separate article, I provide an update to the funds residing in the IUP Foundation to which the Computer Science Department has access. I wanted to inform you of the invaluable uses of those funds and to recognize the generous contributions of alumni, friends and corporations.

On a sad note for us but exciting for Carol Miller, Carol has decided to retire from IUP. She placed the letter in my mailbox this week. I tried to return it for insufficient postage, but as she pointed out she did not use the postal system. She is completing 27 years of exceptional service to the university community and to the students in particular. She has been invaluable in her assistance to the department and her efforts to support the department chairpersons have been tremendous. I have tried everything I can think of to talk her out of retiring as have several other faculty, but her mind is made up and we wish her well. The department is



planning a going away celebration for Carol in the fall when all of the faculty members are back in town. We would like to present Carol with a book of remembrances where alumni and faculty write a few paragraphs to Carol detailing a fond memory of her. Please send your remembrances and thoughts in an email to TONEIL@IUP.EDU. Tess will be collecting these and organizing a book for Carol.

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FACULTY: WELCOME TO IUP!

--Dr. David Smith

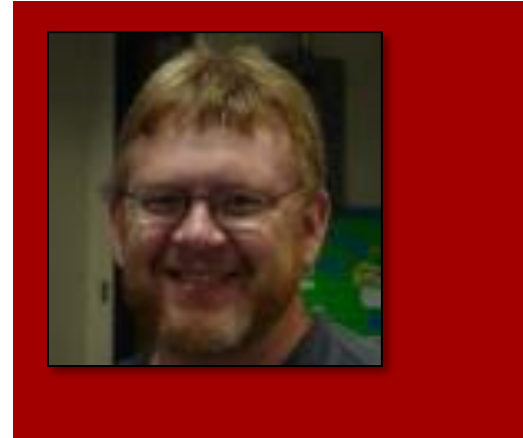
I am pleased to announce the addition of two new faculty members.

Joining us this fall is Dr. Debzani Deb and Dr. Terry Fries. Dr. Deb has over four years teaching experience in operating systems, advanced C++, computer architecture, and data structures. She holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Montana State University and a Masters degree from University of Adelaide, Australia. Her research area is in self-partitioning, self-management, and self-deployment of computational intensive scientific and engineering applications automatically across a distributed network of systems. She has published over 20 papers and journal articles.

Dr. Fries joins us from Coastal Carolina University where he has 10 years of experience teaching artificial intelligence, robotics, software engineering, compiler design, theory of computation, as well as a number of beginning lower level courses. In addition to teaching, Dr. Fries has over 15 years experience in industry, working as a Systems Engineer at Electronic Data Systems, Associate Engineering Analyst at Detroit Edison Company, and as an independent consultant. He holds Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering from University of Louisville and a Masters in Computer Science and Engineering from Oakland University. His current area of research is artificial intelligence and robotics. He has published over 25 conference papers, a book *Computer Graphics using OpenGL*, and several book chapters on robotics and fault diagnosis.

With the addition of Dr. Deb and Dr. Fries the Computer Science Department will be at full compliment, a first in four years. We look forward to Dr. Deb and Dr. Fries contributions and wish them a great start. Look in the Fall edition of the debugger for articles from each which will provide a more detailed introduction.

P.S. - Dr Fries will be continuing his research using a Pioneer robot. I look forward to our students getting involved.



NEWS FROM THE LAB

--Joe Shyrock

Greetings everyone, its summer and we've gotten yet again another Spring semester under our belt. It was a very busy spring semester as well and changes are coming for the Fall.

Tompkins lab and the classroom of the future have both finally been upgraded to new computers. If you remember, I made the call they would be Lenovo machines, however we managed to pull off buying Dell computers. Dell gave us an excellent price so the department and college are very pleased.

For those of you that remember WebCT (a way to provide online course content), it is being replaced with Moodle. This was a huge under taking for the university. Many thanks go out to the team that devoted so many hours to this project. If you are interested in learning more about Moodle, you can visit <http://moodle.org/> to get an idea of the product.

Finally, expansion of personal storage space for Email is coming soon for both faculty and students. I know this has been anticipated for awhile and will bring a smile to many people.

Lastly, let's talk about operating systems. This fall we will be running Windows XP. Fall 2010, we are anticipating a move to Microsoft's newest operating system which is being labeled Windows 7. That should be really interesting! Sean Olson a May 2009 graduate of the Computer Science Department recently was hired by Microsoft. We expect that Sean will have a positive impact on Microsoft software.



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ALUMNI CORNER

by

Ryan Bassaro

IUP Computer Science 2004

FEATURED



“Circle, to Oval”

Senior year - I believe it was during the final discrete mathematics exam that I realized anything was possible, and what you thought was possible was actually impossible, which is only possible when it's impossibly possible. And if you didn't get the joke, please refer to last sentence after you have completed the course. Dr. Shubra asked me to write a note as an Alumnus on *how I got to where I am today as it relates to computer science*. To start let's talk about what I am today, the program manager for my employer overseeing nine nuclear generation plants that we service. My responsibilities range from the P&L statement, to the executive memo to the COO identifying how my alliance did this quarter. Basically I'm the guy that keeps the operations running smoothly while making the customer happy. (Yes golfing at ridiculous locations is involved). Sounds like your typical computer science job right? IUP did produce a B. A. in Fine Arts Alumni that created YouTube so I guess Chad beat me to the punch line.

Foot in the door - After graduation, I landed a horrible shift job with my current employer as an analyst for the helpdesk. My daily operations consisted of telling users to turn on the monitor, adding an account to active directory, or stopping and starting UNIX cron jobs to run batch processing locally on systems. Then came the Blackberry's. I was involved and implemented the BES server (Blackberry Enterprise Server) and got to hook in the C-class (Anyone with a Chief in their title) executives at headquarters. Many of you will realize one day that in the Fortune 500 arena, it's pretty common to work at a company your whole life and not have any interaction with the CEO CFO or COO. So this was a big deal. I took the opportunity to make a name for myself, and make this small opportunity my mantra of life each moment I had direct interaction, and it paid off. They somehow got the impression that if the blackberry/computer/home telephone/Car (yes one executive had me install Bluetooth in his car) wasn't working, to have their secretaries get Ryan over here, he can fix it. This position lasted about 8 months until we restructured the department. I was now reporting to a moody 26 year old female who was a business major that took one MIS class and thought she was the next Charles Babbage. It's *time to look at the internal hiring website*. Information Systems Auditor? What's that?

Enron Scandal - Thank you, Mr. Lay and Skilling. Sarbanes Oxley (for the purposes of this article) is the law that requires all publically traded companies to disclose any control deficiencies related to the assertion of their financial statement. What does all that mean? My employer was required by law to beef up its staff and needed a “computer guy”, to audit all the controls surrounding our financial systems to make sure a 2 billion entry in the system, really was a 2 billion transactional entry, and we didn't miss anything in the system (we call them bugs, they call them something far far worse). So with my criminology minor and executive sponsorship, I now took on a new role and had my cell phone 100% paid for! (except for music downloads which I soon found out).

Follow the Mentor - During the next 3 years I learned more about distribution, foreign commerce, distribution warehousing, accounting, finance, sales, human-resources, national accounts, and contract law than I ever could have imagined. I also managed to get my MBA on the weekends (read do this ASAP). I am a huge believer that if you have a chance to become and Auditor in a big company to jump in feet first. Great learning tool and launching pad into whatever you want to do. (Management).

Circle to Oval - My undergrad computer science degree provided me many long nights of figuring out assembly code, making databases for Girl Scout cookie sales, and developing new uses for the TI-92. (Sitting in my office) I had a great professor once tell me that “college will give you the circle of knowledge and tools to use your whole career. It’s your job to leave here and stretch the circle into an oval. I guess I’m the proof to his theory.

