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The Infosys TIMES

Department of Information Systems

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Spring 2017

# The Infosyst TIMES, Vol. 3, No. 2

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## Congratulations!

### Academic Excellence Awardees of Fall 2016

#### Information Assurance \*

Favour Ojika  
Priyadarshini Mocherla  
Deepashika Pahadi  
Priyanka Mutyala  
Channa Kumarage  
Srinath Meadusani  
Aashika Khadka  
Raqeeb Abdul  
Janaka Rajapaksha Gedara  
Mohammad Islam  
Nirajan Rijal  
Hazem Farra  
Parves Kamal

Poornima Arora  
Alexander Stewart  
Garima Sapkota  
Vyshnavi Devi Jorrigala  
Scott Lisbon  
Hung Nguyen  
Nikita Gopathi  
Mohammad Shahi  
Prabesh Shrestha  
Shivendran Tiruchanpalli  
Anusha Thottempudi  
Smitha Katta  
Godhuli Thapaliya

Sushmita Acharya  
Sudip Pariyar  
Fnu Sayma Ahmad  
Minank Reddy  
Podduturi  
Mohammad Islam  
Matthew McCullough  
Dixit Shakya  
Rosthan Ngomssi  
Sasidhar Jakka  
Laxmi Varthi  
Gaudencio Vidigal  
Kalyani Bhalerao

\*Information Assurance: GPA >= 3.75 taking credits >= 8.

#### Information Systems \*\*

Terry Kisser  
Matthew Slauson  
Mitchell Wischmann  
Luke Reinsma  
Syera Weah  
Olabis Ewumi  
Jarin Karjala  
Kayla Jansen  
Yulduzhon Pulatova  
Anthony Kuschel

Andrew Erickson  
Leon Cheneyon  
Irina Nishat  
Obeth Aranda  
Shreeja Basnet  
Hussain Khalid Ansaif  
Melissa Berning  
Alexander Waters  
Michael Gonzalez  
Angelia Thao

Mohammad  
Althawad  
Ali Hassan Al  
Ghazwi  
Gerald Yang  
Riley Dempsey  
Ali Alshaikhahmad  
Katie Peterson  
Rifat Anwar  
Cory Gilbertson

\*Information Systems: GPA >= 3.50 taking credits >= 12.

## National Science Foundation Scholarship

Computing and Engineering  
Scholarship Program (CESP)

\$12,000

**Apply before July 31, 2017**

| Eligibility   | Benefits  |
|---|---|
| <b>Major in one of the following:</b><br>Information Assurance<br>Information Systems<br>Computer Science<br>Computer Engineering<br>Mechanical Engineering<br>Manufacturing Engineering<br><b>U.S. Citizenship or Permanent Residency</b><br><b>Minimum 2.85 GPA</b><br><b>Graduating in Spring 2019</b> | <b>Recognition as an NSF scholar</b><br><b>Faculty and peer mentoring</b><br><b>Professional Development</b><br><b>Leadership Development</b><br><b>Internships</b><br><b>Research</b><br><b>Field Trips</b><br><b>Conferences</b><br><b>Volunteering Opportunities</b> |

"It is a prestigious scholarship which has many benefits in addition to and which ultimately outweigh the financial award."  
 Scott Lisbon (Information Assurance)

"The NSF scholarship will allow me to have a sense of relief when it comes to the financial part of it. It will also help me have a better chance of getting a job that I want to have."  
 Derek Kuechle (Mechanical Engineering)

Dr. Susantha Herath  
Department of Information Systems  
Centennial Hall 444  
320-308-2189

**ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY**

[www.facebook.com/SCSUSSTEM](http://www.facebook.com/SCSUSSTEM)  
[web.stcloudstate.edu/sstem](http://web.stcloudstate.edu/sstem)



## Farewell!

### Graduates of Spring 2017

#### Information Systems

Nawaf Alharbi  
Saif Alsayed  
Ali Alshaikhahmad  
Obeth Aranda  
Zachary Babcock  
Mathew Bakken  
Leon Cheneyon  
Riley Dempsey  
Ishmael Eduku  
Andrew Erickson  
Cory Gilbertson  
Theodore Gleason  
Michael Gonzalez  
Nathanael Haile  
Brikken Jensen  
Drew Klemz  
Anthony Kuschel  
Vangkou Ly  
Ryan Morris  
Setor Nyendu  
Jeffrey Patnode

