

Industrial Technology

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A New Minor in Precision Ag Technology

After two years of hard work by the advisory members and the faculty and we are excited to offer a new Minor in Precision Agriculture Technology effective fall 2014.

This Minor stemmed from the need to provide students with the necessary skills in basic electricity and electronics, sensors and controls, applied programming and geo-spatial technology for site-specific crop management in

agriculture.

The Minor requires students in good standing with at least 6 upper division units; it comprises of 15 units: IT 52, IT 116, IT 156, IT 186 and 3 units of IT 190/194/199.

BSIT Major and GE Foundation B4 Requirements

As part of the major requirement in Industrial Technology, students have to complete the following courses in addition to the IT courses: Chem 3A - Introductory General Chemistry; Phys 2A - General Physics; DS 73 - Statistical Analysis I.

Recently it has come to our attention that the Department of

Physics has changed its Phys 2A prerequisites. To cater to this change IT faculty agreed to change its GE Foundation B4 requirement, i.e., Quantitative Reasoning, to require DS 71 or Math 75 as part of the BSIT major requirement. The process to change the Catalog description will be submitted during the summer

which would require approvals by the College and the University Curriculum Committees.

Students who do not meet the new Phys 2A prerequisite requirement but plan to graduate at the end of fall 2014 are encouraged to meet with advisers for alternative solution.

New Supervision Course Registration Policy

This spring, we initiated a new process for the registration of supervision courses such as IT 190, 194, 199, 290 and 298. Since both BSIT and MSIT programs require students to complete projects as a part of major requirements at the beginning of each semester, faculty were

inundated by the requests to supervise students' projects, independent studies and/or internships. This not only created a tremendous burden on faculty teaching load, but also much unnecessary chaos in class registration since they require permission numbers.

As a result, we now require students to turn in their proposals a semester ahead. For example, a student who plans to take IT 199 in the spring 2015 semester would have to submit the proposal abstract in November 2014 to the Department Chair.

We hope that this new procedure will help reduce the late schedule planning by the students as well as reducing the stress of late registration.

Survey to Advise the Direction of IT Curriculum

In March, we sent out an online Survey seeking our alumni's input on the direction of the Department in order to move forward in the coming years (https://fresnostate.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_dj05fcjrLFCI7Rz). The survey link is still active until the end of May and we would like

to invite you to participate in the survey.

Also at the 2014 Tulare Ag Show and ASABE in February a survey was conducted by the students in IT 286 class which brought forth over 50 surveys. We will be analyzing the results of both surveys during Summer.

A New Honors College Program

The Jordan College of Agriculture and Technology is in the process of developing a new Honors College program. This is a two year faculty mentored program and the first Cohort of students is to be recommended by faculty starting fall 2014.

The criteria include Junior standing with minimum of one semester in residency and

minimum GPA of 3.5 in the last 60 units completed. The honors students will have a priority registration, longer duration to borrow from the library, and earn a medallion at graduation. Keep your ears open for the application process in the fall!

Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Au has submitted his wish to retire from teaching full time and enter the Early Faculty Retirement Program as of fall 2014. He is granted a title of Emeritus Chair and Professor of Industrial Technology.

Mr. Austin is appointed to serve a three-year term on the Writing Competency Subcommittee representing the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology starting August 2014 ending May 2017.

Dr. Alexandrou is the recipient of the JCAST 2014 Outstanding Research and Scholarly Activity Award. The newly constructed dust tunnel at the Center for Irrigation Technology on campus may facilitate other research to help improve the Valley's and California's air quality.

Dr. Mahalik returned from a semester of Sabbatical Leave last

fall, during which time he visited universities in the US and Asia for his research. He published two peer-reviewed journals and three conference proceedings; he is the recipient of an ARI/CATI grant of \$10,000 for the "Development of End-Effector for Tree Fruit Pickers" project as well as the \$496,231 from the US Department of Defense to procure equipment and instrumentation systems for pursuing high-class research in the areas of ISSN (Integrated Sensing, Surveillance, and Navigation) and BMMI (GPS-based Terrestrial System Modeling and Model Integration) in the application areas of CoC (Command and Control) and Agriculture.