COMPUTER SCIENCE FUNDS

--Charley Shubra

The Foundation for IUP acts as the focal point for individual and corporate gifts to the university in general and to specific fund categories in particular. When you as alumni are solicited for gifts by the university or generously offer a gift without solicitation, this is the organization which manages those funds according to approved agreements.



The Computer Science Department controls and benefits directly from the following funds:

Account	Purpose	Gifts	Balance	Uses in 2008-2009
224714	General Spending	\$3,580.00	\$12,955.62	PACISE Conference, Disperse to other accounts, and \$2,000 to Student Activities in 2008.
224715	Student Activities	\$500.00	\$0.00	Programming Team, Best in Class Awards, Barry Day Award, and Women in Science Meetings, Computer Science Club, and Specialty Floor.
224716	Hardware and Software Facilities		\$7,513.45	MSDN Academic Alliance
224717	Undesignated Gifts	\$824.00	\$7,323.59	Donated to Computer Science without identifying specific fund
225258	Computer Science Departmental Scholarship	\$450.00	\$8,136.45	Scholarships will be awarded once the fund is endowed.
630172	HET Scholarship	\$240.00	\$36,244.26	Award HET scholarship.
630336	Computer Science Endowment		\$20,017.12	Income to be distributed to other funds.
620539	Jim Maple Scholarship	\$1,025.00	\$15,325.00	Newly established by Jim's family in recognition of Jim Maple's long time contributions to the department

A few words about the uses of these funds in 2008-2009:

The General Spending fund was used to support student participation in the state wide computing conference (PACISE) which brings together computing and information science faculty and students from all of the PA state schools as well as other universities across the state. This conference allows undergraduate students to present research results and gain a publication of those results. Our programming team competes with other teams in a day long competition at PACISE.

The Student Activities fund is used to promote activities for our majors to participate in. This helps build spirit and bring students together. We use these funds to provide refreshment at meetings (nothing like food to bring students together). Student groups such as Women in Science, the Computer Science Club, the Programming Team and the students living on the specialty floor in the dorm have all benefited at meetings and to support travel for students. We use this fund to provide recognition and a small financial reward to the students identified as the "Best in Class" for each semester. These students' names appear on plaques on the "Wall of Excellence" outside of the department. You should stop and see the names of the students who have excelled in the past and who continue to excel in their careers. Mr. Barry Day has funded a scholarship for an outstanding student for close to a decade by contributions to this fund.

We have three other funds dedicated to providing scholarships. The Howard Tompkins Scholarship fund has been in existence since 1988 and has provided numerous scholarships to deserving students. The James Maple Scholarship fund is relative new, but has grown rapidly. We are looking forward to providing our first James Maple scholarship in the near future. I should mention that Howard Tompkins and Jim Maple were the two faculty who founded the Computer Science Department at IUP. The other fund involved with providing scholarships is the Computer Science Departmental Scholarship fund. As soon as this fund is endowed, the department will be providing scholarships from that fund also.

The Undesignated Gift fund is where gifts are placed if a specific Computer Science fund is not identified. The Computer Science Endowment fund provides income from gifts which have been invested by the Foundation. Hardware and Software Facilities fund is used to purchase facilities which are not available through normal university channels. We have been able to enter into academic alliances through the use of these funds and thus make software available to students and faculty at a free or reduced cost.

Finally, I wanted to recognize and thank the individuals (alumni, friends) and corporations who have provided gifts to the Foundation in one of the above categories this past fiscal year. It is always dangerous to do so because I might omit the name of one of the contributor's, but to not identify our benefactors would not be right either. If there happens to be an omission, please let me know and I will acknowledge the contributor.

Individuals providing gifts to one or more of the accounts in fiscal year 2009:

Milford Hazlet, Michael Castellani, William Richardson, Charles Kalish, Donna Moyer, Randall Warren, John Bryndza, Anna Mano, Anthony Popp, John Miller, Barbara Ardary, Janet Harrell, Ted Lockwood, Karen Gdaniec, Joanne Kuta.

Corporations providing gifts:

CA Inc., The Vanguard Group Foundation, CA Inc., IBM International Foundation, The Vanguard Group Foundation, Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund(Barry Day), Parker-Hannifin Foundation.