Andrew Pedretti  
Luke Reinsma  
Tazin Siddiquee  
Matthew Slauson  
Amanda Smith  
Angelia Thao  
Ibrahim Thiam  
Erick Vega Salmeron  
Alexander Waters  
Syera Weah  
Shenal Weligama A  
Mitchell Wischmann  
Gerald Yang

#### Information Assurance

Shiek Alam  
Hari Krishna Annangi  
Krishna Sai Ayyagari  
Naga Sandeep Bondili  
Andrew Botchway  
Sujitha Dandu  
Bikrant Gautam

Daveindaran Gobalan  
Ashwini Jha  
Parves Kamal  
Vamsi Karukula  
Aashika Khadka  
Elina Khadka  
Shravani Meneni  
Priyadarshini Mocherla  
David Osuji  
Deepashika Pahadi  
Karthik Paidi  
Sudip Pariyar  
Jyoti Poudel  
Sreevidya Pulugurta  
Sheng Qian  
Nirajan Rijal  
Shivam Soni  
Ritu Tamang  
Ananta Vaidya  
Sai Shruthi Veerannagari  
Rahul Veeravelli  
Liheng Xu

## Scholarship Recipients

#### Federated Insurance

Abdinoor Hussein  
Whitney Lorentz

#### Wes Schiffer

Katie Peterson

#### Sterling 5

Taesig Ahn  
Yulduz Pulatova.

#### Ruth K. Meyer

Jarin Karjala

#### Ming-te and Debra Lu

Jimmy Bui

## Upcoming Special Events

| Date       | Time                 | Venue                      | Event   |
|------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 04/17/2017 | 12:00 pm             | Atwood Glacier             | SFS celebration   |
| 04/22/2017 | 08:00 am<br>04:00 pm | St Cloud State<br>Plymouth | Minnesota Women in<br>Cyber Security                                |
| 04/24/2017 | 12:00 pm<br>01:00 pm | CH 115                     | IS orientation for upper<br>division status Fall16 and<br>Spring 17 |
| 04/29/2017 | 01:00 pm             | CH 494                     | ICCP Exam   |

## Have an interesting update/article/experience/news/idea/event to share?

We are always seeking content and suggestions for our newsletters. If you are interested in submitting a writeup of 250 words or less with relevant high resolution image, please feel free to contact the IS Department office or send an e-mail to [is\\_Editor@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:is_Editor@stcloudstate.edu)



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SCSU participants at the Student360

## SCSU Impresses at Inaugural Student360 Conference

Over 30 SCSU students attended the 1st annual Student360 conference at St. Mary's Center in Minneapolis on February 11, 2017, out of 150 total students at the sold-out event. Organizers mentioned their appreciation for the enthusiasm of the SCSU cohort and strong interest in the hands-on cybersecurity sessions offered.

Sessions ranged from red teaming and threat modeling to job-seeking social media tips and career advice. Students were especially appreciative of the keynote CSO panel featuring Chris Buse, CISO of the State of MN and SCSU alum, as well as Barry Caplin, CISO of Fairview Health Services, and Brandon Perkins, Cybersecurity Director at Supervalu. They spoke of the major changes occurring presently in cybersecurity where paradigm shifts will be necessary to meet the evolving demands. Students also participated in mock interviews and networking with regional affiliate organizations i.e. the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA) and Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP).

One of the great benefits for SCSU from events such as this is the relationships that develop and mature from experience. Multiple offers have been fielded to bring professional information security speakers to SCSU in the coming year, and efforts are being coordinated with the Cyber Security Information Assurance (CSIA) club and others to ensure that SCSU students receive the maximum benefit from these opportunities.

## TERP 10 ERP Integration of Business

The TERP10 certification is in high demand and one of the most needed SAP skills in the market. In the next several years the need for such professionals is expected to increase. SCSU, being an active member of SAP's Global University Alliances program, is to offer the TERP10 Certification Program to its students in Summer 2017. SAP TERP10 is a course that can be followed with the SAP TERP10 certification exam. This is considered an entry-level consulting certification since it provides both theoretical understanding and hands-on experience with the most important parts of SAP ERP. Unlike the full day all week-long workshop style coaching, SCSU offers a 5-week summer program with a flexible schedule for its students. SCSU provides the SAP TERP10 certification coaching to its students as per the current tuition rate, which is an added advantage. Upon the completion of the TERP10 course and clearing SAP's certification exam, students will have the advantage of being armed with a better understanding of business processes adopted by various companies around the world. Certified professionals will get an unobstructed vision of how SAP is used to optimize business process and its best practices. Students will find that the TERP10 Certification will open internship opportunities as well as full-time jobs with various top level companies. Becoming an SAP Certified Associate adds value to the individual and helps distinguish themselves from the crowd.

