Christopher Kanan receives a $22K Fellowship

Congratulations to CSE Grad, Christopher Kanan, who was selected to receive the Presidents Dissertation Year Diversity Fellowship in the amount of $22,000. The Office of the President has allotted UCSD four President’s Dissertation Year Fellowships. The program is designed to identify doctoral candidates who have been educationally or economically disadvantaged or whose research or planned career direction focuses on problems related to disadvantaged segments of society. Dissertation Year Fellowships are to be awarded to promising students in the final stages of their doctoral work who demonstrate strong potential for university teaching and research. The President’s Dissertation Year Fellowship is one of the University-wide fellowship programs for diversity.

CSE Grad launches music recommendation competition

CSE Grad student Brian McFee, along with ECE professor Gert Lanckriet, and collaborators Thierry Bertin-Mahieux and Dan Ellis at Columbia University, and music intelligence company The Echo Nest (http://echonest.com/), have teamed up to launch the Million Song Dataset Challenge. Teams are provided with listening histories for over a million users and several hundred thousand songs, and must predict other songs that a user will listen to. Participants are not limited to listening histories to form recommendations, but may also make use of audio features, lyrics, social networking data, or anything else that may be of use. The competition aims to be an open, large-scale simulation of the challenges faced by commercial music recommendation services. The contest will run until August 9, 2012 on Kaggle.com, and everyone is welcome to participate. Check out the contest page: http://www.kaggle.com/c/msdchallenge

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Faculty GPS

CHARLES ELKAN
Charles Elkan will be traveling on 05.28 – 06.01 to give a keynote at the PAKDD conference in Kuala Lumpur.

SCOTT BADEN
Scott Baden is on sabbatical this quarter visiting the Dept of Numerical Analysis at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm, Sweden.