

The ITS News

J. Warren McClure School of Information and Telecommunication Systems
Scripps College of Communication - Ohio University



ITS Day 2009

ITS Day 2009 speakers Peter Higgins (top left), Jeffrey Carr (top center), Alumni Panelists (top right) from left Alana Miller-Henry, Alicia Cline-Carr, Matthew Lake, David Blum, and Josh Pittman, and (bottom left) John E. Osborne II.

Kathryn Wargo and Assistant Dean Eddith Dashiell (bottom right) display Kathryn's certificate for the Outstanding Graduating Senior Award.

photos by Andrew List



“Innovating in the Information Age” was the theme of I.T.S. Day 2009 on Tuesday, May 26, at the Walter Hall Rotunda where educators, industry professionals, and alumni came to the Ohio University campus to participate in panels, lead group discussions, and explain the latest developments in the industry to students, professors, and to one another.

This year’s key note speaker, **Peter Higgins** from Higgins, Hermansen, Banikas, LLC, spoke on “Biometrics and IT.” Mr. Higgins spent nearly 30 years in the Central Intelligence Agency. After retiring in 1995, he became a nationally recognized expert in biometrics.

Jeffrey Carr, COO of Single Pipe Communications, gave a presentation on “Future Data Networking with Cable Companies.”

The Alumni Panel, which included **David Blum BSC ‘00**, CIO, Fisher College of Business, the Ohio State University; **Alana Miller-Henry BSC ‘06**, IT Operations Analyst, Progressive Insurance; **Matthew Lake BSC ‘07**, IT Operations Analyst, Progressive Insurance; **Alicia Cline-Carr BSC ‘07**, Internal Auditor, JPMorganChase; and **Josh Pittman BSC ‘08**, Associate Customer Engineer, EMC Storage spoke to a group of ITS students about their career paths since graduating from Ohio University.

The final speaker of the day was “From Zero to Retail Innovation in Two” by Kroger GM for Research, Development, and Implementation and Advisory Board member **John E. Osborne II**.



Director's Corner



Phil Campbell

When I visit the places that I went to school, I'm struck by the contrast between the things that seem to have been untouched by the decades and the things that are completely different. After fourteen years at Ohio University, I see the same blend of the timeless and the brand-new, perhaps symbolized by Cutler Hall and Baker Center. Those of you who have returned to Athens after being away a few years may have noticed this dichotomy too.

The changes aren't necessarily physically apparent. Some invisible changes that are due to the economy have the potential to be profound and the likelihood of being permanent. These are tough times at Ohio University, as in all of American higher education. Budgets shrink, with no expectation of recovery. Salaries are squeezed. Support services dwindle. Some academic departments have lost faculty lines. Many, including some in the Scripps College of Communication, have lost staff positions. The word from Columbus is to expect serious budget cuts again next year. Only time can tell what the future brings.

In the timeless category, I'm pleased to put the devotion of McClure alumni, who are absolutely first rate. McClure grads continue to be well accepted in the job market, although the economy has slowed the pace of hiring. The faculty keep working to turn students into alumni, although they do sometimes put up a struggle. Spring in Athens is as beautiful as ever. The Burrito Buggy is still parked next to College Bookstore - I'd love to take you all out for a quick burrito!

See you at ITS Day 2010!

~ Phil

Our Thanks to....