For additional information, contact Dr. Changsoo Sohn at 320-308-4881 or [csohn@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:csohn@stcloudstate.edu)

## IS Graduates get OPT Extension!

The CIP code of the IS program has been changed to STEM this semester. This will allow our graduating students in the IS program to extend their Optional Practical Training (OPT) permit for two additional years to gain practical experience in the United States.

## Inside this edition

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## Tutoring Available at CH 415

To extend tutoring services of ALC (CH 236), IS Department now offers additional tutoring help, specifically to students in Application Program Development I and II classes: IS 250 (C#) and IS 251 (Java). Four tutors are available to make lab demonstrations, and conduct group sessions for students needing extra help in programming. The students are guided

to proper channels if the tutors cannot provide assistance. Tutors activity is monitored in log reports in order to help instructors pay special attention to most common problems with which students come to seek extra help.

For appointments and details, please e-mail:  
Channa Kumarage | ckumarage@stcloudstate.edu

## Tutoring Hours

|           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| Monday    | 01:00 pm - 05:00 pm |
| Tuesday   | 09:00 am - 03:00 pm |
| Wednesday | 12:00 pm - 04:00 pm |
| Thursday  | 11:00 am - 03:00 pm |
| Friday    | 10:30 am - 04:30 pm |

## Information Systems Role in Sustainability: Why is this important?

Smart buildings and Green IT are just two examples where Information Systems can help reduce environmental footprint. Going green for a business nowadays is no longer just a matter of good corporate image, but an issue of its sustainability. Companies have to comply with environmental regulations and standards to avoid excessive taxation, or even losing their license for land use. They want to save energy-related costs, control pollution and improve waste management. SCSU joined the movement for Sustainable Development about ten years ago when Dr. Earl Potter III has signed University Presidents' Commitment to reduce greenhouse gasses emissions generated by campus (<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/facilities/sustainability.aspx>). Sustainability became the main theme of fall 2009 Convocation, for which Dr. Paul Safonov invited a guest speaker - prominent ecological economist Dr. Robert Costanza, his longtime colleague within the ISEE - Interna-



Dave Kleis, Mayor of St. Cloud

tional Society for Ecological Economics (<http://ISEcoEco.org>). The first IS 459 Topics class on "Socio-Ecological-Economic Information Systems" was taught by Dr. Safonov as a result of winning the 2010 SCSU Innovative Award. Since then, SCSU Students for Sustainability Club was established (<http://safonov.org/sfs>), which recently partnered with SCSU Sustainability



Committee on a recycling project. The IS 459 class was taught again in Spring 2014 and Summer 2016, and it will be offered again during May 15 - June 15, 2017, under a broader topic "Information Systems for Sustainability" (<http://safonov.org/IS459>). The syllabus covers

Sustainability Indicators, Environmental Accounting Systems, GIS, Systems Dynamics Modeling. Students select a research project related to sustainability. Past research topics have included Energy Saving in St. Cloud, Green IT, Carbon Footprint of Media Distribution, E-Waste Management, Alternative Energy in Minnesota, Pollutants in Wisconsin's Waterways, Oil Spills, and Aquaponics. Summer 2016 students visited Park and Recreation Department of the City of St. Cloud and met with its Director Scott Zlotnik and Mayor David Kleis, who talked about sustainability initiatives in St. Cloud area.

