

Department of Mathematics & Computer Science

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Pixel Newsletter



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
EASTERN SHORE

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Pixel Newsletter Editorial Board

- Ms. Manal Elbeshir
- Mr. Rakesh Sharma
- Aderemilekun Popoola (Senior Student)

The School of Business and Technology Meets with the President

A special meeting for President Dr. Thelma Thompson was called by Dr. Alade on April 9, 2009 at 11:00AM. First, Dr. Alade welcomed the President Thompson, faculty, and staff, and then he introduced all the chairs and staff of the School. He briefly highlighted some of the achievements in the accreditation of degree programs in the School. Dr Thompson commented that she had been trying to meet with the faculty of the school for some time. She emphasized the importance of accreditation and commended various degree programs within the School that have been accredited or are in the process of accreditation. She strongly advocated for a friendlier environment for our students, who shall be considered our clients as well. She advised the faculty to spend sufficient time in advising the students. Dr. Thompson spoke of the changes and accomplishments UMES has made since her joining in 2002. She gave a simple mathematic example of calculating the retention rate with increased enrolment.



Dr. Thompsons believes that UMES has no choice but to embrace the changes to promote academic excellence.

IBM in partnership with UMES



IBM, in partnership with UMES, launched an "Enterprise System z" IT curriculum infusion program on Wednesday, February 25, with some 60 students in attendance. IBM has partnered with the university to grant UMES students access to leading-edge technology, courseware and certification training programs based on open standards (both software and hardware platforms) and IBM proprietary technologies. The goal of the initiative is to provide students with the latest IT curriculum, thereby providing them with the skills

to compete for lucrative (new) 21st Century job opportunities available, in the \$60,000(+) range, with various IT companies nationwide and to help ensure that they are prepared to be the technology leaders of tomorrow. The curriculum infusion initiative is designed to enhance the value of UMES business and computer science graduates in a global economy, and to position UMES to meet the challenge of providing American industry with skilled workers capable of responding to the rapid emergence of advanced technolo-

gies in the new high-performance workplace. Due to the recent partnership between the Department of Math & Computer Science and IBM, we offered a couple of IBM-infused courses in Spring 2009. During the Fall 2009 semester, eleven more courses will be added, including three new IBM-infused offerings (CSDP 288: Introduction to Enterprise Compiling, CSDP 398: Java, and CSDP 498: Perl). In preparation for teaching this new curriculum, four faculty members from the department will attend a free enterprise system Z/OS training class hosted by IBM in Poughkeepsie, NY and Dallas, TX in June 2009.





Important Dates for SUMMER & FALL of 2009

- ◆ May 29: First Day of Class for Summer Sessions I and III
- ◆ June 1: Add & Drop Period Begins
- ◆ June 8: Add Period Ends
- ◆ June 9: Drop Period Ends
- ◆ June 10: Withdrawal Period Begins
- ◆ June 19: Withdrawal Period Ends Last Day of Class/Exams - Summer Session I
- ◆ June 29: Re-Opening of Registration for Summer Session II
- ◆ July 2: Last Day to Withdraw from the University for Summer Session I
- ◆ July 6: Add & Drop Periods End First Day of Class
- ◆ July 13: Add Period Ends
- ◆ July 14: Drop Period Ends
- ◆ July 15: Withdrawal Period Begins
- ◆ July 31: Withdrawal Period Ends - Summer III Withdrawal Period Ends
- ◆ August 7: Last Day of Class/ Exams
- ◆ August 10: Add/Drop Periods Begin Reopening of Fall 2009 Registration
- ◆ August 31: Fall 2009 Session Begins
- ◆ September 11: Registration and Add Periods End
- ◆ September 12: Drop Period Ends
- ◆ September 14: Withdrawal Period Begins

Visiting Scholar Research Activities



Dr Norihan Abu Hassan, associate professor from University Teknologi Malaysia, has been named the 2008/2009 Fulbright Malaysian Scholar. She will spend four months at the UMES Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, School of Business and Technology from (January to May 2009.) Dr. Hassan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics at Monmouth College, Illinois, in 1979 and M.Sc.Ed degree in secondary education at Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, Illinois, in 1980. She later obtained a PhD in mathematics education from National University of Malaysia in 2001. At UMES, she

will conduct research on “Comparisons of Cultural Background in Learning Mathematics Among First Year American and Malaysian College Students”. She expects to benefit enormously from learning how the different cultural backgrounds and learning style of undergraduate first year students from US and Malaysian have influenced their values, beliefs and confidence related to mathematics learning. Her primary research interest is in the cognitive studies and assessment of learning mathematics among undergraduate students and its relationship to teaching strategies, as well as cross-cultural studies. Since 2004, Dr. Hassan embarked on pedagogical research in engineering, combining her experience with academics from engineering departments to enrich her academic research interests. Before arriving in University of Maryland Eastern Shore, she was a Deputy Dean (Teaching and Learning) for over three years. She was responsible for conducting academic staff training courses and workshops related to teaching and learning at the faculty and university level. Her expertise includes teaching portfolio workshops, problems based learning workshops, assessment for outcome based education workshops, and more recently, quality assurance workshops.

Faculty Activities

Research Papers (Accepted/ Presented)

- ◆ Hura, Gurdeep S. “Correlating TCP/IP Interactive Sessions with Correlation Coefficient to Detect Stepping-stone Intrusion.” Accepted in AIN2009 23rd IEEE international conference Brad University, UK in May 2009
- ◆ Williams, Mark E. “Calculated electronic and magnetic structure of rutile phase $V_{1-x}Cr_xO_2$.” This paper was published in the *Journal of Applied Physics*, presented

11 November 2008; received 26 September 2008; accepted 20 November 2008; published online 12 March 2009.

Journal /Publications

- ◆ Ridlon, Candice L. “Learning Mathematics through a Problem Centered Approach: A Two Year Study.” *Mathematical Thinking and Learning*, Lawrence Erlbaum, Malwah, NJ (in press 2009).