All the alumni who continue to support the McClure School by speaking to an ITS class or TSMA (**Tom Martinko BSC '89, Lori Rodgers-Sternisha BSC '89, Neil Okonak BSC '02, Matt Raider BSC '03, Juan Echeverry BSC '05 and Ambrosia Walker-Logsdon BSC '03, MCTP '05**); stopping by for a visit (**Garima Bajaj MCTP '05 and Kislay Mukherjee MCTP '08**, who are being married in October); donating equipment (**Ron Minto BSC '98**); notifying the School of job and/or internship opportunities (**Joel Eidelberg BSC '86, Rich Gould BSC '90, Clark BSC '93, Lisa Grubish BSC '94, Tom Fisher BSC '98, Mike Johnson BSC '99, David Blum BSC '00, Jed Bistline BSC '02, Kevin McCormock BSC '02, Steve Fisher BSC '03, Kim McDonald-Romero BSC '04, Ryan Rawas BSC '04, Juan Echeverry BSC '05, Pragma Singhal-Chaurasia MCTP '05, Brian Folan BSC '06, Ben Fuller BSC '06, Adam Luck BSC '08, Kislay Mukherjee MCTP '08, and Michael Robinson BSC '08**), supporting ITS Day 2009 (**Bryan Ireton BSC '90, Tod Bickley BSC '96, Matt Christian BSC '99, David Blum BSC '00, Neil Okonak BSC '02, Juan Echeverry '05, Doug Bowie BSC '94, MCTP '06, Alicia Cline-Carr BSC '07, Matthew Lake '07, Alana Miller-Henry '07, Evan Boehm MCTP '08, and Josh Pittman, BSC '08**); and supporting the golf tournament (**Peter Nugent BSC '86, Tom Martinko BSC '89, Sandy McDonald-Davis BSC '90, Bryan Ireton BSC '90, Joe Watson BSC '92, Brian Chylik BSC '94, Mike DeLuca BSC '97, Ron Minto BSC '98, Matt Christian BSC '99, Leah Beltz-Patten BSC '00, Carmen Russo BSC '00, Steve Wylie BSC '00, Jason Ice BSC '02, Neil Okonak BSC '02, Ryan Burnett BSC '03, Brady Hoerig BSC '03, Matt Raider BSC '03, Barry Spurlock BSC '03, Juan Echeverry BSC '05, Max Putas BSC '06, Tom Settle BSC '06, Brad Tunstall BSC '06, Alicia Cline-Carr BSC '07, Brandon Epp BSC '07, Matthew Lake BSC '07, Alana Miller-Henry '07, Dustin Ratliff BSC '07, Evan Boehm MCTP '08, Ben Rawson BSC '09 and Kathryn Wargo BSC '09**).

Thanks to everyone for giving back to the School!

Accenture employees and ITS alumni Juan Echeverry BSC '05, left, and Neil Okonak BSC '02, right, pose with Accenture Challenge graduate student winners May 26. - photo by Maisie Crow



Accenture Challenge - By Kristen Rapin

Teams of J. Warren McClure School of Information and Telecommunication Systems (ITS) students competed in the second annual Accenture Challenge on May 26. The two-week competition, created by ITS alumni working at Accenture, a technology consulting firm, was part of ITS Day 2009.

“The challenge is an opportunity for students to step out of the box and get a flavor for the real world,” said **Juan Echeverry, BSC '05**, who is employed by Accenture. “The students here at ITS are so talented, and this competition gives them the experience to better understand what is happening out in the real world.”

Teams consisted of students enrolled in the graduate-level course Strategic Issues and the undergraduate-level course Management Communication Resources.

Undergraduate student **Devin McCormick** believes the challenge’s proposal process offers the teams a unique experience.

“As an Accenture challenge participant, I learned about writing professional proposals in a telecommunications field,” said McCormick. “We learned the demands of a multi-national corporation when building a large-scale data center.”

“In a company, this project would typically have a six-week response,” said graduate student **Trey Fleming**. “It’s a big challenge for us to do in basically a week. It’s teaching us how to make sure a solution fits technically and balance it with investment, both in time and money.”

Echeverry and fellow alumni **Neil Okonak, BSC '02**, and **Matt Raider, BSC '03**, designed the challenge and gave of their time for this year’s competition as well.

“I was always very grateful for the opportunities I had here as a student, so hosting this challenge, I feel, is a pleasure and an obligation for me to give back,” said Okonak. “At Accenture we’re always on the lookout for talented people, so it’s in our company’s best interest to help these students out as well.”

Graduate and undergraduate winners were announced during the Accenture Challenge Awards May 26 in Walter Hall. The graduate students winners were **Boxing He, Richard Lee, Wendell Walter** and **Yuan Wang**; undergraduate student winners were **Thomas Clark, Samantha Deville, Devin McCormick** and **Marcus Strenkowski**.



photo by Maisie Crow

Echeverry, left, and Okonak, right, pose with three of the four undergraduate student winners of the Accenture Challenge.