## Student Research Colloquium

The 20th Annual Student Research Colloquium will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2017. This conference celebrates student research, creative works and scholarship across all disciplines at the undergraduate and graduate level. The list below shows the students that are participating from Information Systems department under the guidance of Dr. Susantha Herath and Dr. Mark Schmidt.

|                   |                      |                       |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Alexander Stewart | Karteek Tummala      | Surendra Giri         |
| Anthony Kuschel   | Kamchana Lankatilake | Syera Weah            |
| Bipul Poudel      | Kim Phan             | Talha Mirza           |
| Benjamin Watters  | Matthew Slauson      | Thejaswini Nanneboina |
| Charlie Chen      | Mustafa Khambatta    | William Smith         |
| Charlie L Chen    | Olabisi Ewumi        | Zain Abideen          |
| Godhuli Thapaliya | Praveen Uprety       | Zachary Babcock       |
| Henry Akanet      | Patrick Jackson      |                       |
| Jamal Mosakheil   | Sara Acikkol         |                       |
| Joshua Faust      | Sasidhar Jakka       |                       |

## ABET Accreditation

St. Cloud State University is a member of many academic and professional associations and has various accreditations. The Herberger Business School is accredited by the AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business at both the bachelor's and master's degree levels. The Information Systems Department is now pursuing accreditation from ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.), a program level accreditation. ABET accredits programs in the disciplines of applied science, computing, engineering and engineering technology at the associate, bachelor and master degree levels. ABET accreditation provides assurance that a college or university program meets the quality standards of the profession for which that program prepares graduates. Over 3,700 programs at more than 750 colleges and universities in 30 countries have received ABET accreditation. Approximately 85,000 students graduate from ABET-accredited programs each year.



### Dr. Jim Chen

*Professor of Information Systems  
MSIA Director*

Dr. Chen earned his Ph.D. in Information Systems from University of Nebraska – Lincoln, MBA from Northern Illinois University, and BS in Engineering Management from the Xian University of Technology. He grew up in a small city in Southwestern China. He became the youngest college student at age 16 and the youngest college instructor at age 20. Dr. Chen learned the values of hardworking, integrity, and compassion. On January 1, 1988, he reluctantly left his four-month pregnant wife behind in pursuit of an opportunity to study in the USA. With one hundred dollars in his pocket, he landed in snowy O'Hare airport and started his journey of the American dream. Three years later his family reunited in America.

His high school physics teacher and his college economics professor impressed upon him the importance of well-prepared and executed lectures in effective student learning.

Dr. Jim Chen is the program director of MSIA.



### Dr. Jianxun Li

*Visiting Scholar*

Dr. Jianxun Li is Associate Professor and Chairman of Department of Management Science and Engineering at the Xian University of Technology, China. His academic experience includes research and teaching subjects in software development, computer security, E-commerce, artificial intelligence, data mining and the Internet of things. Recently, Dr. Li's research primarily focuses on big data, cloud computing, process simulation and allocation decision making. He received grants and was the principal investigator for 13 research projects funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China, Ministry of Education, and Shaanxi Province. Dr. Li owns two patents, has published two books and more than 30 papers regarding MIS and DSS.

Invited by Dr. Chen, Dr. Li is now spending one year at St. Cloud State University (since May 15, 2016) as a Visiting Research Scholar. During this period he gave a guest lecture in IS 459 Information Systems for Sustainability class, and took part and assisted in IA 643 Database Application Security and Auditing, and IS 545 Application Program Development III classes. Dr. Li also helped Dr. Safonov advise the IS student team, preparing for DigiKey 2016 Collegiate Computing Competition. His experience in software development helped students improve their skills in object-oriented programming.

During his time at SCSU, Dr. Li collaborated with Dr. Chen and Dr. Safonov on data analysis and flood simulation and worked together on two research papers. One of them, focusing on the application of GIS-based simulation software to environmental impact forecasting, will be presented together with Dr. Safonov at an International Conference in July 2017 and is being prepared for submission to a journal publication.

## Meet the Faculty

Dr. Jim Chen

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Dr. Paul Safonov

CH 434

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Dr. Jianxun Li

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### Dr. Paul Safonov

*Professor of Information Systems*

Dr. Paul Safonov obtained his B.S. and M.S. in Economics and Mathematics from Moscow State University of Economics, Statistics and Informatics (Moscow, Russia)

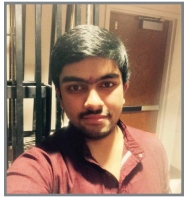
in 1986, and Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from Russian Academy of Sciences (Institute of Control Sciences, Moscow) in 1995. Prior to joining SCSU in 2002, Dr. Safonov had sixteen years of international scholarly experience worldwide. He worked as a Senior Researcher at the Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow, 1986-1999), and Free University of Brussels (Belgium, 1999-2003). He was a Visiting Researcher at the Center for European Economic Research (Mannheim, Germany, 1995), and University of Warsaw (Poland, 1996), Visiting Professor at the University of Versailles (France, 2002, and 2012-2013), and the University of Campinas (Brazil, 1997-1998). He was also the Associate Consultant on Environmental Policy for Harvard University's Institute for International Development office in Moscow during 1995-1996.

