OMS Professor Ashok Goel used an artificial intelligence-based teaching assistant, “Jill Watson,” (powered by IBM’s Watson) to help manage thousands of questions submitted to OMS CS discussion boards by the hundreds of students in his “Knowledge-Based Artificial Intelligence” course. After being featured on the front page of The Wall Street Journal, Jill Watson became somewhat of a star, appearing in dozens of additional news stories.

>> Read more at: http://www.wsj.com/articles/if-your-teacher-sounds-like-a-robot-you-might-be-on-to-something-1462546621
What a difference three years can make. In 2013, Georgia Tech and its partners, Udacity and AT&T, determined to make high-level advanced education in computer science accessible to a much larger body of students. The result was the world’s first accredited master’s degree in CS through the “massive online” platform – for less than $7,000. Total. Three years on, Georgia Tech’s online MS in Computer Science (OMS CS) program boasts a worldwide community of nearly 4,000 students; almost 12,000 applications; a curriculum of two dozen courses (and growing) — and the first graduates who are proving the value of OMS CS in the marketplace.

Why did we do it? Read the stories and see the numbers in this report, and you’ll see why.

F2F: For the 1st Time
Twenty OMS CS women converged in October 2015 Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing. Georgia Tech continues to remove barriers that traditionally separate online students from a complete higher education experience. Scholarship winners traveled from as far as India to participate in three days of celebration in Houston, Texas.

>>Read more at: http://www.cc.gatech.edu/georgia-tech-grace-hopper-15-conference

OMS CS graduates

Fall 2015
Spring/Summer 2016
>> Read more at: http://www.cc.gatech.edu/GTComputing_sendsoff_newest_graduates

OMS CS has graduated 111 students—most of whom were “early adopters” who believed the program would succeed from the moment it was announced. Graduation rates are expected to rise sharply as later—and much larger—cohorts progress through the program.

Many U.S. servicepeople are building their skills while serving their country. In 2015, OMS CS explored the work, travel, and life balance for three students who are pursuing their degrees while serving in the military – Capt. Samuel Woo, First Lt. Landon Barnes, and Michael Brown.

>> Read more at: http://www.cc.gatech.edu/content/online-and-on-duty

“Hey I got a job!”
Employers are realizing that OMS CS students make great employees. As student Max Rosett told The Hustle, “Three months ago, I thought I wasn’t ready to apply for a job at Google. Google disagreed.” Rossett was in the midst of his OMS coursework when he was invited to a “secret” interview that resulted in his current job as a software engineer at Google.

>>Read more at: http://thehustle.co/the-secret-google-interview-that-landed-me-a-job

OMS CS: A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

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Georgia Tech and Udacity co-hosted a Texas-style party during 2016’s SXSWedu in Austin in March. Students and alumni from across Texas showed up in support of the program and to meet one another in person!

>> See more at: http://www.flickr.com/photos/ccgatech/albums/72157666807332195

Students Bobbie Eicher and Tia Pope created the OMS CS program’s first GT-registered student group, Nerdy Bones. The group connects and supports women enrolled in the program and currently includes a membership of 157 students.

In Spring 2016, Georgia Tech shined a spotlight on student Natalya Sniff. Her story of emigrating from the Soviet Union, supporting her family, and pursuing her dream of becoming a computer scientist inspired the GT Computing community.

>> Read more at: http://omscs.gatech.edu/student-features/natalyasniff

Zvi Galil
John P. Imley Jr. Dean of Computing and Professor

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