Contribution to Book

- ◆ Ridlon, Candice L. “Closing the Gap for Low Achievers.” *A Guide to Problem Centered Learning*. A Reynolds (Ed.), New York, SUNY Press, Chapter # 4. Accepted.

Presentations

- ◆ Ridlon, Candice and Riccobono, Joanna “ Geometry: The Platonic Solids,” Annual Innovative STEM Conference. Baltimore, MD. April 8, 2009.



Congratulations Honorees Spring 2009

Computer Science

Alhadi Ahmed
 Yamada Dorsey
 Edmund Duncan
 Sha'Nay Funches
 Lorena Harper
 Ryan Jones
 Leo Namuyamba
 William Ntirenganya
 Jorge Pichardo
 Aderemilekun Popoola
 Derek Powe
 Brian White

Mathematics

Adonis Ajayi
 Brittany Anderson
 Chanda Brown-Wilson
 Lisa Chance
 Clayton James
 Christine King
 Amon Kiprotich
 Susan Lyons
 Jamel Price
 Raghu Yerra

Mathematics Education

Brittney Jones
 Karen Leung
 Teresa Oxendine

Mr. Alhadi Ahmed
Outstanding Student Awards of
the Math & Computer Science
Department



Teresa Oxendine – is presented the Daniel J. Pinkett Award in Mathematics by Dr. Charles Williams, vice president for



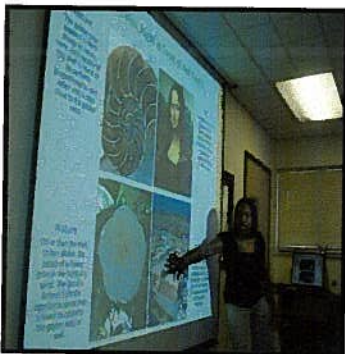
Congratulations! On Mrs. Horsey Administrative Professional Day, was sent from the Math & Computer Science Faculties and Staff wishing her all the best.



Lorena Harper- is the recipient of the 2009 Dr. Thelma W. Hedgepeth Memorial Scholarship in Mathematic and Computer science.

Math Fun Day - Seniors Presentations

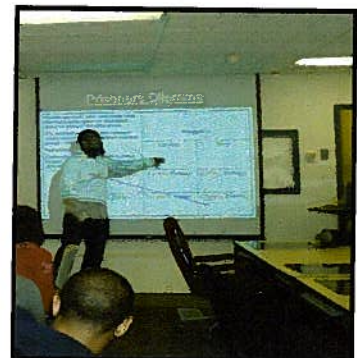
Brittany Anderson
The Golden Ratio and Photography



Wykea Benjamin
Math and Musical Melodies



Jared Countess
Math and Social interactions





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Our Objectives are to:

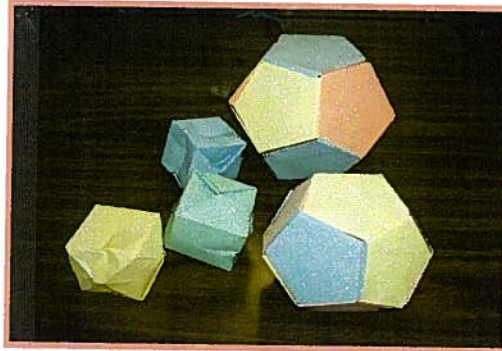
- Students have necessary knowledge and skills to pursue a career in industry and continue their education in graduate program
- Students have necessary knowledge and skills (both theoretical and practical) that enable them to analyze and solve real life problems and to adapt to rapidly growing technology environment
- Students have necessary knowledge and skills in basic qualitative, algorithm and mathematical modeling understanding to enable them to think clearly and critically.
- Students have general knowledge and experience of design, implementation and applications of software systems of real life problems.
- Students have general knowledge and experience of using knowledge of statistics, actuarial science in modeling applications of software systems of real life problems
- Faculty remains current in their fields of instructions and research.
- Faculty spends enough time in pursuing their research and professional development.
- Faculty develop skills for counseling students, colleagues and community members in the planning of their academic career

FUN FUN FUN

MATH FUN DAY

FUN FUN FUN

Ever wonder, "How in the world I am ever going to use all this stuff they teach me in math in the real world?" Well, the Math Department at UMES is determined to help students answer that question for themselves. On March 31st, they hosted "Math Fun Day" from 9AM to 12:30 PM. Nearly 50 students from all disciplines got hands-on experience as math majors Wykea Benjamin, Jared Countess, and Brittany Stevenson presented their Senior Seminar papers.



Students learned that mathematics makes music possible by creating their own scale with glasses of water, and then played melodies on their "glass scales." They discovered that logic theory determines outcomes in computer games as well as in real-life courtrooms. After examining the "beautiful" Golden Ratio, they applied its geometric properties to photography and learned how to take better pictures.



Finally, they watched an animated video about the Platonic solids, and Joanna Riccobono taught them to make an origami cube or dodecahedron. The day finished with a lunch of pizza pi (π).

What did students think of Math Fun Day? Some of their comments were: "I enjoyed each session and experienced that you can have fun while learning math," and "Overall it was a great experience because I gained a more hands-on feel for math and how it applied to everyday life. **It was fun!**"