Paul's research interests include Sustainability, Urban Development, Transportation, Energy, Input-Output Economics, and Integrated Ecological-Economic Modeling, as well as various aspects of Information Systems (including Virtualization and Green IT, Network modeling and Security).

In 1993 Dr. Safonov co-founded the Russian Society for Ecological Economics, which is a regional chapter of the International Society for Ecological Economics (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RSEE>). He served as elected RSEE President (1997-2001), and remains on its Board till today.

During his tenure at SCSU Dr. Safonov taught beginning and advanced Application Program Development, MIS, Systems Analysis & Design, Decision Support Systems, and MBA classes. He recently partnered with Wolters Kluwer for an MVC ASP.NET Web Development class (<http://IS445.com>). Dr. Safonov was a long-time advisor of the IS Club, as well as he is advising IS student teams at DigiKey Collegiate Computing Competitions since 2004.

In Minnesota he continues being active in the environmental movement. Dr. Paul Safonov serves on SCSU Sustainability Committee, helped establish and advises the "SCSU Students for Sustainability" Club (<http://Safonov.org/SfS>). He created classes about the role of Information Systems and Modeling for Sustainable Development (which will be offered within IS 459 again in Summer 2017 – read an article about it on page 2 in this issue, and more on <http://Safonov.org>). Read more about his experience on <http://PaulSafonov.com>.



## Shoveling the Snow!

- Shivendran Tiruchanpalli

Leaving prints in the snow and exploring the city during the pleasant summer has been a wonderful experience for me in St. Cloud. Attending St. Cloud State University, has given me a great opportunity to join the Information Assurance program in which being a part of the Husky family is not just a short time connection but a long-term relationship with the diverse community. Pursuing my degree in IA has given me a wide insight into the challenging field of data security. Class activities, quizzes, and exams are integral parts of the coursework. Hands on experience with various projects sometimes make me feel like a hacker portrayed in the movies, like typing stuff on the black screen which prints out huge amounts of data and finally getting the message "Access Granted." That's the fun part.

The true reality of these projects made me realize the responsibility one holds as a security professional. Well-planned coursework that is taught by dedicated professors has helped me enhance necessary skills for all-around development in the field.

Engaging with the community is essential to becoming a professional in any field. CSIA club helps engage students by hosting seminars, presentations, and workshops which help the student in building professional skills in the field. CSIA club also helped me get involved with project demonstration activities and provides updates about the latest trends in technology.

At the end of the day, there is always a good story to tell. Hope you have a good one too and have a great semester ahead.



## NSF STEM Scholarship

- Kayla Jensen

Have you ever heard of Argonne National Laboratory? I hadn't until I was accepted into the National Science Foundation (NSF) STEM Scholarship program at St. Cloud State University. With their guidance, I decided to apply for an internship at the Laboratory in Lemont, Illinois, located just outside of Chicago. For weeks I waited anxiously to see if I would be accepted into their summer 2017 internship program. Then on February 2, 2017, I received the email I had been waiting for, it was an official offer to participate in their summer internship program.

After being accepted into the program, I scheduled a tour of the facility to understand better where I would be spending my summer. Throughout the tour, I discovered the true magnitude of Argonne National Laboratory.

The facility has fifteen research divisions, twelve centers, and five national user facilities located on 1,700 acres. The technological developments that they are currently working on are incredible, such as their newest supercomputer, Aurora.

Nevertheless, this summer I will be spending ten weeks at the Laboratory where I will work closely with a team in the research and development area of cyber security. I am honored to have the opportunity to learn and work with top security experts in the world. I would strongly encourage anyone interested in this area to explore all of Argonne's internship programs.

Don't be afraid to take a risk and try something new; you never know where life opportunities may lead you.

## Fall 2017 Course Registration !

Fall 2017 registration is open for all graduate students. Please meet with your advisor as needed and register now for fall courses (and Summer).

Early registration is the best strategy to ensure courses you need are available to you in the fall. Registration is available online through e-Services.

More information on registration is available through Records and Registration at <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/srfs/registration/guide.aspx>



## My Journey

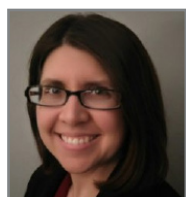
- Jayakrishnan Karunanidhi

I was so happy to see the acceptance letter to pursue my masters in Information Assurance (IA) from St. Cloud State University in September 2016. I was so excited for the opportunity to prove myself on such a huge platform. I am so glad I am doing my masters in IA, as I can learn the security challenges faced by various organizations and do various research and developments. My journey at SCSU started on Jan 4, 2017, with an orientation week in which I came to know the various opportunities available at the University. The Administrative orientation program helped me understand the cultural differences and how to utilize the various resources available at SCSU. SCSU has a diverse community and paved the way to have many friends from different cultures. Once classes started, I realized the difference in the way of teaching between the universities in my home country and the US. I liked the way of teaching over here, and I started to enjoy learning. These three months of my first semester gave me more confidence to achieve exciting goals in my journey ahead.

## IS 301 Course is now an elective for IS major!

IS 301 Information Technology in the Entrepreneurial Organization will be offered from fall 2017 as an elective for IS majors. The course focuses on the application of information technology to the entrepreneurial organization. It includes needs assessment, managing technology, and impact analysis. You can master your Excel skills in this course.

Seats are limited. Plan to register as early as possible!



### Application Design

- Terry Kisner

Who hasn't dreamt of striking it rich with the next big app like Snapchat or Spotify? The most successful apps are those you conceive of to improve your life. If you have a need for an app, others probably do too and are likely to download your app. But coming up with a great app idea is just the first step.

As students in the IS and IA programs, we tend to focus heavily on the programming side of app creation. Consequently, we sometimes neglect the design of the app. However, even the best app will ultimately fail if not designed properly. So, what design steps should you take to ensure your app is successful?

The first step is to focus on the purpose of your app. It's easy to get over-ambitious and compose a giant wish list for your app. By concentrating on the function of your app, you can see what is essential to it and what is just fluff. This is also when you should start thinking of your target audience. All the people you think are liable to want your application.

Once you've determined the necessary tasks of your app, you can begin storyboarding. You don't need to be artistic to do this. Draw simple pictures to illustrate how to navigate your application. This step will guide you as you move through the rest of the design process. You can use your simple storyboard to generate a wireframe to detail your application further. This helps you to truly see your app and any potential issues that may be hiding in it. There are many software tools that can help you with this stage. There's even a storyboarding add-in on Microsoft PowerPoint to create wireframes.

A recommended step to check the usability of your app is to create user personas. There's no magic number of personas you must make. Instead, the number should be based on your target audience. If your app has a wide user base, you'll need more personas compared to an app that has a more limited audience. Your personas should be fully formed and well designed. There are several free templates available online to help you in this process, ensuring you don't forget important features of your personas. The purpose of user personas is to assess whether your app is designed effectively for the audience you seek.

This is just an outline of some of the steps necessary to design an effective application. App design is an involved, multistep process that can't be ignored. At least, not if you want to launch a successful app.



### Alumnus Insight

- Hareesh Reddy

"Learning gives creativity; creativity leads to thinking, thinking provides knowledge, knowledge makes you great." These words by Sri. A P J Abdul

Kalam inspires me to acquire continuous knowledge. This led me to SCSU in pursuing my master's degree in Information Assurance. My experience here has been challenging, interesting and exciting. Throughout my academic career, I was awarded certificates for excellence in academics. After my first semester (Fall 2015), I obtained a scholarship from Department of Information systems for securing a 4.0 GPA. This scholarship not only helped me pay a part of my educational expenses but also provided recognition in my department. I worked for the IS department as a Graduate/Research Assistant for two semesters under Dr. Susantha Herath, handling IPP (Industry Partner Program), an initiative by our department in building strong partnerships between academia and industry by inviting professional speakers into the classroom to provide real-world insights and share their experiences. Apart from IPP, I also worked for IA 680 and IA 673 courses in developing quizzes, labs and assignment material. It was a privilege working with Dr. Susantha Herath and grateful for his unyielding support and approachable manner.