The following individuals participated in the establishment of the James Maple Scholarship fund in fiscal year 2008: Doyle McBride, Joseph Angelo, Andrew Browe, Allen Johnson, Katherine McKelvey, Melvin Woodard, Marilyn Johnson, George Karnis, Robyn Hogan, Kathy Maple, Thelma Smith, Frank Fazio, Nancy Zellamn, Walter Stapleton, James Wofe, Nancy Maple, Carol Miller and the faculty of the Computer Science Department.

Again, I would like to thank and recognize these contributors and assure you that your gifts have been put to good use. Also, thank you for any future contributions.

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CAROL'S CORNER

Well, spring is finally here, but it sure took its time getting here. Hope you all had a good winter and a nice holiday; and, for those of you who love winter sports - good skiing, snow-boarding, sledding, snow-mobiling, etc. IUP is chugging right along and we're all chugging with it (don't look too deeply into that comment). We're closing up another year and in the middle of finals.

We send our get well wishes to [Tom Cunningham](#) who has been under the weather. Tom's wife has also been having some medical problems and we hope they are both soon back to good health and full of the p and v we're used to. If you'd like to send a card, the address is 540 North Sixth Street, Indiana, PA, 15701.

I got Christmas cards and I thank everyone who sent them -

[Mark \(5/85\) and Bev \(Green\) \(5/85\) Landry with Justin and Ryan](#). Justin and Ryan have really changed their looks this year. Justin is the spitting image of Bev and Ryan is the spitting image of Mark Thanks for the card guys!! You still need to hop in the car on Homecoming morning and have breakfast.

[Jane \(Cunningham\) Harnagy \(5/87\) and the gang](#). They've been filling their time with the ice cream and pizza shops along with trips to and from school, soccer, basketball, the swimming pool, as well as a trip to the ER for Regan (six) who cut a corner too close and ended up with five staples. In addition to causing his parents high anxiety, he loves to swim, read and is a budding math whiz. Isabel (also six) learned to ride a two wheeler which gave her a little independent thinking which quickly escalated into doing her own make-up and hair. Olivia is now in 4th/5th grade. She started the year in a 3rd/4th grade mixed class, but was moved to the 4th/5th grade class. She was also excited to be in the school talent show. Callie, who is around 2 2, has been doing things like flooding the bathroom and painting herself with techni-colored markers. Too cute!!!! Jane, it's always good to hear from you.

[Kari \(Robson\) Behune \(5/98\), Greg and Braden](#). I repeat, Kari, I haven't had any recent pictures of Braden.

[Mike Bigrigg \(5/91\) and Karen](#). We're still hoping Mike will decide to come back to IUP to teach.

[Vickie \(Pearce\) Ringhoff \(12/94\), Jeremy, Rylee, Maya and Tico](#) with an adorable pictures of Rylee, Maya and Tico. Those kids are so cute, yes, all three of them. (Tico is the dog.)

Received a card from [Yiming Sun \(5/91\)](#) and, as always, it's great to hear from you, Yiming. You need to stop in for a visit, too.

And from [Jason Livingston \(12/95\) and Jennifer along with Emma, Sean and Ian](#). I didn't see them at Hartwood Acres last month!

From [Mike Gutzat \(5/87\), Mary and their family](#). Always good to hear from you.



Janie (Pike) (5/92) and Ron Kustaborder and family. I can't believe how the kids are growing. I really need to get up there and see you.

Valerie Bonito (12/93) has started a new tradition of sending New Year's cards instead of Christmas cards (at least to me she does). I think that's really great Val - particularly when the pictures are of one of your wonderful trips. Keep in touch.

Thanks to everyone who sent greetings!

Also, thanks to everyone who wrote and updated their email addresses. I hope I got them all changed but I'm sure I missed somebody so please let me know!! I depend on you guys to keep me straightened out.

