



CSE NEWSLETTER: A LOOK INSIDE THE DEPARTMENT

Message from the Chair

As I begin my term as CSE Department Chair, I am honored to have the opportunity to represent a department that has shown so much initiative, resilience and dedication.



These are, undoubtedly, challenging times. As a community, we face a pandemic that shows no signs of relenting, social unrest in response to systemic racism, an economic downturn that may get worse before it gets better and federal policies that create new challenges for our international students.

At times like these, it is important that we all reaffirm our core values:

- **Inclusive Excellence:** Embracing inclusiveness will lead us to higher levels of excellence. Inclusiveness is a necessity for excellence.
- **Compassionate Success:** Mentorship and a sense of community help CSE reach the highest achievements while focusing on growth and wellbeing.
- **Real Impact:** Through research and teaching, we embrace activities that lead to real and meaningful impact.
- **Optimism:** While these are challenging times, we fundamentally believe in a better future, both for ourselves and the world. We will continue to work tirelessly to improve CSE, JSOE, and all computing activities at UCSD. We can make the future a better place, and we are excited to work together to make that happen.

The next few months and years may not be easy, but together, we will come out of these difficult times stronger than before. My (virtual) door is always open.

Stay connected with CSE by following our [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#) feeds. If you have news to share, story ideas or comments for our CSE Communications Team, please send them to cse-communications@eng.ucsd.edu.

COVID-19 UPDATES, RESOURCES & Research

Through these unprecedented times, UC San Diego is making every effort to support students, faculty and staff. Here are a few helpful links to answer your questions:

- [Fall Plan](#)
- [Return to Learn](#)
- [Campus Status](#)
- [Updates](#)



CSE NEWS

Kumar Receives NSF Career Award

Arun Kumar has received an [NSF Career Award](#) for his proposal: *Multi-Query Optimizations for Deep Learning Systems*. "This was not an easy path," said Kumar. "I was rejected twice before. But I'm thankful I could muster the humility and patience needed to listen to all the criticism and use it to fuel my growth. Persistence is truly a powerful weapon in research and in life."

UCSDTV Gamers Telly Award

Congratulations to UCTV. Its recent video on Jasmine Simmons' Smartfin research has been honored by the [Telly Awards](#). *Studying Climate Change Through Surfing with Smartfin* won a bronze in General Science and Technology. The video is posted below.

RLBox Work Gamers USENIX Honors

Shravan Narayan, Craig Disselkoen, Sorin Lerner and Deian Stefan have been honored with the USENIX Security Symposium's distinguished paper award for [RLBox](#), which is integrated into Mozilla Firefox to protect browsers from buggy third-party libraries.

Algorithm Brings Us Close to Complete Genomic Sequences

In a [paper](#) that brings scientists measurably closer to assembling the entire human genome, Pavel Pevzner has outlined an algorithm, called *centroFlye*, which uses long, error-prone DNA reads to assemble centromeres, the DNA that connects chromosome arms. This is the first time an accurate centromere sequence has been automatically assembled. The paper was co-authored with graduate student Andrey Bzikadze and published in *Nature Biotechnology*.

Rosing Receives Grant for Hyperdimensional Computing Work

Tajana Rosing has just been awarded a \$140K [NSF grant](#) for her proposal: *Hyperdimensional Computing for Scalable IoT Intelligence Beyond the Edge*. The grant will support Rosing and colleagues' efforts to explore how hyperdimensional computing can enable distributed machine learning.

Remembering Ron Graham

[Ron Graham](#), a professor of computer science and mathematics at UC San Diego, perhaps best known for the discovery of Graham's number, passed away on July 6 at his home in La Jolla, from complications due to bronchiectasis, a chronic lung condition. He was 84.

Day in the Life Video Contest

Submissions are in for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee's Day in the Life Video Contest. [Check out the videos](#) and enter the scavenger hunt.



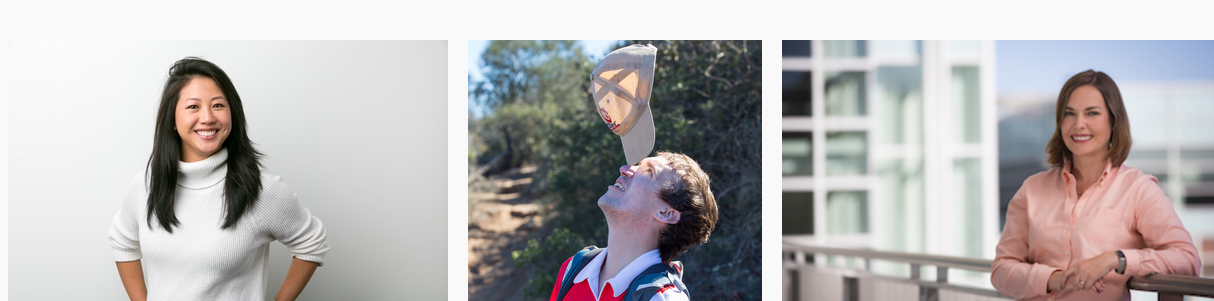
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Brina Lee Forges Another Frontier, This Time in Audio