Dr. Nambiar is the recipient of the 2013-14 Provost's Award in "Technology in Education." He is also one of the 40 faculty who are involved in the inaugural DISCOVERe cohort looking

Annual Section Meeting in Tulare, CA, where he made a presentation on Precision Agriculture Technology minor as well as the JCAST activity update. He was also inducted as Awards Chair of the ASABE CA NV.

At the Vintage Day 2014, **ATE club members and IT student volunteers** were busy with the "Boat Race" game booth. The game was not only appealing to the consumer, but also brought competition among all ages. The club members used their skills and technology to make the game easy but challenging. The game booth won the first place by the ASI Vintage Days Committee. Good job, ATE!

On Feb 26, 2014, 60 IT students and ISDS students attended the **RSA Conference** with Dr. Balaji Seth and Dr. Kathleen Moffitt (Associate Dean, Craig School of

at incorporating tablets into the class. In the fall 2014, IT 106 will be offered through this program.

At the California Industrial Technology Educators Association Conference (CITEA), **Dr. Seth** presented his graduate student research on 3 dimensional mapping and graphical modeling for terrain modeling in a workshop format for community college and high school industrial technology teachers at Cerritos, Los Angeles, California.

Dr. Zhang will be on sabbatical leave in Fall 2014 when he plans to visit universities such as Cranfield University, University of Birmingham, Wuhan University, Tianjin University, Hunan University, to seek research collaboration opportunities. He also plans to visit local industries in the areas of trucking, farms, food processing, and government

agencies such as California Air Resources Board, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, and Federal General Services Administration.

Counselors from College of the Sequoias visited Fresno State **Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology for a Counselors Conference** on March 7. The counselors toured the Department of Industrial Technology and met with the department faculty and staff and participated in a recruitment seminar presented by Dr. Seth on undergraduate student transfer from community college to Industrial Technology at Fresno State. Dr. Zhang showcased automotive program.

On February 26, Emeritus Professors, **Dr. Skip Adrian and Dr. Glen Bomgren** joined the faculty in a department meeting and shared their insights and experience with the faculty.

Student Activities

On February 11-13, 2014 six students accompanied Dr. Mahalik to the **2014 WestPack Show** in Anaheim where there were medical, packaging and automation manufacturers and other suppliers exhibited. Students were introduced to hands-on access to the newest packaging equipment, machinery, materials and services via live demonstrations and through educational learning labs.

On February 12, 2014, **Dr. Balaji Seth** took 15 Fresno State students (from Industrial Technology & Plant Science) to the World Agricultural Expo and American Society of Biological and Agricultural Engineers (ASABE) California/Nevada



Business). Students had a chance to learn about business technology, data security and information technology. They all had a chance to interface with industry professionals, attend seminars on advanced technology, and look for opportunities in networking, internships, and jobs at the event. As the IT security field continues to grow in importance and influence, RSA Conference plays an integral role in keeping security professionals

across the globe connected and educated.

On May 10, 2014, **Fresno State Motorsports Club** members together with PACE, a community organization of enthusiasts with passion for auto-culture, showcased scores of exotic vehicles on campus. Alexies Ledesma, the student coordinator for this event introduced IT' automotive curriculum including its clubs and projects. Dr. Daming Zhang, the faculty advisor for the Motorsports club, discussed with the PACE officers about future collaboration in presenting their vehicle modification projects in a conference and facilitating donations.



Student Activities and Projects

BSIT student, Michael Valla, was recruited by Betts Company through LCOE's Valley Internship Participation program. It is a two semester paid internship.

MSIT student, **Minh "James" Le**, has been awarded this year's Dean's Graduate Medalist in the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. This is a great honor not only for James, but also for the Department.

James earned his BSIT degree last year with 3.58 GPA, then having taken some graduate courses during his last semester as an undergraduate, he has successfully completed the requirements for the MSIT degree with 4.0 GPA this spring.