7th Annual Advisory Board-Sponsored Golf Tournament



Lonsbury Scholarship recipients from left to right include Max Putus '06, Alana Miller-Henry '07, Alicia Cline-Carr '07, event coordinator Tom Lonsbury, Kathryn Wargo, and Ben Rawson - photo by Mark Shelton



Marc Mendoza, Ryan Burnett BSC '03, and Jason Ice BSC '02 pose by the golf course at the Achasta Resort in Dahlonega, GA. Jason won a free weekend at Achasta during the Classic.

The 7th annual Thomas Lonsbury Scholarship Golf Classic was held Oct. 2 at the Ohio University Golf Course with a dinner following at the OU Inn. The outing supports the J. Warren McClure School Advisory Board Thomas Lonsbury Scholarship presented annually to an outstanding information and telecommunications systems student. The 2008 event was held in memory of **Kay Snow**,

wife of ITS Professor **Andy Snow** and event supporter.

Lonsbury, event coordinator and honorary Ohio University alumnus, said this year was special in that the tournament was on the Ohio University Golf Course and because all four past scholarship recipients attended the dinner reception. "We've held the tournament at the Athens Country Club in the past, so it's great to move it on campus this year," Lonsbury said. "I'm also thrilled that all five of the scholarship recipients will be in town this evening." **Alana Miller Henry, BSC '07**, won the scholarship in both 2005 and 2006 and is now employed with Progressive Insurance in Cleveland. "Participating in the golf classic is a great way to be able to give back to the school and the scholarship," said Henry.

"The whole concept of being able to contribute to telecommunications and to give back to young people makes the golf classic such a success," said **Richard Bezek**, a friend of Lonsbury, who has golfed in the tournament since its inception in 2001. Money for the scholarship is raised through registration fees, corporate sponsors and direct contributions to the scholarship fund. Sponsors include national telecommunication companies as well as local businesses.

Pete Costanzo, also of Progressive Insurance, has participated in the event every year. "The scholarship definitely takes care of those in need. It focuses on the technology side of the industry, so those who help support the fund are supported in the end by the recipients," said Costanzo.

This year's recipient of the scholarship is **Kathryn Wargo**. "Winning this award is really exciting because it means I'm excelling in my major and it means I've done something well," said Wargo. Wargo is a senior information and telecommunications systems major from Lorain, Ohio.

Our thanks to all our sponsors for their support. For information regarding the Golf Classic, please contact Barbara Moran at moran@ohio.edu or Tom Lonsbury at tlonsbury@windstream.net.



Welcome



Please join us in welcoming **Julio Arauz** to Ohio University. Dr. Arauz will begin teaching ITS classes fall quarter.

Dr. Arauz has a Ph.D. in Information Sciences with a concentration in Telecommunications and a Master of Science in Telecommunications from the University of Pittsburgh. His undergraduate degree is in Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering from the National Polytechnic School in Quito, Ecuador. His most recent experience was as a research scientist with the NEC Network Laboratories in Heidelberg, Germany.

Julio Arauz, Ph.D.

Research interests include wireless communications and system level evaluations, applied cooperative control, home networking, large-scale testbeds, industry relationships, standardization, cyberphysical systems, advancing telecommunications education towards innovation and entrepreneurship opportunities.



Crosstalk

We are looking to add to our IT staff. Individuals who have diverse interests and enjoy keeping up on technology are of particular interest.

- Jonathan Lorek MCTP '07

When the job market is undeniably challenging, stick together. The good spirits, dedication and integrity common to OU and ITS alumni is something we can all be proud to share.

- Jed Bistline BSC '02

Faculty Excellence Award - George Mauzy

Surprise! That was what assistant professor **Lawrence “Woody” Wood** said he felt when a small group of students and faculty members sprang into his Lindley Hall office on Monday afternoon to present him with the Class of 1950 Faculty Excellence Award.