Among the emails I got for changes, a suggestion was made that we publish the names, addresses and email addresses of all our alumni. I would not do that without your permission, but I will throw it out and see what you think. It would be an everyone-or-no-one type deal. If the majority would prefer not to have their information published, we wouldn't publish any of it. If the majority of you would like to have it published and a very few of you would not, I might be willing to weed out the ones who don't want it published. And, it would probably be a one time thing because there are about 1500 of you now. So, let me know.

Chad Gatesman (5/98) has suggested the IUP Computer Science Department start a Facebook page where everybody can get in touch. I think that's a really fantastic idea. Let me know what the rest of you think and I'll see about getting it set up. Anybody who wants to help in that regard will not be turned away.

Shikkea Gunter (5/00) told me a few alumni are trying to plan a mini-reunion this summer and she's hoping to be able to make it and, if so, will stop and see us. That would be great and I hope everyone who attends that reunion stops in.

I had a really nice update from **Dwayne Wirfel (8/00)**. The last time I heard from him, he and his wife, **Sitora**, had just had their first daughter Sophie, and were living and working in Uzbekistan. Not long after, they came back to the U.S. and Dwayne ended up working for DOD in Pennsylvania. While there, they welcomed their second daughter, Della, in 2003. Later that year he was offered a promotion to another federal job in Alaska and, then in late 2004, he packed his Army National Guard bags to deploy from Alaska to Afghanistan. He returned home well into 2006 and decided to work on his masters and completed his Masters in Project Management from Colorado Technical University, certified in CISSP, and prepared for the PMP exam. And, now he's begun the process of earning a Ph.D. in Applied Management and Decision Sciences from Walden University. And, one of the prizes for all that work is the birth of a baby boy on February 20, 2008. Congratulations to Dwayne and his wife. Sitora is from Uzbekistan, and Dwayne met her when she came to IUP on a fellowship. She graduated with her MBA in 1999. One of Sitora's big accomplishments this year was becoming a US citizen. Congratulations to you Sitora. Great getting all the news, Dwayne, keep in touch.

I also learned that **Derek Fairman (5/03)** did get married (as was rumored) in September 2007. His wife's name is Lindsay and she was a computer science graduate from WVU and, along with Derek, works as a Software Engineer at Raytheon. Lindsay works closely with a lot of the IUP Raytheon gang such as **Derricot Morrison (12/01)** and **Chris McLaughlin (12/97)**. Derek also runs into **Mark Minser (5/00)** from time to time. Derek is still doing Java J2EE/web based programs, heavy on the Oracle and he's now leading a team of five which he says has been quite a trial by fire but he's getting the hang of it. He's also hinting that he would be a good person to send down here to recruit, so who knows, we may just see him down here one of these days. Great hearing from you Derek!

Steve Skripek (8/02) is still with Lockheed in King of Prussia. His big news is his December (2007) engagement to his girlfriend of several years, Kristin Hayden. Kristin is an IUP graduate from 2001 with a degree in accounting. In November 2008, they were married and honeymooned in Jamaica where it rained for 5 days. Well, I don't know too many honeymooners who would even notice the rain, so I shall move on...at Lockheed, Steve has taken another assignment that happened to come with a promotion, and he's now doing staffing, and cost account management for a team of 34+ C# web developers; and right now they're working on an exciting new product. Great news, Steve, keep us posted on how it's going.

Ken George (12/83) hadn't given us an update in quite a while, but that has now changed. Ken is living between Philadelphia and Lancaster and he's currently working for himself as an infrastructure & network consultant. Ken also sent me a picture of his family. What a nice family!! Ken hasn't changed much at all since he was a student (maybe a little less hair) and his kids (Rachel and Ed) look just like him. They are so cute. Thanks so much for the update, Ken!

