



Bits 'n Bytes



Clark Atlanta University
Department of Computer & Information Science

Editor's Corner. Greetings and Happy New Year! The Department of Computer and Information Science (CIS) here at Clark Atlanta University (CAU) is excited about the new year and the opportunities it brings. While looking forward, it is most appropriate at this time to reflect on a few of last year's most significant accomplishments.

- **High School Programming Contest.** The CIS Faculty and Staff hosted its' first contest for local high school students. Seven teams participated in the all day event that included tours of the CS labs, a robotics demonstration, CIS student research presentations, as well as the programming competition. Feedback from students and coaches alike indicate that this event was a big success!
- **SCCS Olympiad 2004 Champions.** Spelman College Computer Science (SCCS) Department hosted an olympiad with events that included cryptography, hardware and software integration, robotics, programming, and web design. The CAU team consisting of Papa Arkhurst, Douglas Brown, Jaime Kawesa, and Marquita Talford came in first place defeating teams from Florida A&M, Morehouse, Norfolk State, North Carolina A&T, Spelman, Tuskegee, and Vorhees.
- **National Security Agency Recognition.** On November 8, 2004, the CIS Department at Clark Atlanta University received national recognition from the Information Assurance Courseware Evaluation (IACE) committee of the National Security Agency (NSA). The CIS Department received an excellent evaluation from the Committee on National Security Systems (CNSS) National Standard(s) 4011 and 4014 Entry Level. The CIS Department will receive recognition and a certificate during the CNSS Annual Special Recognition Event this spring. CAU plans to become a national Center of Academic Excellence in the Information Assurance Education Program.
- **Computer Science/Engineering Quiz Bowl.** In November, 2004, Morgan Stanley sponsored a computer science and engineering quiz bowl. Teams from Clark

Atlanta University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Spelman College, and Morehouse College participated. The CAU team, represented by Melissa Alfred, Douglas Brown, Monica McKendrick, and Adrianna Smith, placed second.

With the successes experienced last year, it will be challenging to do even better this year, but that is exactly what's planned.

Upcoming Events. On **March 4, 2005**, the CIS Department will host for a second year a **High School Programming Contest** for local schools. The programming contest is one means to introduce local students to the CAU campus, the CIS Department, and the student body. CAU believes that students exposed to the campus are likely to want to attend. From the students' perspective, some benefits include exposure to leading edge technology, promoting critical thinking, building inter-personal skills, and developing teamwork. This is definitely a win-win for all involved.

The **High School Programming Contest** will be bigger and better than ever. This year's theme is "Technology + Business = Success". The 2005 contest will have multiple events to give more students the opportunity to participate and win. The events include a programming competition, poster presentation, and web design. In addition, a prize will be given to the best overall team. Students are encouraged to use their imaginations – become "imagineers" to solve real-world problems. Contest details were sent out in December, however, if you didn't receive your contest instructions, details and instructions can be found at www.cis.cau.edu/HighSchoolContest.

Community Outreach. The Computer and Information Science Department here at Clark Atlanta University is looking for opportunities to share its' expertise. Please contact Ms. Hicks at (404) 880-6951 to schedule a presenter for your event. The department is open to suggestions on ways to serve you.

Contact Us. Got ideas? E-mail us at cis@cau.edu or call (404) 880-6951.