Brina Lee (MA '13) has learned a thing or two about overcoming fear. It's been a necessity for someone who has blazed a career path that includes being Instagram's first female engineer and co-founding a company. As she works to grow her startup, [Hamul](#), Lee can summarize the most important lesson she's learned in [one short phrase](#).

Alumni Honors

- [Joseph Jaeger](#), who earned his PhD at CSE in 2019 and is now a postdoc at the University of Washington, has won the Early Career Best Paper award at [Crypto 2020](#).
- [Alexandra Boldyreva](#), who is now a professor at Georgia Tech, has won a [PKC Test of Time Award](#) for work she completed as a CSE PhD student in 2003.
- [Tom Ristenpart](#), who is an associate professor at Cornell Tech and [keynoted](#) the first CSE [Research Open House](#), has been honored with two distinguished paper awards at the [Usenix Security Symposium](#).

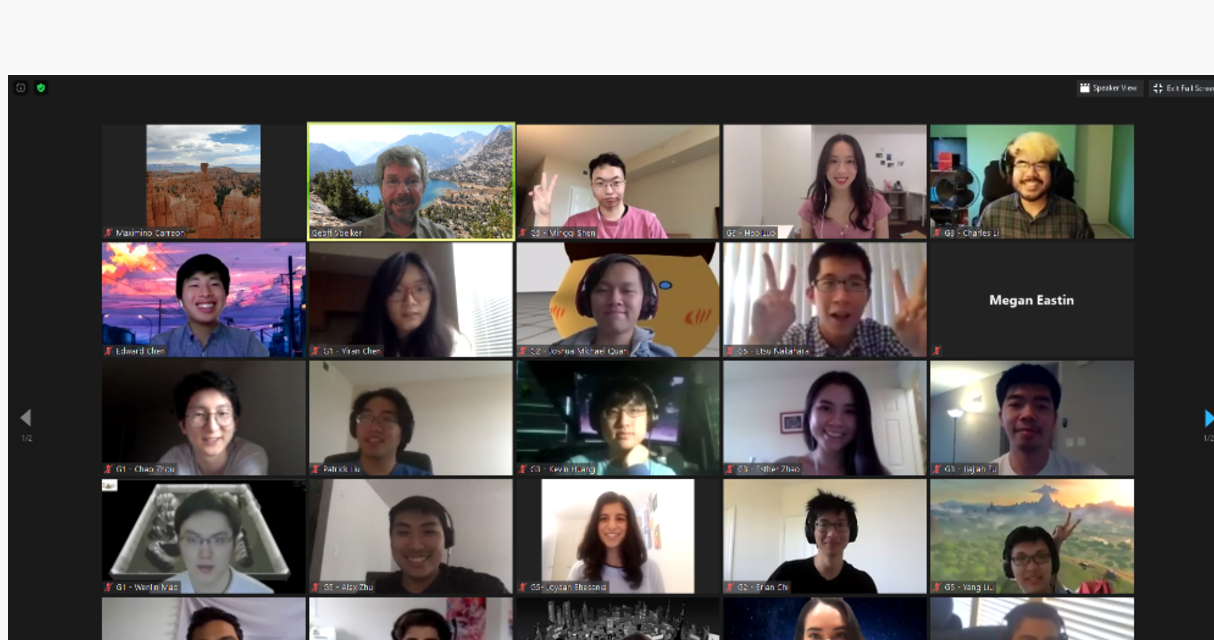


For more news about Computer Science and Engineering department graduates, check out our latest [CSE Alumni Magazine](#).

CENTER FOR NETWORKED SYSTEMS

A Unique Spring Quarter

Geoff Voelker has been teaching CSE 125, Software System Design and Implementation for twenty years, but spring quarter 2020 was a brand new experience. Like other faculty, Voelker had to adapt a class that was never intended to be presented online. Normally, thirty students would work in teams in the CSE computer lab to build a distributed, real-time, 3D multiplayer game. The entire course had to be reconfigured, and the final presentation was held on Twitch. [Read more](#)



CSE TV HIGHLIGHT



Let us know what's newsworthy. We want to hear from you about the projects and people (including students) we should include in newsletters, articles and the CSE website. Let us know what's up at cse-communications@eng.ucsd.edu.

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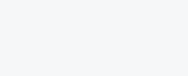
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