Welcome to our newsletter.

This quarter has been unlike any other in recent history. COVID-19 has brought unprecedented challenges for the UC San Diego community, but we have all worked together to navigate this uncertain time. I want to express my gratitude to our faculty, staff, students and alumni who have demonstrated resilience and adaptability over the past several months.

While we were unable to host traditional graduation ceremonies, we still acknowledge all of your achievements. The CSE Class of 2020 – you certainly had a unique experience and should be proud. We missed the opportunity to celebrate in person, but we will honor all of your accomplishments and contributions to the department.

At the same time, I want us all to be introspective, examine our own biases and shortcomings and take proactive steps to develop a completely inclusive environment. For those still searching for things they can contribute, I would encourage you to get involved in the community and make a positive impact.

As we look towards the future, we will continue to support our students and faculty in their academic and professional pursuits. We are committed to racial equality – with particular focus on providing opportunities for underrepresented groups. Like it has been for so many, this has been a quarter of unprecedented challenges for the UC San Diego community. We are fortunate to have had the opportunity to work together to find solutions and develop strategies to address these challenges.

The graduating seniors of Warren College have chosen Christine Alvarado, the Jacobs School of Engineering Associate Dean for Students and CSE Teaching Professor, to receive the Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award, with the citation: "For her extraordinary teaching, mentoring and leadership, Christine Alvarado has made a profound impact on the lives of many students and faculty within the CSE department." With the citation: "For outstanding achievements in teaching, mentoring and leadership, Christine Alvarado has made a profound impact on the lives of many students and faculty within the CSE department." The paper examines how interconnections on multiprocessor chips affect power, performance and design.

A new approach to genome assembly has been developed by Pavel Pevzner and colleagues at UC San Diego and Saint Petersburg State University. Their method, called MINING-D, could help researchers investigate the genetics that drive symptom variations in COVID-19, and could also be used to help surgeons better understand the anatomy of a patient.

Researchers Win Test of Time Award for Paper that Changed the Auto Industry

Pavel Pevzner has received a $300K NSF grant, through the EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research: Innovation in Undergraduate Research Education and Outreach (EAGER) program. The grant is to help Dr. Pevzner develop a partnership with the UC San Diego College of Extended Education to provide professional development opportunities for K-12 teachers.

Like in previous years, the UC San Diego researchers are part of a multinational effort to use vocal changes to detect COVID-19. The researchers are using algorithms and neural networks to analyze the vocalizations of people who have tested positive for the virus.

Racism is still a serious issue in our society, and we must continue to work towards creating a more inclusive environment. We must be proactive in addressing these issues and taking steps to improve diversity and inclusion. The CSE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee is working hard to make progress towards this goal.

We want to hear from you about the projects and people in the CSE department. Let us know what's newsworthy by emailing us at newsworthy@cs.ucsd.edu.

Stay connected over the summer by following our social media channels. We can't wait to see you in the fall and wish you all a wonderful, healthy and safe summer.

Sincerely, [Your Name]

CSE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee