

# Eye on GVU

A Publication of the Graphics, Visualization & Usability Center at the Georgia Institute of Technology

Fall 1996

## Jarek Rossignac is New Center Director

A new era has begun in the GVU Center as we welcome Jarek Rossignac as our new director. Dr. Rossignac assumed his duties as GVU Director and Professor in the College of Computing on August 1, 1996, succeeding Jim Foley.

An internationally respected researcher, Dr. Rossignac came from IBM's T.J. Watson Research Center, where he was the Senior Manager of Visualization, Interaction and Graphics. At IBM he led research activities in interactive 3D graphics, scientific and medical visualization, and industrial applications of VR. He was the Research Strategist for Visualization and also led the development of two IBM visualization and walk-through products. He holds a PhD in Electrical Engineering from the University of Rochester, NY, and a Diplome d'Ingenieur in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering from the ENSEM, Nancy, France. His most notable scientific contributions are in solid modeling and animation, compression and interactive rendering of highly complex 3D databases, and user interfaces for 3D design and navigation. He has chaired several international conference committees, regularly serves as associate or guest editor for professional journals, has authored 13 patents and more than 40 papers, and has won numerous awards for his publications and technical contributions.

"Dr. Rossignac has not only shown his creativity in his per-

sonal research, but he has been an effective leader in building a strong research group at IBM," said Peter Freeman, Dean of the College of Computing. "We selected him from among the very few candidates who had the creativity, experience and energy required to lead GVU into the next century. We are extremely pleased to have him."

Dr. Rossignac says, "GVU's size, diversity and unique combination of talents make it the perfect breeding ground for fundamental innovations in the way we communicate with computers and, more importantly, the way we use computers to do our work faster and to better communicate with each other."

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

#### A New Era

Today's economic realities have forced many established industries to realign their research activities with more tangible business objectives. The rapid expansion of consumer and industrial 3D graphics, VR, and Internet markets has accelerated the rate of technological innovation in computer, software, and service companies of all sizes, and has considerably shortened the development cycle and time-to-market for their products. Clearly, the responsibility for developing long term strategies, exploring new ideas, and initiating major paradigm shifts falls on the shoulders of a few indus-

try visionaries and leading academic centers—combining their diverse talents, skills, and collective drive with an ambitious vision. Now more than ever, academic researchers should strive to avoid duplicating industrial efforts while being careful to consider the economic factors controlling the possible relevance of the research results in a foreseeable future.

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Jarek Rossignac

to avoid duplicating industrial efforts while being careful to consider the economic factors controlling the possible relevance of the research results in a foreseeable future.

Over the past 11 years, I grew deep and comfortable

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# Acronyms

## A key to Georgia TechTalk:

- CoC: College of Computing
- FCE: Future Computing Environments
- GTRI: Georgia Tech Research Institute
- GVU: Graphics, Visualization & Usability
- IAP: Industrial Affiliates Program
- IDT: Information Design and Technology
- IMTC: Interactive Media Technology Center
- ISyE: School of Industrial and Systems Engineering
- LCC: School of Literature, Communication and Culture
- NSF: National Science Foundation

### Eurographics '96

**Jarek Rossignac** (CoC) was co-chair of the Technical Program at Eurographics '96 held in Poitiers, France, in August. He also presented a paper on model simplification.

### SIGGRAPH '96

The GVU Center was well represented at Siggraph '96 in New Orleans in August. The VR Group generated long lines and lots of interest in the Digital Bayou with "Overcoming Phobias Using Virtual Reality." In addition to being a big hit at the conference, this demonstration garnered attention from the local media as well. Also presented:

- Paper: "Real-time Continuous Level of Detail Rendering of Height Fields" by **Peter Lindstrom, David Koller, Bill Ribarsky, Larry Hodges** (CoC), **Nick Faust** (GTRI) and Gregory Turner.
- Panel: "Virtual Reality and Mental Disorders," **Larry Hodges & others**
- Technical Sketches: "Finding the Target for Level of Detail Management" by **Ben Watson** (CoC), **Neff Walker** (Psych), **Bill Ribarsky** (CoC), **Victoria Spaulding** and **Aileen Worden** (Psych); and "Interacting with Virtual Gorillas: Investigating the Educational Use of Virtual Reality" by **Don Allison** (CoC), **Brian Wills, Larry Hodges** (CoC) and **Jean Wineman** (Arch).
- Educators Program: "Identifying and Addressing Student Problems in Learning Computer Graphics" by **Amnon Shabo, Mark Guzdial and John Stasko** (CoC).
- Courses: "Simplifying Complex Models" and "3D Modeling," **Jarek Rossignac** (CoC)

- Computer Animation Festival: "Atlanta in Motion," by **Jessica Hodgins** (CoC) and the Animation Group.

GVU also hosted a reception for students, faculty and friends, which was attended by nearly 150 guests.

### Learning Sciences

GVU had a good presence at the International Conference of the Learning Sciences, held at Northwestern University in July. GVU faculty **John Stasko, Ashwin Ram, Mark Guzdial** (CoC), and **Richard Catrambone** (Psych); students **Mike Byrne** (Psych) and **Gordon Shippey** (CoC); and post-doc **Amnon Shabo** (CoC) presented a total of six papers:

- "The Role of Student Tasks in Accessing Cognitive Media Types" by Mike Byrne, Mark Guzdial, P. Ram, Richard Catrambone, Ashwin Ram, John Stasko, Gordon Shippey and F. Albrecht.
- "Simulated Environments for Learning Real World Contexts in Chemical Engineering" by Mark Guzdial, Noel Rappin, M. Realff, P. Ludovice.
- "Of Glass and Black Boxes: Scaffolding for Doing and Learning" by Cindy Hmelo and Mark Guzdial.
- "Computer Science Apprenticeship: Creating Support for Intermediate Computer Science Students" by Amnon Shabo, Mark Guzdial and John Stasko.
- "Exploring Interface Options in Multimedia Educational Environments" by Gordon Shippey, Ashwin Ram, F. Albrecht, J. Roberts, Mark Guzdial, Richard Catrambone, Mike Byrne, and John Stasko.

- "Unified vs. Tailored Analogies: Effects on Conceptual Knowledge Acquisition" by V.J. Shute and Richard Catrambone

### Human Factors

The 40th Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society featured several GVU/Psych papers: "Application of Cognitive Measures and Models in Predicting Point-of-Sale Terminal Performance" by **Beth Meyer** and **Richard Catrambone**, and "Training Interface Design and Task Analytic Methods," by **Marcia Crosland, Neff Walker, Gregory Corso** and Erik Sparre (ABB). The conference was held in Philadelphia in September.

### Other Conferences....

- Richard Catrambone** (Psych) has presented papers at numerous conferences this year, including:
- "Predicting Transfer from Examples: Subgoal Learning versus Complexity" at the 26th International Congress of Psychology in August,
  - "Transferring and Modifying Terms in Equations" at the 18th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society in San Diego in July, and
  - "Do Algorithm Animations Help Students Learn?" (coauthors **John Stasko** and **Mike Byrne**) at the Basic Research Symposium of the CHI Human Factors in Computing Systems Conference in April.

He also presented 3 papers at the International Conference on the Learning Sciences and a paper at Human Factors.

**Norberto Ezquerra** (CoC) recently presented two papers:

*See 'Presentations' on page 3*

## Presentations...

- “A Model for an Academic Program in Digital Image Systems Science and Engineering” (coauthors Ron Schafer and Lonnie Harvel) at the IEEE International Conference on Image Processing in Switzerland; and
- “Predicting Images Using a Connectionist Approach” at the Visualization in Biomedical Computing Conference in Germany.

Dr. Ezquerro visited several universities in Spain during May and June where he participated in invited seminars, short courses and research collaborations in scientific visualization. He also taught a series of seminars and presentations at the University of Heidelberg in September, where he was a Distinguished Visiting Scholar.

**Colin Potts** (CoC) was a co-organizer of the workshop on Requirements Engineering at Stanford in June. While in the area he visited NTT Software Laboratory in Palo Alto. He also visited and gave talks at Intel and Oregon State University, and a presentation at the 2nd Annual IFIP Working Group 2.9 (Requirements Engineering) meeting in Eugene, OR. He is a co-organizer of panels for the upcoming International Conference on Software Engineering, and will be keynote speaker at the '97 International Symposium on Requirements Engineering.

Visiting researcher **Egbert Schlungbaum** (University of Rostock) presented a long paper entitled “Automatic User Interface Generation from Declarative Models” at the Eurographics Workshop on Designing, Specification, and Verification of Interactive Systems & Computer-Aided Design of User Interfaces (DSV-IS/CADUI '96) in Belgium in June. He will give a

short paper, “Individual User Interfaces and Model-based User Interface Software Tools,” at the International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI '97) in January. Dr. Schlungbaum is working with the Mastermind group while at GVU.

In October **Marcia Crosland** (PhD student, Psych) will present “Theories and Interface Design: Designing Interfaces with Ecological and Cognitive Task Analysis,” coauthored by Erik Sparre, at the First International Conference on Engineering Psychology and Cognitive Ergonomics, in Stratford-upon-Avon, UK.

**Bill Ribarsky** (CoC) is general Co-Chair for IEEE Visualization '96 to be held in San Francisco in October. This is the premiere conference in visualization and attracts attendees from the US, Japan and Europe.

**Larry Najjar** (PhD student, Psych) presented a paper at the recent Wearable Computing Conference in Seattle. He described the work he is doing with GTRI developing wearable computers and multimedia applications for mobile quality assurance workers in a processing plant.

**Ian Smith** (PhD student, CoC) gave a talk at CHI '96 in Vancouver and has had two papers accepted for publication at UIST '96 and CSCW '96.

**John Stasko** (CoC) presented “Visualizing Program Executions on Large Data Sets,” co-authored by Jeyakumar Muthukumarasamy, at '96 IEEE Visual Languages Symposium in Boulder. He was also the Special Events chair for the Symposium and on the Program Committee. He also gave invited talks at Duke, Oregon State University and Bucknell University. ♦

## IAP NEWS

### New IAP Member

GVU welcomes Fuji-Xerox Palo Alto Laboratories as the newest member of the Industrial Affiliates Program. They will be working with **Gregory Abowd** (CoC) and the Future Computing Environments group.

### IAP Visitors

The year is winding up for visiting researchers Mikiya Tani (NEC) and Toshifumi Arai (Hitachi). Akira Kobayashi, an engineer with Hitachi, will arrive in November to spend a year working with the Virtual Environments Group.

### Research Review Day

All IAP members: mark your calendars for February 6 & 7, 1997—those are the dates for our annual Research Review Day and Industrial Advisory Board meeting. RRD is open to all employees of our Industrial Affiliates. More information will be forthcoming via email later in the fall. We don't want to leave anyone out, but as it is almost impossible to keep our email address list current, please feel free to contact us at: <gvu-info@gvu.gatech.edu> for more information.

## PERSONAL BEST

**John Stasko** won the Bobby Jones Memorial Golf Tournament at East Lake Golf Club (John's home course) over Memorial Day weekend. As the 13th seed out of the 16-man Championship flight, John pulled off a true “Cinderella story” while achieving the all-time highlight of his golfing career (at least to this point). ♦



### GVU Industrial Affiliates:

- Asea Brown Boveri
- Digital Equipment Corporation
- Fuji-Xerox Palo Alto Laboratories
- Hewlett-Packard Research Labs
- Hitachi Research Laboratory
- Intel Corporation
- Mitsubishi Electric Research Labs
- NEC Corporation
- Siemens AG
- Silicon Graphics, Inc.
- Sun Microsystems

### Associate Members

- Bentley Systems, Inc.
- ERDAS, Inc.



## Future Computing Environments

Did you know you can tour our lab during Demo Days with the aid of Cyberguide? A hand-held mobile tour guide that knows where you are and puts all of the information about GVV projects at your fingertips, Cyberguide is the brainchild of **Gregory Abowd**, Chris Atkeson and the Future Computing Environments group.

FCE's Classroom 2000 project will soon be utilizing a new futuristic classroom in CoC. Classroom 2000 will provide unprecedented network connectivity during lectures to facilitate note-taking and capture the rich interactive experience.

For details on these and other FCE projects see their Website at: <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/fce>

### 1997 Seed Grants

The following four projects have been awarded GVV Seed Grants for FY97:

- Evaluation and Specification of Graphical Design Tools  
**Chuck Eastman** (Arch/CoC)  
**Colin Potts** (CoC)
- Strategies for Effective Teamwork  
**Jessica Hodgins** (CoC)  
Craig Tovey
- The Use of Visual Markup and Comparison to Promote Development of Authentic Educational Tasks  
**Greg VanHoosier-Carey** (LCC)  
**Ashwin Ram** (CoC)
- Evaluating the Importance of Multi-Sensory Input on Learning and the Sense of Presence  
**Neff Walker** (Psych)  
**Larry Hodges** (CoC)

Seed grants provide funding for one year for interdisciplinary research in new topics. The committee thanks Industrial Affiliates Masao Managaki (NEC) and Matthias Schneider-Hufschmidt (Siemens) for their help in evaluating the seed grant proposals.

### Funding Renewed

**Colin Potts** (CoC) received renewed funding from Motorola to study and support cooperative processes in software design. This funding supports the work of PhD student Lara Catledge.

### GRAPHICA Debuts

GRAPHICA, a courseware program for computer graphics studies delivered on the Web, was used for the first time by Intro to Computer Graphics students during summer '96, in an experiment where some of their homework assignments were done on-line by working out exercises in the GRAPHICA Web site. The project was coordinated

and designed by **Amnon Shabo**, **Mark Guzdial**, **John Stasko** and Jim Foley are the principal investigators.

### CaMILE Licensed

CaMILE (Collaborative and Multimedia Interactive Learning Environment), a Web-based educational collaboration package designed by **Mark Guzdial** (CoC), is now being licensed to educational institutions at no cost. Interested institutions will be asked to complete a short form to facilitate tracking interest in CaMILE. The download page includes the Perl code for CaMILE, the system documen-

tation, the Macintosh uploader/download applications, and the brief guide that has been used to introduce CaMILE to middle school students.

CaMILE is a forum for computer-supported collaborative learning. It is a Web-based tool that supports prompting to encourage metacognition, embedded HTML, "anchoring" discussions by linking to individual notes from external Web pages, and optionally attaching external media to notes.

Additional information about CaMILE and licensing is available from <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/edtech/CaMILE.html>. ♦

## Director...

roots at IBM Research and particularly enjoyed leading the very talented and productive research team in the Visualization, Graphics, and Interaction department. But I could not resist the challenge and appeal of joining GVV—best positioned to define the future role of computers in society and to impact the industry through its technological innovations and leading education initiatives. GVV's combination of world-class experts in human, graphics, and usability sciences and its extraordinary crew of students makes it the perfect birthplace for innovation and industrial collaboration. I believe that we will not only help make computers easier to use, but also expand the role of the computer as a communication device and as a productivity tool for work, study, entertainment, and other daily activities. Among many other initiatives, GVV will host a workshop on Collaborative Computer-Aided Design, which will bring together GVV and external ex-

perts in interactive modeling, user interfaces, collaboration, graphics, and design. We also are working on ways to expand our educational programs, which contributed to GVV's number one ranking nationwide for our PhD program in "Graphics: User Interaction."

Filling the void left by Jim Foley will not be easy, but my optimism is fed by tremendous good will from the GVV members and staff, and by tangible support from our Industrial Affiliates, Dean Peter Freeman, Georgia Tech's administration, and the Georgia Research Alliance as we expand our student body, facilities and staff. I am particularly pleased to have three exceptionally talented faculty join the GVV ranks this year: Greg Turk from the University of North Carolina, Irfan Essa from the MIT MediaLab, and David Rosen from Georgia Tech's School of Mechanical Engineering.

Jarek Rossignac, Director



**New Faculty**

In addition to our new director (see page 1), GVU has several new faculty members:

**Ashok Goel**, Associate Professor in the College of Computing and Adjunct Professor in the School of Psychology, joined the GVU Center in the spring. He has research interests spanning artificial intelligence and intelligent systems, cognitive science and human-computer interaction, and knowledge-based design and design education. His current projects involve developing computational theories of evolutionary and creative design, adaptive and analogical design, and meta-design and reflection-in-design. Dr. Goel received his PhD in Computer and Information Science from Ohio State University in 1989.

**David Rosen**, Assistant Professor and Academic Director of the Rapid Prototyping & Manufacturing Institute in the School of Mechanical Engineering, recently joined GVU with an eye to leveraging expertise and equipment in virtual reality and collaborative design. He is currently working with a team of faculty to develop a Virtual Design Studio, an environment for interactively disassembling and assembling products such as automotive doors and instrument panels. Dr. Rosen holds a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts.

**Irfan Essa**, a new Assistant Professor in the College of Computing, joins Georgia Tech and GVU this fall. He received his PhD from MIT, where he worked in the Media Laboratory prior to coming to Georgia Tech. His main research interests are in the areas of computer vision, HCI, computer graphics, multimedia, neuroscience, cognition and computational modeling. As

a member of GVU, he plans to develop Interactive Environments with computational perception—vision, speech and touch. Dr. Essa was born in Karachi, Pakistan, and has lived in the U.S. for more than 12 years, in both Chicago and Boston. He is married. He loves the outdoors and enjoys gadgets, teaching, skiing, biking, hiking, golf, squash, basketball and other athletic endeavors.

**Greg Turk** (PhD '92, UNC) joins us from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a Research Assistant Professor. His main academic interests include computer graphics, image processing, scientific visualization and developmental biology. Dr. Turk is engaged to Mary McFarlane, who also got her PhD at UNC and who has recently accepted a job as a statistician with the CDC here in Atlanta.

**Visiting Researchers**

**Egbert Schlunbaum** has been a visiting researcher in GVU since April, working on explicit user models in model-based user interface software tools, and on user-centered generation of user interface software in the MASTERMIND project. Dr. Schlunbaum, who is working with Spencer Rugaber, is from the University of Rostock in Germany. He'll return home in November.

**Chang Geun Song**, a professor in the Department of Computer Engineering of Hallym University in Korea arrived in August to spend a year working with Larry Hodges and the Virtual Environments Group.

**Maristella Matera** is visiting and working with Al Badre until December 1996 on a multimedia usability project. She is a "Post-Laurea" fellow from the University of Bari, Italy. ♦

**VISITORS**

**Loren Miller**, director of Tire Performance Modeling for Goodyear, visited with Jessica Hodgins in March to discuss modeling and simulation... **Lee Metrick** of Schlumberger visited in April and gave a talk on "Extending CGM to Plot Real-Time Well Logs".... **John Staudhammer**, program director of Systems Prototyping and Fabrication for NSF's Micro-electronic Information Processing Systems visited the GVU Lab in April.... **David Salesin** of the University of Washington gave a talk on "Image Editing, Image Querying, and Video Clip Art: Three Multiresolution Applications in Computer Graphics".... **Krister Holladay**, Legislative Director for Speaker Newt

Gingrich visited with Jessica Hodgins and Larry Hodges... **Ennio Macagnano** of South Africa visited Campus in August to talk about creating a digital visualization of the proposed Olympic facilities for Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games. Mike Sinclair of Georgia Tech's Interactive Media Technology Center was instrumental in creating the 3D multimedia video that helped Atlanta snag the bid for the 1996 games.... **Tim Saponas** and **George Bourianoff** of Intel Corporation visited with GVU faculty and students on September 10 and saw demos of current research. Intel is currently supporting two GVU students through the Intel Fellowship. ♦

**Mark your Calendars**

**1996-97 Demo Days**

- October 24, 1996
- November 14, 1996
- January 16, 1997
- February 27, 1997  
(to be held at LCC)
- May 1, 1997

Time:  
1:30-4:00 pm

Place:  
Room 259, CoC  
(except where noted)

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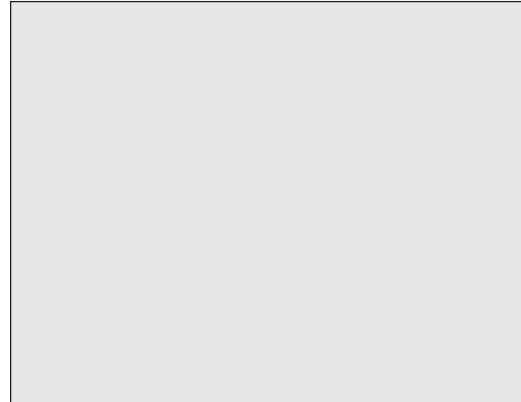
## FACULTY PROFILE

Associate Professor **Larry F. Hodges** (CoC) has been with GVU since before it was even GVU. He was one of a handful of researchers who formed the Georgia Tech Computer Graphics Interest Group, which became the Georgia Tech Imaging Consortium, which eventually became the Graphics, Visualization & Usability Center. As one of GVU's most active members and head of the Virtual Environments Group, Larry has had numerous high profile research projects in the past two years. Since April, 1995, he has been in demand to demonstrate research he has been conducting on the use of VR to treat certain phobias. Working with Dr. Barbara Rothbaum of Emory University School of Medicine, Larry and the VE group created virtual environments that have been successfully used for treating both the fear of heights and the fear of flying.

This research, called Virtual Reality Exposure Therapy, received wide media exposure after being published in the American Journal of Psychiatry in April 1995, and has generated international interest from VR experts, mental health professionals, and persons suffering from different anxiety disorders. A commercial version of the Fear of Flying Therapy System will be available in early 1997; it will be licensed through Emory University.

The VE group is also working on a project with Zoo Atlanta and Jean Wineman of Architecture, playfully referred to as "Gorillas in the Bits." This project is aimed at teaching middle school children about gorillas through the eyes of a gorilla—each child who puts on the head-mounted display "becomes" a young gorilla and interacts with other members of a gorilla family. One of the

goals of this project is to design and install a permanent VR gorilla exhibit at Zoo Atlanta within the next year.



Larry Hodges and the Virtual Elevator

Since his very first quarter as a faculty member at Georgia Tech in the fall of 1988, Larry has collaborated with Senior Re-

search Scientist Bill Ribarsky in a succession of projects involving scientific and data visualization. Current "Bill and Larry" projects include a joint project with the Army Research Lab to design and build a Battlefield Visualization system, and a joint project with the Navy Research Lab on collaborative design. Larry and Bill are also Co-Principal Investigators on an NSF-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates Site grant that has provided funding for more than 30 undergraduates to participate

See 'Hodges' on page 8

## Mark your Calendars

### 1996-97 Distinguished Lecture Series

October 24, 1996—  
*Artificial Animals: Creation and Applications*  
**Demetri Terzopoulos**  
University of Toronto

January 16, 1997—  
*When Will Design Disappear?*  
**S. Joy Mountford**  
Interval Research

May 1, 1997—  
*Society and the Internet in the Coming Decade*  
**Bruce Tognazzini**  
Healtheon Corporation

Time:  
12:00 noon  
(reception 11:30 am)

Place:  
Room 102  
Pettit Building

Need more info?  
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## SOMETHING NEW

### VIDEOPTICON Debuts

VIDEOPTICON—The First Annual Video Art Festival at Georgia Tech—debuted in April of 1996. Sponsored by the School of Literature, Communication and Culture—an affiliated academic unit of GVU—this free festival premiered as part of the "Arts in the Village" Festival which took place at Georgia Tech during the Spring of 1996, in conjunction with the Olympic summer.

VIDEOPTICON featured premieres of video art from contemporary artists from throughout the country. Works from local artists, including faculty and students from Georgia Tech and the Atlanta College of Art were presented, as well as classic works of video art.

Video art has only recently been recognized as a major medium for contemporary art practice. VIDEOPTICON—by screening both new works and recognized classics—hopes to give both the experienced and novice viewer new insight into the history and current scope of video art. The festival directors hope that it will become a yearly event growing to include video sculpture, installations and theoretical debate.

The curator of the festival is LCC/IDT and GVU faculty member **Matthew Causey**, who teaches the texts, theory, aesthetics and practice of theatre, film, video, and new media. For more information regarding VIDEOPTICON visit the website at <http://www.lcc.gatech.edu/videopticon/>.



**Summer Internships...**

Here is a sampling of the excellent internship and summer employment opportunities that have taken GVU students to all parts of the country:

- Ben Arnette** (LCC)—  
Fuji-Xerox Palo Alto Labs
- Lara Catledge** (CoC)—  
Motorola Cellular  
Infrastructure Group
- Debbie Carlson** (CoC)—SGI
- Anind Dey** (CoC)—  
Motorola Cellular  
Infrastructure Group
- Mikol Graves** (LCC/IDT)—  
Apple Webcast
- Colleen Kehoe** (CoC)—  
Sun Microsystems
- Dave Koller** (CoC)—SGI
- Rob Kooper** (CoC)—MERL
- Jen Mankoff** (CoC)—  
Fuji-Xerox Palo Alto Labs
- Ron Metoyer** (CoC)—AT&T
- Kim Morton** (Psych)—  
TransQuest
- Aida Najarian** (LCC)—  
Crawford Communications
- Greg Newton** (CoC)  
Naval Research Laboratory
- Jim Pitkow**(CoC)—  
Xerox PARC
- Viren Shah** (CoC)—  
Elemental Interactive
- Ian Smith** (CoC)—  
Javasoft/Sun Microsystems
- Brad Topol** (CoC)—Emory
- Joycelyn Ward** (LCC)—  
On-Line, Inc.
- Aileen Worden** (Psych)—  
TransQuest
- Greg Newton** (CoC) just spent his second summer at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington DC working on a VR shipboard training application and a Command & Control/Strike Route Visualization application on the Virtual Workbench. Undergraduate **Bob Sumner** (CoC), who works with

Bill Ribarsky, reports that he worked as an intern in NYU's Media Research Lab. He worked on a project developing Improv Actor software, which allows real people to interact with computer-generated actors. He also helped in the presentation of this research at Siggraph in August.

**Web Site for Students with Disabilities**

**Arthur Murphy**, (IDT/LCC) worked this summer on an interactive Web site which will be a resource for students with disabilities. Specifically, the text and links on this site are intended to assist teachers, parents and students to fulfill the promise of universal access to education in middle school and high school environments.

This site is designed to address the issues of academic access from two perspectives: the tools and strategies useful in making adaptations for students with disabilities to use existing curricular material; and the revisions of curricula for higher levels of inherent universal access.