Dale Lynn (5/85) is still in Pittsburgh and he's still working for Giant Eagle where he started 24 years ago as a computer science intern. They hired him full time when he graduated and he's still there. Presently he's working in the Finance Department as a Project Manager for sourcing and procurement work. He's responsible for the online bidding process, and he's putting together a travel expense management system and a contract management system. Mostly he does negotiating and working with suppliers to help reduce costs on indirect spending. Dale said it's very fast paced and allows him to work with people in all their departments. On the personal side, Dale and his wife, **Kisle**, adopted their second daughter, Aja, from China in 2004. She is now four years old. Their first daughter, Laurel, was also adopted from China, and she is now six. They are both in school and doing well. Every year, the family travels to Disney for vacation and Dale said if anyone wants to know what the 'Don't miss' spots are in Disney, he knows them all and would be happy to help. Thanks for the update, Dale; send pictures from your next Disney vacation!

I also had a nice email from **Matt Handwork (12/00)**. Matt is still working at CTC and is now a Senior Software Engineer which he says sounds nice but requires attending a LOT more meetings. Matt and his wife, **Lacy**, had a little boy in August (8/8/08). His name is **Franklin Vaughn Handwork**. We send our congratulations on the birth of Franklin Vaughn. And, more good news for Matt, he now has full time custody of Gage, so Franklin Vaughn got an instant full time brother and Lacy went from a part time mom to a mother of two in a matter of months. Matt is also still in the Naval Reserves and will be able to retire in about eighteen months; and, he's working on his Masters in System Design at Capella University. WOW!!! You're a busy guy, Matt! Please keep us posted on how things are going. Send pictures!!

Zack Howe (12/96) is now running marathons. He sent me pictures of him running in the Disney Marathon. He ran it with Anne Ryan Hoffman, another IUP alum that Zack met while he was a student here. I'm listing the website and you can take a look and order posters and make donations, etc. Way to go Zack, we're all proud of you. The website is:

http://www.asiorders.com/view_user_event.asp?EVENTID'40036&BIB'16062&S'230&PWD

Missy Karolewski (5/07) has relocated to Arizona. She's still with Lockheed but with their branch in Goodyear. She's really loving it there, too!!! You go, Missy!!

I also had a nice email from **Laura (Wojciechowski) Lawler (12/97)**. You know, Laura, Bill Oblitey always called you Laura Watch Your House Key and I still think of you as that. Stuff sticks. Anyway, Laura sent me the webpage for the pictures of baby **Ana Sinclair** who was born on July 5, 2008 and she is absolutely adorable. I just looked at the more recent ones, too Laura. And, anybody who knows Laura knows Ana.

Spitting image and particularly the red hair. Laura has been working for Wachovia since graduation, and at the time of Laura's email, they were being bought out by Wells Fargo and they've all been anxiously awaiting the details on the system conversion decisions. Wachovia has always been on the buying side, so this is something new for them and Laura said they are the IT people and so will be needed to assist in the merger conversion, and their jobs are most likely safe for a few more years. She's been in the same job for almost 11 years...still with the same team that hired her and she's even still sitting at the same desk. Oh, and she's still doing COBOL. Way to go, Laura. Keep those pictures posted.

I've had several nice e-mails from **Beth (Blum) Spiker (5/88)** with an update on what's she's been up to these days. From September 2000 until April 2006, she and her husband, **Brian**, had been living in England. They then moved to Yakima WA where they'll stay for another year or so and, as of right now, don't know where they'll be going. While in England, Beth became a Director with Mary Kay. She really enjoyed it, but after they moved back to the US, she decided not to re-qualify her Directorship due to the timeframe involved and now has moved down to being a Consultant. And, last year she worked part time for the American Lung Association doing their fund raising. Right now she's doing something that I think would be so much fun - she's taking the Master Gardeners course. You go girl!! She said it's amazing how busy she is considering she doesn't have a job. Beth was reminiscing about the old days of punch cards and how the kids now probably don't know what a punch card is. From what I hear in here, Beth, you are correct.

Barry Day (5/77) has finally retired. Congratulations to you, Barry!!! Job well done!! He and his wife had a wonderful trip to Egypt and I saw all the pictures. WOW!! What a wonderful trip, Barry. It took me hours to look at all the pictures - I had to look at everyone. It was so fascinating. Always great to hear from you Barry and now you enjoy your retirement and do lots of fun things and send pictures.