The endowed award, which rewards recipients with a crystal apple and \$1,000, is annually presented to a professor who has demonstrated excellence in teaching. To be eligible, candidates must be nominated by their dean and accept the nomination by submitting a portfolio to University College that includes their curriculum vitae, teaching philosophy, evaluations and teaching history.

“I try to teach to the strengths of my students, while injecting humor,” Wood said about his teaching style. “Overall, my teaching goals are to be enthusiastic, organized and prepared, while making the class material appropriate, understandable and engaging.” Faculty Excellence Award Committee Chair Gwen Hubach and committee member Lauren Romance said Wood was chosen because of his positive student evaluations and his commitment to students. “The committee was really impressed by the fact that he tailors his teaching style to the students in the class,” Romance said.

McClure School director **Phil Campbell**, said not only is Wood an exceptional teacher, he also is admired for the variety of classes and students he teaches. “He teaches such a breadth of classes and is incredibly versatile and well-loved,” Campbell said. “For example, he teaches our 101 general education class and our 600-level research methods class and gets good evaluations in both. I wish I had five more of him.” Congratulations, Woody!



Moves, Adds and Changes

Anne Timonere-Bennett BSC '85 is the Director of Information Technology at The Andersons. **Joel Eidelberg BSC '86** was recently promoted to VP Carrier Sales with Global Telecom & Technology. He hired two recent ITS grads (**Mike Wojcik BSC '09** and **Shweta Gupta MCTP '09**) as inside sales reps. He is very pleased with the quality of students that OU continues to present to the workforce. **Andrea Schroer BSC '91**, president of BONA Investment Properties, is currently working on her master's degree in Environmental Policy and Management. Her company is working with the Georgia Energy Innovation Center with a focus on renewables and biofuels.

Steve Brescia BSC '92, Telephony Architect, ITS Architecture and Strategy for American Water, and his wife Sherry welcomed their second daughter Laurel on October 13. Congratulations, Steve! **Andy Doyle BSC '93** is the Senior Director, Open System Services, Infocrossing. **Cody Lewis BSC '93** is the Information Technology Manager with the Benton-Franklin Health District. **Jenny Sammon-Furber BSC '97** is a Senior Project Manager with AT&T. **Michael Harris BSC '97** is an InfoSphere Account Executive with IBM software Group. **Thomas Scarborough BSC '98** is an Assistant VP, Information Security, with Fifth Third Bank.

Brian Gravelle BSC '99 is a Network Engineer with the Eaton Corporation. **Robert Smith BSC '99** Solutions Engineer for PAETEC, reports that Mcleodusa was acquired by PAETEC Communications. **Carmen Russo BSC '00** is working at Progressive Insurance (with a lot of others from OU). **Thomas Miller BSC '00** is a Systems Engineer with Cisco Systems, Inc.

Patrick Sullivan BSC '01 is a Sr. Systems Analyst with Abercrombie and Fitch. **Jed Bistline BSC '02** moved from Abercrombie & Fitch to join the Enterprise Infrastructure team at Cardinal Health as an EIT - Project Lead. **Kevin McCormick BSC '02**, President of VinoForDinner.com, founded VinoForDinner.com in November of 2008. It is a business that is focused on helping the average consumer find great low cost wines, integrating their wine

reviews into mobile devices. The first application was launched for the iPhone in December of 2008. **Jason Ice BSC '02** is an IT Systems Engineer Senior with Progressive Insurance. After working for Kroger for five years, **Adam Tiffany BSC '03** now works as a Sales Engineer for Columbitech. Columbitech sells a wireless mobility product which he thinks offers the best security in the industry. He's available to sell you a new VPN solution.

