Jason Mars and Lingjia Tang in WIRED magazine

Jason Mars is a rarity. He’s an outsider with regular access to Google’s data centers. Jason is a professor of computer science at the UCSD, and about five years ago, during a conference for computer science researchers, he met a Googler named Robert Hundt. Among so many other things, Hundt is responsible for a set of tools that track the performance of Google’s massive computing facilities — widely regarded as the most advanced on the Internet — and somewhere along the line, he asked Mars to help him sift through the reams of information produced by these tools. The UCSD CSE professor now spends every summer at Google, looking for new ways of improving the company’s online operation, and occasionally, he’ll publish his Google research, providing the rest of us with a glimpse behind the curtain. “Basically, I look for ideas for how we can improve the efficiency of Google,” he says. “We want to make each query cost less.” Co-authored with Hundt and another UC San Diego, CSE researcher, Lingjia Tang, his latest paper is particularly interesting because it indicates that Google’s data centers may be moving in a direction the company didn’t expect — the same direction the rest of the big web outfits appear to be headed. According to the paper — due to be published and presented this summer at a conference in Israel — Google can save a tremendous amount of money by pairing specific software tasks with specific types of processors. Read more about this article by going to this link: http://www.wired.com/wiredenterprise/2013/05/google-jason-mars/

CSE Undergrad is selected Finalist for 2013 CRA Outstanding Undergrad Researcher Award

CSE Undergraduate, Marjori Pomarole, has been selected as a Finalist of the Computing Research Association (CRA) Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award (Female) of 2013. This year’s nominees were a very impressive group. A number of them were commended for making significant contributions to more than one research project, several were authors or coauthors on multiple papers, others had made presentations at major conferences, and some had produced software artifacts that were in widespread use. Many of the nominees had been involved in successful summer research or internship programs, many had been teaching assistants, tutors, or mentors, and a number had significant involvement in community volunteer efforts. It is quite an honor to be selected as a Finalist. Congratulations Marjorie!

George Porter will be traveling on 05/16 – 05/17 to give a talk at Microsoft Research.

Rajesh Gupta will be traveling on 05/13-05/15 to Washington DC for an Expeditions Meeting.