Also heard from **Nicole Koger-Ford (5/96)** who says she really has to come up and see everyone! I certainly agree with her!! But, Nikki has the same problem most everyone has, usually when anyone comes for a visit, it's the weekend and we're not here. But, everybody needs to make it back for a visit while I'm still here. Retirement is looming - very close. Thanks Nikki, hope to see you one of these days.

Erik Smith (5/99) is just about finished with his MBA and we congratulate you Eric. Congratulations! Let us know when you finish. Thanks for the information on the Scholarship Opportunities!

Terry Glasser (8/96) has moved back to the area. Terry is now working at Highmark for Ciber, Inc in Pittsburgh and is living in McCandless; so, any of you McCandlessees give him a shout. Great hearing from you Terry - stop in.

Mike McFail (12/07) stopped in right before Christmas break. He's still working on his masters degree. Always great to see you, Mike. Keep us posted.

I had a nice email from **Mark Lacy (5/89)**. We hadn't heard from Mark in years. Mark, it's always good to hear from you. Please write again with an update.

And, an email from **Bill Amadio (5/84)**. I was happy to hear that Bill was able to reach a couple IUP friends through my column - that's great!!! And, Bill promises an update on what he's been up to the last twenty-five years. He didn't give me any hints but says he's probably taken a different path than most of the grads. Let us know, Bill, we're all ears.

I mentioned earlier that I heard from **Chad Gatesman (5/98)**! We congratulate Chad on his 2007 marriage to Heather who is a Nurse Practitioner. They're living in Southbury CT with their two dogs, Maisy (a Pug) and

Stewie (a French Bulldog). Chad had been working for Bristol Technology since graduation. Then in 2007, Bristol Technology was acquired by Hewlett-Packard in combination with the purchase of Mercury Interactive. Chad said this was a scary and exciting time for all. Eventually, HP wanted to shut down the office in Southbury and move everyone to Roseville, CA but nearly everyone wanted to stay on the east coast, so they worked a deal where they would work from home until the end of 2008 and see how it worked. It turned out they were just as productive as ever and at the end of 2008, HP saw what an asset it had and they were all told they could continue to work from home indefinitely. Chad absolutely loves it! He's one of the key engineers working on HP Transaction Management (what used to be called TransactionVision at Bristol Technology) which is part of a large platform called HP Business Service Management. WOW!!! Chad, that's so wonderful!!! Keep up the good work.

And, I heard from [Jerome Sparks \(5/83\)](#) who is now living in Columbia, South Carolina where he works for Blue Cross Blue/Shield of South Carolina as an Applications Development Sr. System Analyst. They've been living in Columbia for three years and really love it down there. Great to hear from you, Jerome. Long time, no see.

[Justin Elkin \(5/03\)](#) has his hands full with three girls. He's having trouble keeping up with everyone. Their youngest, Kieler, is finally starting to walk and her Abig@ sisters try to help her so she's decided she might be better off sticking to the hands and knees. Their oldest daughter, Kenadee, will be starting school in the Fall. Justin is a little like the rest of us - where does the time go. It goes fast, Justin, let me tell ya. Enjoy those girls, they'll soon be in college. Keep us posted on how things are going..

[Todd Campbell \(5/98\)](#) also sent an update. He's still living in San Diego and has been working for Cox Communications in Marketing for over six years. His official title is Internet Marketing Manager B basically, he manages all online marketing for Cox San Diego including their website(s), E-Commerce, Interactive (external banners & rich media), and their third party retail online offers (Best Buy, Wal-Mart, etc) . Todd says it's a great position, sometimes stressful, but mostly what he enjoys doing. Thanks for the update, Todd, it's great hearing from you.

[Ken York \(5/99\)](#) is still in New York City but he's switched from consulting back to a full time position and at a different company. He's now with Learning Express (<http://learningexpressllc.com>) building online tests and courses for k-12 as well as for Public Libraries. Ken says he misses the freedom of consulting, but for the time being, he's in a safer place with the economy where it now is. Keep in touch Ken!