Ryan Burnett BSC '03 is an IT Systems Engineer Senior with Progressive Insurance. **Chris Cameron BSC '03**, Sales Engineer with Accent Information Systems, is beginning an MBA program at the Fisher College of Business at Ohio State University Fall 2009. **John Cooper BSC '04** is a College Advisor with the University of Phoenix Online. He and his wife, Melissa just bought a home in Arizona. **Jeremy Hansford BSC '04** is the IT manager with the Ohio Department of Public Safety. **Christopher Crosbie BSC '04** is a Data Administrator - Enterprise Data Group, Business Intelligence and Data Mining Team with Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Karen Davis BSC '05 is an Audit Analyst with Macy's. She is currently pursuing a Masters in Library and Information Science at the University of Kentucky (via distance learning). She will graduate in 2010. **Ambrosia Walker-Logsdon BSC '03** and **MCTP '05** was promoted to Telecommunications Specialist with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Congratulations Ambrosia! **Nidhi Luthra MCTP '05** was selected to EDGE into Progressive Insurance's Tier 3 Telecom Operations. Congratulations, Nidhi! She is in the process of enrolling in the master of labor relations in HR program at Cleveland State.

Max Putas BSC '05 is the Network Administrator for the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine. **Francie Yakos-Hill BSC '05**, Marketing Coordinator with Aspen Medical Products, got married in November 2008 and bought a home in Tustin, CA. **Anwar Aridi MCTP '06** is a MA

"I was promoted to VP, Carrier Sales in October 2008 and have hired two recent ITS grads as inside sales reps. I am very pleased with the quality of students that OU continues to present to the workforce"

-Joel Eidelberg BSC '86

Moves, Adds and Changes - from Page 6

Candidate, the International Science and Technology Policy, Elliott School of International Affairs at the George Washington University.

Travis Ollom BSC '06 is an Associate Systems Engineer with Cisco Systems. **Jordan Meyer BSC '06** was selected to EDGE into Progressive Insurance's Tier 3 Telecom Operations. Congratulations, Jordan! **Jonathon Lorek MCTP '07**, Information Technology Specialist with Paladin Protective Systems, Inc., got his pilots license. Paladin Protective Systems is virtualizing its server infrastructure and building an iSCSI NAS storage system.

Matthew Lake MCTP '07 is an IT Operations Analyst with Progressive Insurance. **Brad Dombos BSC '07** is a Network Voice Associate with CDW. **Samantha Masminster BSC '07** is a Systems Engineer with Cisco Systems. **Tyler Fisher MCTP '07** was put on the Telecom Vendor Management team and handles SLA requirements with Avaya at Progressive Insurance.

Trey Fleming BSC '07 and **MCTP '08** was promoted to IT Operations Analyst with Progressive Insurance. Congratulations, Trey! **Alana Miller-Henry BSC '07**, IT Operations Analyst, has been working for over a year at Progressive Insurance and living in Cleveland. **Matthew Brainard BSC '07** is a Systems Engineer with Cisco Systems in Charlotte, NC.

Jacob Muff BSC '08 is in the IT Leadership Program with Fifth Third Bank, a rotational program lasting two years with four six-month rotations. He is currently the Project Manager for a software upgrade in the Engerprise Services in the Systems Support and Automation Department. **Clinton**

Swart BSC '08, IT Specialist for the Department of Commerce in Kansas City, was attending a conference in Washington DC and got to attend President Obama's innauguration.

Krystal LaFontaine BSC '08, IT Operations Analyst Associate with Progressive Insurance, is going through training and enjoying learning. She just moved into and painted her new apartment and replaced her carpet. **Josh Pittman BSC '08**, Associate Customer Engineer with EMC, is busier than ever, but learning a lot. **Lincoln Passwater BSC '08** is an Operations Engineer with SinglePipe Communications. **Mike Wojcik BSC '08** is a Pricing Analyst, Inside Sales, with Global Telecom & Technology.

Dylan Conrad BSC '08 is an Associate Systems Engineer with Cisco Systems. **Tyler Paugh BSC '08** was hired into EMC's Associate Program as an Implementation Delivery Engineer. **Kapil Bajaj MCTP '09** is a Medical Informatics Program Manager with the OU College of Osteopathic Medicine. **Vivek Gupta MCTP '09** started working for ACS International, which provides solutions to small and medium size businesses.

Send us your updated information. Click on "update your information" in the alumni section of www.ohio.edu/mcclure.