Books or classroom knowledge introduces you to the subject but real time experience makes you an expert on that subject. During summer 2016, I worked for J & B Group, Inc as an IT Security Intern. I was involved in a project to evaluate existing security controls (System, Network, and Application) and recommended an action plan to improve security posture. My final project presentation to the Chairman, CEO and other leaders of the company was the best. Finding an internship or full-time job is not an easy task, especially for international students, but staying focused and building an ideal resume could yield better results. I recommend every student concentrating their career in Information Assurance to obtain security certifications before their job search, and look for internship opportunities which will lead to entry into full-time work.

Maintain good grades and plan early. Good luck!



*Kehinde Sodunke*

## Meet the IS Club President

My name is Kehinde Sodunke. I was nominated president of Information Systems Club a few weeks into the Spring 2017 semester. Previously I was the secretary for the Fall 2016 semester.

This Spring semester IS Club is going through a rebuilding process. My job as president this semester involved leading board meetings as well as helping to create events. Being a president of a club hasn't been as easy as I thought it would be. There have been some challenges I have faced this semester. One of which is retaining new members. I've noticed there's a lot of international students in the Information Systems major, and it has been difficult getting them to join the club. Part of the reason is due to the rebuilding process which I mentioned earlier.

The bright side of this is I have great board members willing to help me every step of the way. I'm confident the next school year will be even better.

## ITS Club + IA Club = CSIA Club

Spring semester 2017 marked the first assembly of the Cyber Security Information Assurance Club (newly joined from the IA and ITS Clubs) while also welcoming in an entirely new board. The primary focus of the board members is to increase focus on providing learning and networking opportunities for all members at each CSIA meeting.

Weekly meetings have ranged from practical demonstrations on security tools to job interview tips and hosting local businesses.

Keeping with a tradition founded by the IA Club, the CSIA Club will be hosting a Cyber Security Awareness Event on April 12th and 13th in Atwood. This event is used to promote cyber security to not only members of the club, but to all students, faculty, and surrounding community members. There will be presentations ranging from the newest techniques that hackers use to steal identities to implementing business security frameworks. There will also be a showing of the NOVA episode "Rise of the Hackers" with a subsequent panel discussion on topics covered in the episode. Also, as a standard college event bonus for attending, free food will also be offered!

Other things happening during the event include hands-on demonstrations, additional research presentations by students, a cyber security capture the flag (CTF) competition with prizes for the top teams, and a keynote speech from Bob Weiss, Cybersecurity professional, penetration tester, weblogger, and cybersecurity awareness trainer.

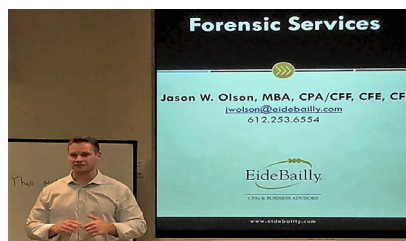
The CISA club is holding a fundraiser by selling Kwik Trip car wash cards (\$36 for five Ultimate washes.)

## IS Club Pizza Social



*IS club students at the Pizza Social*

This School year IS Club had a few memorable events. Our first major event was the LAN Party. This event took place on November 18, 2016 in Atwood Ballroom. For the set up of the LAN party this was done by accessing LAN internet from huskytech here at SCSU. The event featured different video games and many screens. Many people came to play and also invited more of their friends to come enjoy fast internet speed in one location. The Pizza Social took place on March 29, 2017. IS Club decided to have this event as a way to reach out to more students. The social began with the president welcoming everyone to the club and giving an overview about IS Club. Professor Erich Rice came to speak with the club as our special guest. He gave students guidance on how they can apply for internships and also answered any general questions students had. Professor Rice emphasized that being an active member in a club especially like IS Club is crucial to student success.