He served as President of Epsilon Pi Tau (EPT), an honor society as well as serving as VP of the Advanced Technology Enterprise (ATE) club. His calendar is

continuously booked with numerous volunteer activities on and off campus.

MSIT student, **Ran Wei**, presented his research titled, "The Economy Impact of Jordan Research Center Construction in Fresno County" at the Central California Research Symposium on May 1. This project is a collaboration between the Department of Industrial Technology and the Department of Agricultural Business under Drs. Daming Zhang and Pei Xu.

On May 19, 2014 Dr. Nambiar will be leading a group of 13 IT and Computer Science students to the **CISCO Live 2014** in San Francisco. The trip is sponsored by the Instructionally Related Activities fund and this year's keynote speaker is Mr. John Chambers who is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of CISCO. The theme of this year's

conference is "Tomorrow Starts Here."

Thank You, Student Volunteers!

A team of our students helped out with the computer applications contest at the FFA event on April 12, 2014. The list of volunteers



include: Rahul Ranjan, Vishnu Vijayan, Pranav Menon, James (Minh Le), Shruthi Ashok, Joseph Zamora, Major Yang, Alexander Aguilera, Tom Vong, Harshit Rastogi, Arturo

Villagomez, Nathan Acuna.

We also had many volunteers at the Annual Banquet on April 22, 2014: Alexander Aguilera, Minh Le, Vishnu Vijayan, Harshit Rastogi and Rahul Ranjan.

Department would like to make special thanks to those who helped

organize IT 110 and IT 122 labs on April 4 and 25: Minh Le, Ran Wei, Tom Vong, Kevin Boles, Dale Putman, Vishnu Vijayan, Jorge Moreno, Peiman Hadjian, Eric Schweizer. Good job everyone, kudos for you!

Congratulations to the 2013-14 Graduates!

MSIT Graduates

Khaled Abualrejal
Matthew Bird
Mehtab Singh Kahlon
Pooja Khullar
Minh "James" Le
Jonathan Reyes
Steven Siqueiros
Ran Wei

BSIT Graduates

Nathan Acuna
Kyle Adams
Chris Alvara
Colton Andersen***
Gregory Feaver*
Moses Flores
Ernest Garcia
Nathan King
Bassam Lam Sam
James Limdren



Miguel Martinez**
Rodolfo Mijangos
Dale Putman
Jesus Reyes
Zach Ross
Gagandeep Singh
Jonathon Taylor
See Long Vang
Tom Vong
Phia Yang
Dundee Yasana
Joseph Zamora

****summa cum laude*
"with highest praise"
3.90 to 4.00

***magna cum laude*
"with great praise"
3.70 to 3.89

**cum laude*
"with praise"
3.50 to 3.69

The 27th IT Annual Spring Banquet



This year's banquet attendance was well over 110 consisting of the students, faculty, Advisory Board members and industry representatives as well as alumni.

Keynote speaker, Mr. Mike Dozier who is the Executive Director of the Office of Community and Economic Development at Fresno State, shared his experience and advised students about the kind

of attitude required to be successful employees. The event was made possible by the generous donations from 13 companies: A-C Electric

Company, Anlin Window Systems, Betts Company, Blue Dolphin Design & Engineering, Cannon Sleep Products, E.&J. Gallo Winery, Eliminator



Manufacturing, Grundfos Pumps Manufacturing Corp., iLoveToCreate, a Duncan Enterprises Company, Jain Irrigations Systems Ltd., JBT FoodTech, Rockwell Automation and Sun-maid Growers of California. Thank you for your incredible support!

Chair's Comment

The end of spring semester is here and I would like to express my thanks to all the students, faculty and staff who made this academic year a success. I was appointed by the Dean as Interim Chair in Fall 2013 and was elected as Chair by the faculty in December 2013. The department accomplished the goals and objectives that were set in the AY 2012-13, and diligently worked in line with the vision and mission of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (JCAST).

