Dr. Thweatt & Dr. Pettey to Head Up ACM Fall Conference

When Dr. Thweatt agreed to be the vice-president of the Mid-Southeast Chapter of the ACM, he had no idea that included being the chairman of the fall conference in Gatlinburg. When he was informed of this huge task, he quickly (and wisely) recruited Dr. Pettey as program chair.

As conference chair, Dr. Thweatt's responsibilities include handling all the details of the conference such as finding speakers and judges, hotel accommodations, managing registration details, food, etc. Exhibiting good leadership skills, Dr. Thweatt said he has learned to delegate!

Dr. Pettey is responsible for accepting abstract submissions and determining which

Team Thweatt & Pettey

of those will be allowed to present at the conference. Papers are accepted from students as well as professionals. Dr. Pettey is also responsible for editing the conference proceedings. The ACM Fall Conference will begin Thursday, November 13, with registration from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The keynote address will be given Friday morning followed by paper presentations. The conference will conclude with a social hour and a banquet that will include a speaker and the presentation of awards for student papers.

For further details and information about the conference, log on to http://www.mtsu.edu/~cscbp/midsouthacm.

Under the leadership of Dr. Thweatt and with the assistance of Dr. Pettey, one thing is certain: the conference will run like well-oiled machinery—or in this case, well-oiled "computing machinery!"

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Monitoring Success

Brenda Parker was recognized as one of the "Most Helpful and Caring Faculty" at the Basic and Applied Sciences State of the College Address.

Medha Sarkar was recognized as an "Outstanding Classroom Teacher" at the Basic and Applied Sciences State of the College Address.

Jungsoon Yoo is serving as mentor to 13 Computer Science students who were selected to participate in the NSF (National Science Foundation) CSEM (Computer Science, Engineering Technology and Math) scholarship program during the fall 2003 semester. The program is funded by the National Science Foundation and provides scholarships to qualified low income students majoring in Computer Science, Engineering Technology, or Mathematics. Each semester the NSF CSEM scholarship is awarded to approximately 40 students. Jungsoon helps identify qualifying students, advises them, and mentors them throughout the program. She mentored 18 Computer Science students during the spring 2003 semester. Students have the opportunity to participate in professional seminars and other enriching experiences to help them prepare for their career or graduate school. More information concerning the scholarship may be found at http://www.mtsu.edu/~collbas/nsf.

Ralph Butler has been awarded a research grant in the amount of $30,000 from Argonne National Laboratory for fall 2003 and spring 2004. The title of his research is "Scalable Process Management Project."

Suk Jai Seo presented "Optimal Orientations of a Graph" and "Competition Parameters in a Graph" at the Graph Theory Seminar for the Department of Mathematical Sciences at MTSU on August 27, 2003.
Suk also presented "Optimal Orientations of a Unicyclic Graph" at the Graph Theory Seminar for the Department of Mathematical Sciences at MTSU on September 3, 2003.
Finally, Suk presented "Orienting Graphs to Maximize Acyclic Reachability" at the 37th Midwestern Graph Theory Conference at Valparaiso University, Indiana on September 20, 2003.
Suk is mentoring undergraduate Computer Science student, Daniel Gibbs. The topic of his research is "Competition Parameters in a Graph."

GAs Serve Internship

Joelle Key and Richard Alexander, pictured below with a co-worker, spent the summer serving an internship with Global Exchange Service (GXS).
Richard & Joelle learned why you should treat fellow students well—they actually reported to former MTSU computer science student, Dane Appalsammy!

Help & Support—ACM

The new year of the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) is off to a great start under the continued leadership of faculty advisors Cen Li and Brenda Parker. With several meetings behind them, old and new members alike realize the benefit of being a part of this student organization. Not only do members receive free pizza and drinks, but they receive great information and support from the faculty of the Computer Science Department and the guest speakers at each meeting. Congratulations to this year's officers! Pictured here (beginning on the front row) are Naomi Phillips, Treasurer; Kris-