*Guest Speaker Mr. Olson from Eide Bailly LLP.*

## Uncovering Fraud Triangle

On October 27, 2016, Jason W. Olson, a forensic accounting partner at Eide Bailly LLP, was invited as a guest lecturer by Dr. Mark Schmidt to share his expert knowledge, gained through conducting hundreds of proactive and reactive forensic accounting engagements, with his students. Olson is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with an MBA. He is also certified as a Fraud Examiner, Forensic Interviewer, and Financial Forensics. More than 50 students from IS and IA majors attended this one-hour informative session where Olson gave a presentation based on case studies to explain with practical examples which were engaging and relevant to course studies. Olson's talk on how an accounting firm can help clients utilizing knowledge of cybersecurity and digital forensics to uncover rationale behind fraudulent activity beyond mere financial transactions was very interesting. During his presentation, Olson explained topics such as fraud triangle, audit trails, incidence response, best practices, auto forensics and investigative techniques that added value to the course content as well as the students' learning. The most exciting takeaway from this presentation was the healthcare fraud case example which he used to explain in detail the steps involved to identify activities indicia of fraud and how to prevent. Olson has a deep understanding of accounting and digital forensic techniques which were obvious throughout his presentation.

Students appreciated the informative presentation and expressed that they learned a lot from Olson's clear examples and explanations. Automotive Forensics was an interesting topic for the students which involved computing devices used in vehicles.

## SCSU and Maverick Partnership Recognize Five Years of Success

Growth in the Maverick On-Campus IT Internship Program at SCSU.

Now in its fifth year, the Maverick program has undergone multiple waves of growth, including expansion to the majors recruited from, additional clients and a new office. These developments have led to a very strong program and partnership between St. Cloud State University and Maverick Software Consulting. What started out as a pilot program with 10 IT students and one client, Symantec, has grown to 26 students and three clients. Also, Maverick has expanded the job roles in the office and majors recruited. In the spring of 2016, the Maverick office made a big move over to the new ISELF building and nearly doubled its footprint.

Maverick prides itself on recruiting top students from the Computer Science and Engineering, Information Systems and Information Assurance majors to work on software development and testing projects for Veritas's NetBackup Quality Engineering Teams (previously Symantec Corporation). Maverick interns work 20 hours per week during Fall and Spring semesters, full time over the summer, and for a duration of at least one and a half years. Students earn a

very competitive wage and can earn three internship credits that count towards their degree. The program is not your typical internship. Student interns work in a corporate environment and are assigned to teams led by Veritas project managers. Projects and priorities rotate quarterly, giving students an opportunity to work on a variety of product features over the course of their internship. Without leaving campus, students can apply their classroom learning to real-world software development and testing projects.

Graduates from the Maverick program have several years of industry experience and possess strong technical, interpersonal and communication skills, making them highly qualified for employment. To date, over

75 interns have gone through the Maverick program at St. Cloud State, with clients extending full time offers to over 50% of their interns, and 100% job placement for all other students.

For info: Contact Dr. Jim Q. Chen, Maverick Program Faculty Sponsor | 320 308 4882 or email him at [jchen@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:jchen@stcloudstate.edu)



*Students from Maverick program*

### CSIA competes in cyber defense competition

On February 4, ten members of the CSIA club competed in the state round of the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC) in Alexandria, Minnesota. CCDC is a simulated business environment where each team functions as an IT department for a (fictitious) company.

The primary focus is to "harden," or secure the company's business systems (like email, e-commerce systems, system logins, etc.) from vulnerabilities that hackers can exploit and use to take down the systems. The teams are sent injects via memo instructing them to update or make changes to the systems. Some injects serve legitimate business needs while others provide deceptive information.

Teams earn points for keeping the systems up and running, implementing the good injects and deciphering out the bad injects. CCDC practices are open to all students, although the roster is limited to 10 for competition (8 undergrad and two graduate students.)

The team took 2nd place in the state competition.

CCDC practice for next year will begin sometime fall semester.

### CSIA Club works on technical skills

This semester, the CSIA Club has altered its focus for general meetings after gaining valuable member feedback from previous semesters. The board has made an effort to make sure every general meeting has a key takeaway for all members that are present. Even for those members that are not present, there is now a shared online repository to view the slide decks presented during the meetings.

This semester, general meetings have covered a wide range of topics. CSIA club covered job interview techniques and what questions to prepare for along with where to find jobs. To help get the interview, we covered what certifications and degrees are in the highest demand. We've also spent time working on gaining marketable skills to aid in getting a job interview. These technical demos and hands-on work with virtual machines include network scanning, hash cracking, exploit usage, and creating your virtual penetration testing lab. The CSIA Club also hosted 3M managers who came and presented on their company and internships. Future meetings will include resume tips, mock interviews, more technical skills, and information security professionals from around the state.

CSIA club hope to see you at one of the future meetings!