During the last academic year, the Department:

- increased its FTES;
- engaged in recruitment activities;
- introduced a new Minor in Precision Agriculture Technology;
- developed a Strategic Plan for the AY 2013-18;
- initiated a stakeholders survey to gauge the need for future programs;
- met with industry leaders;
- joined in the Valley Internship Partnership of Lyles College of Engineering (LCOE);
- participated in the LCOE effort to create a minor/certificate on Processing Engineering;
- strengthen the transportation component within its curriculum;
- strengthen the bond with the Emeriti of the Department;
- increased its scholarly activities (grants and publications) and;
- faculty members' accomplishments were recognized at the College and the University level.

Seven faculty members and a staff of the Department, mentioned below, worked hard to contribute to the success of the department beyond all expectations, and I am grateful for their efforts:

Dr. Tony Au
Mr. Don Austin
Ms. Christina Fitz Gibbon (Department Administrative Assistant)
Dr. Nitaigour Prem Mahalik
Dr. Arun Nambiar (Graduate Coordinator)
Dr. Balaji Sethuramasamyraja
Dr. Matthew Yen
Dr. Daming Zhang (BSIT Program Assessment Coordinator)

The Department has an active and dynamic Advisory Board which was recently recognized in the Presidential Ag Commission report (<http://www.fresnostate.edu/president/documents/Ag-Commission-Prelim-Report-digital.pdf>). I would also like to thank them for their continuous and unconditional support and look forward to an even more productive future relationship.

A. Alexandrou, Dept. Chair

Welcome! Visiting Scholars

This spring the Department welcomed four new Visiting Scholars from China. They were invited by Dr. Zhang to collaborate on researches, to help develop relationships with their universities and to work with students on projects.

Please welcome: 1) Dr. Jinlin Ma, Associate Professor

from Jiangsu University. His field of expertise is Green Logistics and Transport Engineering, he will be staying for a year; 2) Dr. Qian is also from Jiangsu University and she shares part of Dr. Ma's research in Transportation Scheduling Optimization; 3) Dr. Luyao "Lily" Yu, Associate Professor from Xi'an University of Finance and Economics. Her research topics include International Trade of Agricultural Goods and Rural Industrialization and she will be in the U.S. for a year. Lastly, 4) Dr. Jikun Zhao is from the Department of Engineering Management at Nanjing Agricultural University. Professor Zhao is also the Associate Chair of his department and would like to develop a future collaboration between IT department and his.

IT Department is now on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. We urge you to join these social networking sites to stay connected.

LinkedIn -
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2566316&trk=hb_side_g

Twitter -
<https://twitter.com/indtechfresno>

Facebook -
<https://www.facebook.com/FresnoStateIndTech>

Fall 2014 Important Dates/Events

Summer Intersession - May 19 thru June 6, 2014

Summer Session - June 9 thru August 8, 2014

Summer Graduation filing deadline - June 13, 2014

Fall 2014 Fee Payment deadline - 7/25/14

Fall Graduation filing deadline: 8/21/14 - 9/19/14

August 21 (Thur) - Instruction begins.

Sept. 4 (Thur)

Last day to add a class *without* a permission number.

Last day to add a class by Waitlist

Last day to register for Credit by Exam.

Sept. 5 (Fri) - Last day to file for Master's degree

Sept. 18 (Thur)

Last day to add *with* a permission number.

Last day to drop online *without* a "W" grade listed on your transcript.

Last day to change to or from credit/no credit grading.

Last day to take Credit by Exam.

Sept. 22 (Mon)

Last day for graduate students to apply for Advancement to Candidacy to graduate in May 2015.

Oct. 1 (Tue)

Fall 2015 Admission Application cycle begins.

2015-16 Scholarship Applications will be available on line.

Nov. 3 (Mon)

Spring 2015 Registration begins.

Nov. 18 (Tue)

Last day to withdraw from classes for Serious & Compelling Reasons.

Nov. 26-28 (Wed-Fri)

Thanksgiving Recess.

Dec. 10 (Wed)

Last day of Instruction.

Dec. 15-18 (Mon-Thu)

Final Examinations.

Dec. 22 (Mon)

Fall Semester ends.

Dec. 25-Jan. 1 (Thur-Thur)

Campus Closed

Jan. 15 (Thur)

Spring 2015 Instruction begins.