ten Puccini, Social Chair; Michael O'Brian, Assistant Treasurer; and Karen Soh, Secretary. (Back row) Michael Larkin, Vice-President; Ray Duke, Assistant Secretary; Joshua Beard, President, and Jude Halterlein, Photographer.
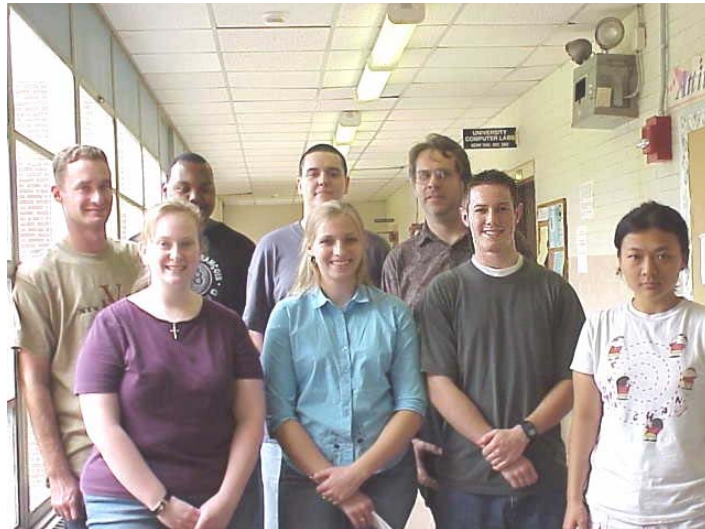
ACM Fall 2003 Program of Events (1:00-2:00 in KOM 350)

October 7— Dr. Matt Wang from IBM, topic TBA
October 21—"Optimal Acyclic Orientations of a Graph" by Dr. Suk Jai Seo
November 4—"Your Career Connection" by Ms. Mimi Thomas, CBAS Career Advisor
November 18—Second Annual Computer Science Jeopardy

No More Comprehensive Examinations for Graduate Students
By Mack Thweatt

The skills formerly required for passing the master's comprehensive exams and making the oral presentations are now being nurtured in the CSCI 6620 class taught by Mack Thweatt. The students in 6620 have to show comprehension in general computer science areas as well as be able to do re-

search. This research includes production of an actual or mock "thesis" which addresses the solution to a computer science problem. They must also make several oral presentations, including one that "defends" their thesis.
CSCI 6620 is then a capstone

course for computer science masters students. Research methods are discussed, along with descriptive and inferential statistical designs used in computer science. Also included in the course is a component on ethics and professionalism. Instead of being offered once every two years, it is now taught every fall and spring semester.

We're on the Web at www.mtsu.edu/~csdept

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Co-Editors: Dianne White
Michelle Higdon

Fall Birthdays

Tom Cheatham—10/08
- Suk Jai Seo—11/06
- Jungsoon Yoo—11/14
- Brenda Parker—11/19

Months in Preview

October 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 / 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

10/6-11	Midterms
10/07	ACM Meeting
10/09	Departmental Meeting
10/11	Homecoming
10/16-18	Fall Break!
10/12	Student Advisory Board Meeting
10/21	ACM Meeting
10/23	Departmental Meeting
11/04	ACM Meeting
11/06	Departmental Meeting
11/13	Mid Southeast Conference
11/18	ACM Meeting
11/20	Departmental Meeting
11-27-28	Thanksgiving Break!
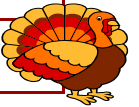
After lunch at the "White" house, the ladies took time out for a picture. Shown here are Jungsoon Yoo, Dianne White, Judy Hankins, Suk Jai Seo, Cen Li and Brenda Parker. Michelle Higdon was behind the camera!

"Control G" (Go To . .)

It was the end of the spring semester and the end of another academic year at MTSU. The female population of the CSCI Department felt the need for some refreshment and time to get away, so they decided to "go to" the White House (Dianne White's house that is!). Lunch and fellowship were enjoyed by all.
To start off the new fall semester, Sung and Jungsoon Yoo invited everyone to "go to" their neighborhood pool for a cookout. The weather was a little cool but not cool enough to keep Al Cripp's daughters and one of their friends from having a great time in the heated pool. Beefalo burgers and hot dogs, cooked by our own team of chefs, Detmer & Yoo, were enjoyed, along with the delicious dishes others brought. It was a fun evening and the Yoo's hospitality was greatly appreciated.
Where shall we "Go To" next?