Arthur's goal is to make this website look reasonably good to people who can see, and make it reasonably accessible to people who can't. It can be accessed by a standard browser or through a "character-based" browser and a speech synthesizer.

A prototype of this site is available at: <http://atlanta.arch.gatech.edu/~amurphy/>. The production site will be registered as "barrier-free.arch.gatech.edu." Funding is provided by a grant from the Toyota Corporation.

**Study Abroad**

**Pam Hassebroek** (IDT/LCC) spent her summer at Oxford University as part of Georgia

Tech's study abroad program. She attended the second 1996 session, which includes 12 credit hours of Georgia Tech courses taught by Tech professors. Pam built on her research focus at IDT—computer use and commercial use of the Internet. She reports wonderful psychological benefits in her Internet connection to home.

**Graduating Soon...**

GVU students who expect to graduate in the next academic year include:

- Dean Jerding**  
PhD/CS (Spring '97)  
Software development or advanced research in object-oriented systems, visualization, user interfaces.
- Greg Newton**  
MS/CS (Winter '97)  
Collaborative, distributed VR, non spatially immersive VR and HCI issues for VR.

**Wedding Bells...**

- James O'Brien** (CoC) married Heather Curry on July 6, 1996 in Cody, Wyoming...
- David Brogan** (CoC) married former GVUer Sharon Davis (MS '95, CoC) on September 7, 1996.

**New Students**

The College of Computing has several new PhD students entering this fall who are expected to become part of GVU. They are:

- Jason Brotherton
- Lenitra Clay
- Huong Dinh
- Jason Ellis
- Vikas Gupta
- Rob Kooper
- Rawesak Tanawongsuwan
- Ashley Taylor ♦

**In the News**

**DanceTechnology**

The Interactive Media Technology Center's DanceTechnology project '96 (a joint project with the Atlanta Ballet) was profiled on CNN's FutureWatch on May 19 and again on August 4.



## GVU Info:

*Eye on Gvu* is published twice annually by the Graphics, Visualization & Usability Center at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

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To learn more about Gvu  
via the World Wide Web:  
URL: <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu>

Technical reports available  
via FTP:  
<ftp.gvu.gatech.edu:/pub/gvu>

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Beth Mynatt** (PhD '95, CoC) received the Georgia Tech 1996 Sigma Xi Doctoral Dissertation Award at the Awards banquet on May 24. Beth is working for Xerox PARC and living in San Francisco.

**Kipp Jones** (MS '95, CoC) is working in Atlanta for Harbinger Net Services on various Web and Internet based electronic commerce projects. He recently presented a paper he coauthored with Jim Pitkow at the 5th International WWW Conference in Paris.

**Jacques Haus** (MS '96, CoC) is working for Schlumberger in Austin in the Workstation Graphics & Human Interface group. ♦

## Hodges...

in research projects over the past five years.

In addition to the demands on Larry's time with students, teaching, and research, he serves as the Gvu Center's Associate Director for Industrial Relations. In that role, he is responsible for working with current and prospective members of our Industrial Affiliates Program and coordinating Research Review Day, our annual "show and tell" for our industrial partners.

For more information on Larry's research, check out the VE Group's website at: <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/virtual/>. ♦

## KUDOS

PhD students **Ben Watson** and **Jim Pitkow** are the recipients of the 1996 Intel Graduate Fellowship awards. Both awards cover tuition, fees and stipends for one academic year. Recipients also receive an Intel micro-processor-based personal computer system.

**Norberto Ezquerro** (CoC) has been awarded a fellowship by the German government to work with collaborators at the University of Heidelberg for two weeks during the fall of 1996.

**John Stasko** (CoC) has been awarded a new NSF grant "Understanding Object-Oriented Systems through Visualization." The \$116,580 grant runs from September of 1996 through August of 1998. ♦

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