

CSE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2013

CSE 125 DEMOS - ANOTHER YEAR OF EXCITEMENT AND SUCCESS!



On Friday June 7th the students in CSE 125 demonstrated their games to an overflow public audience. The goal of CSE 125 is for the students to experience the design and implementation of a large, complex, distributed software system with real-time constraints, and do it in large groups. The course is taught by Professor Geoff Voelker. For motivation, the project assignment was to build a distributed, real-time, 3D, multiplayer game...in 10 weeks. The demos were a big hit with much excitement and acclaim. Each group also has a project Web page charting the evolution of their projects throughout the quarter, all linked into the CSE 125 page at <http://cse125.ucsd.edu>



The Second CSE Tutor Reunion - fun, exciting, and growing!

Since 2000, more than 1,100 students have given back by serving as tutors in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the Jacobs School. The program helps instill in students the department's philosophy, which encourages them to work together rather than compete against one another. The Tutor Program is run by both Gary Gillespie and Rick Ord. Gary Gillespie is the Program Director. The CSE Tutoring program creates a very strong affinity for all participants, and throughout the years, they have built a very tight community. This past Friday, June 7, 2013 CSE held their second-ever reunion. The CSE Alumni of the tutoring program got a chance to get together and reminisce about their days at the UCSD. This reunion provided an opportunity to Reconnect with faculty and CSE Tutors and celebrate the impact of the tutor experience. It was another wonderful success! Check out the pictures from the Tutor Reunion by going to this link: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/calit2/sets/72157634015882557/>

CSE Postdoc, Moshe Hoffman's work published in the National Academy of Sciences



Appealing to people's desire for a good reputation is more effective than cold, hard cash, researchers at Harvard, Yale, the Federal Trade Commission and the University of California, San Diego, found in a study published June 18 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Their findings could be applied to everything from increasing recycling rates, reducing energy usage to cutting carbon emissions.

Using enrollment of thousands of people in a California blackout prevention program as an experimental test bed, a team of researchers showed that while financial incentives boosted participation only slightly, making participation in the program observable – through the use of sign-up sheets posted in public spaces in apartment buildings – produced a three-fold increase in sign-ups. "We illustrate how making behavior that benefits society more observable can be a cheap, practical and effective way to solve read world public goods problems," said Moshe Hoffman, a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at UC San Diego and one of the

paper's co-authors. Using a cash incentive of \$25, the utility company sponsoring the program had seen participation increase from about 3 percent to 4 percent. When researchers made people's participation more observable by posting the sign-up sheets in public spaces, participation jumped from 3 to 9 percent. To get the same result using a cash incentive, the company may have had to offer every person as much as \$175, researchers estimated. Read more by going to this link http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/positive_peer_pressure_more_effective_than_cash_incentives_study_finds