Want to keep in touch with other alums, let other alums know about a position available with your company, or looking for a job? Instructions for how to subscribe to the alumni listserve are also in the alumni section of the School's website.

The School also has a presence on **LinkedIn**. You are encouraged to link to the School's page.

"Keep up the alumni site. It's nice to see familiar names advancing in their careers. The alumni list just goes to show the success the school has had!"

-Bob Smith BSC '99



Visiting Scholar

The McClure School was fortunate to have **Chunxia Bai** as a visiting scholar from TeleInfo Institute, CATR (China Academy of Telecommunications Research, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology Industry of China) from September 2008 to August 2009. CATR is a national-level research organization that directly supports MIIT and other information industry related governmental institutions on decision-making activities, and offer information and advisory service for common carriers, service providers and manufacturers.

Bai's research area is telecommunication regulation and industry development strategy.

"I was attracted by the MCTP interdisciplinary courses and **Professor Phyllis W. Bernt's** research in common carrier regulation and universal service policy, sponsored by CSC (China Scholarship Council)," said Bai. "I spent a wonderful year in Ohio University."



ITS Professor Phyllis Bernt and Visiting Scholar Chunxia Bai.

"I split my one year visit into three parts: taking several graduate courses; exploring implicit and explicit mechanism of universal service in the United States; and analyzing and comparing policy inclination of China and USA when they face the same emerging issues.

Thanks to Professor Bernt's advice and support, enlightened by what I got from the courses, with the help of the resources platform of the McClure School and Ohio University, and having a peaceful and neat office to read and

think, I accomplished more than I expected. It was a rewarding experience for me.

I am very grateful for the opportunities I had here as a visiting scholar and will cherish the memory of the nice people I met here."

"Technology Aimed at Connecting The Cosmos"

By United Press International/ InformationWeek

NASA and Ohio University scientists say they are developing standards and protocols for what might someday be called the interplanetary network. Although the Internet pervades life on Earth, astronauts and satellites patrolling space can't communicate using that service because planets, moons or even sunspots frequently interfere with Internet protocols, making service spotty.

"In space you might need to talk to Mars, but it's on the other side of the sun," said Ohio University Associate Professor Shawn Ostermann. "You may not be able to send a message there for another day, a week or a month."

Ostermann and OU Professor Hans Kruse have been working with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., and the Glenn Research Center in Cleveland for three years to solve the problem. The result is new software called Delay Tolerant Networking.

"DTN is actually more like e-mail than the Web," Kruse said. It is designed to automate the delivery of information to spacecraft. The software already is running experimentally on the international space station, Kruse said, but the team is moving closer to implementing it for NASA deep space missions. The entire project is expected to be completed by the end of next year.

Job Placement

A McClure School education offers opportunity for those entering the networking, telecommunications, or any other field, as evidenced by a sample of recent job placements:

Steve Allen - Progressive Insurance
Nametsegang Boemo-Mokhawa - Ph.D. program at Portland State
Chris Cameron - OSU MBA Program
Mark Clark - Progressive Insurance
Eric Eveland - EMC
Jared Fliegel - Defense Supply Center
Shweta Gupta - Global Telecom Technologies
Vivek Gupta - ACS International
Cui Lui - Ph.D. program at University of PA
Dan Medary - Boeing
Jacob Muff - Fifth Third Bank
Mahipal Naresh - Phoenix Capital Management
Tyler Paugh - EMC
Kathryn Wargo - Progressive Insurance

“ One praise that I (and I imagine other MCTP students) do get from our management is regarding quality in our written and verbal communications, as well as the attention to detail in our documentation. That I can directly attribute to the level of excellence expected in the assignments that I had received in the MCTP program. When asked how a Master’s degree has paid off for me, that is always the first example given. ” ~ Trey Fleming BSC '07/MCTP '08

ITS student Devin McCormick (left) and Journalism student Britney Grimmelsman collect used cell phones outside of Baker Center Wednesday as part of an effort by TSMA to minimize effects of E-waste. The proceeds from this drive will go to benefit Kids on Campus. / Photo by Maisie Crow