It's also been a while since we heard from [Skip Benamati \(5/84\)](#). Skip used to drop in once in awhile when he was in town, but we haven't seen him since he got married. Wonder if that has something to do with it :-). Skip is still teaching in the MIS department at Miami University (of Ohio) and just found out is has been promoted to Full Professor. Congratulations to you on that, Skip; everybody here knows what that process is like. Skip says he owes a lot of his success in the IS field to his strong computer science background. He and his wife, Mandy, bought 6 acres of woods last fall and are in the middle of designing their new house. Their son, Reid, is now five years old and in kindergarten and is really into hockey. He started skating before he turned four. Time really does fly - I remember when Skip sent pictures of Reid right after he was born. Skip, please keep in touch - by email and in person.

Congratulations go out to [Pamm Gindlesperger \(12/94\)](#) on her New Year's Eve engagement!!! She and Eric are planning a November 2010 wedding. They just had too many things happening this year to try to make plans for this year and Eric wanted the wedding in November when it is cool so it will be next November. Pamm's still at FedEx where she's been for fourteen years and, other than that, she says there's not much happening - I'd say that's enough Pamm. She did have plans for babysitting Maya and Rylee who are [Vickie](#)

(Pearce) Ringhoff's (12/94) two girls.. We used to call Pamm and Vickie the Bobsey Twins when they were in school because they were always together. Keep us posted on wedding plans, Pamm!!

And I heard from **Brad Crooks (12/88)**. Brad is still with Violin Memory and they're bringing some incredible products to market over the next 6 months with Flash and DRAM. They're the only company that can get 1.3 Million IOPS in 4U (their unit is 2U, Server is 1U and power supply is 1U). They've had trials at Google, Facebook, Friendster, SAS, IBM, Akamai with impressive results. Brad also suggested having a realtime Debugger page put on Facebook since so many CompSci grads are already networking there. I've made the suggestion, Brad, so we'll see what happens. And, for anyone interested, Brad's family is on Facebook. You have a really nice looking family Brad!!!! Thanks for the update. Stop in sometime.

And, speaking of Facebook, I heard from several of you through Facebook, but didn't necessarily obtain any information. So, I'll just give them an honorable mention and maybe next time I'll be able to give you more information. I have to admit, I haven't had a chance to really experiment with Facebook yet so I'm not real good at gathering information. But, here we go, they are:

Kari (Robson) Behune (5/98) who, as far as I know, is still with PPG Industries in Pittsburgh. In light of what I've been hearing about PPG, Kari, let me know how things are going; **Peggy Mogush (5/87)** is still in Edinboro and she's messing with the water supply, so use your imagination; but I think it's more in line with environmental stuff; **T.J. Hall (5/88)** is still in Pittsburgh and working for EDS; **Jeff Carrick (5/02)** is still living in Dayton PA. Jeff - you need to give me an update on what you're doing these days; **Wes Michael (5/88)** is living in Medina Ohio; **Bonnie (Slowik) (5/96)** and **Tony (5/98) Matous** are living in Pittsburgh; **Jaunita Burdette (12/01)** I think has adopted a couple more cats; **Justin Streiner (5/97)** is still in Pittsburgh; and I think **Sloan Seaman (8/96)** is too; heard from **Ken Shaffer (5/87)**; **Mark Rogaski (12/95)** needs to give me an update about that little one I see in his pictures: **Jason McCombie (5/98)** is in Altoona; **Jason Livingston (12/95)** and I have to say I'm glad to hear there is no swine flu on the airplane; **Jason Agostoni (12/97)** and Jackie - (that Skyler is little doll!!!) **Ryan Knepper (12/01)** - I've been checking out the pictures of the kids, Ryan!.

And, I apologize to anyone I missed. I'm getting old and forgetful. Oh, which reminds me - stay tuned for the next edition of Carol's Corner - and hear the fat lady sing!

Meanwhile have a good summer and please keep me posted on how everything is going and what you did all summer.

--Carol



Carol's replacement, Jasmine!



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