# MIS Department Newsletter Volume 1, Issue 1

## Faculty Activities and Accomplishments

**Dr. Tom Meservy wins University Award**
MIS Assistant Professor Tom Meservy was awarded the University of Memphis Distinguished Teaching Award. This award is given to only four University of Memphis faculty each year, and is funded by the Alumni Association.

**Dr. Janz Honored**
Professor Brian Janz was recently named First Tennessee Professor. It is a rare distinction, awarded periodically to a very few faculty. The First Tennessee Professorships were established early in 2005 as part of a partnership between the First Tennessee Foundation and the U of M to help the University recruit and retain outstanding faculty.

**Dr. Poston's Sabbatical**
Associate Professor Robin Poston was on faculty development leave recently. She spent her time working in Silicon Valley with companies following agile testing methods to learn current software development techniques.

**Dr. Simon forges important DoD alliance**
The Department of Defense is a major supporter through research grants and scholarships for Simon's *Center for Information Assurance,* which fosters a research atmosphere on matters of computer and information security awareness and professional careers.

**Dr. Jackson takes important Executive Committee post on Faculty Senate**
Associate Professor Wade Jackson, who has been our regular presence on the Faculty Senate for years, has been elected Parliamentarian for the 2012-2013 year.

**Institutional Review Board Appointment**
Associate Professor Tom Stafford has joined the University of Memphis Institutional Review Board, applying his research methodology skills to the review of University of Memphis research on Human Subjects.

**Dr. Brooks is funded for dual-enrollment program**
Dr. Lloyd Brooks was the Principal Investigator (PI) on a sponsored federal grant under the Carl Perkins Act. Judy Brown and Brian Janz also participated in this initiative. The MIS Department partnered with Shelby County Schools to offer MIS 2749, Foundation/Information Systems, for dual enrollment/dual credit during the Spring 2012 term. High school students in three high schools were permitted to enroll in MIS 2749 on a dual enrollment basis (earning credit for a college course and a high school course at the same time) providing they meet University admissions standards and complete all activities normally required for this course. This program was the first one of its type offered in the State of Tennessee.

**Dr. Simon earns Federal grant for Information Assurance**
Dr. Judy Simon served as Principal Investigator on a federal grant sponsored by the Department of Defense. The grant's purpose was to increase student awareness of Information Assurance topics (e.g., security and privacy). Student participants were recommended by faculty and approved as student workers. They spent the past year studying a wide range of relevant topics and developing materials for potential use in future courses. Six undergraduate students and two graduate students participated.

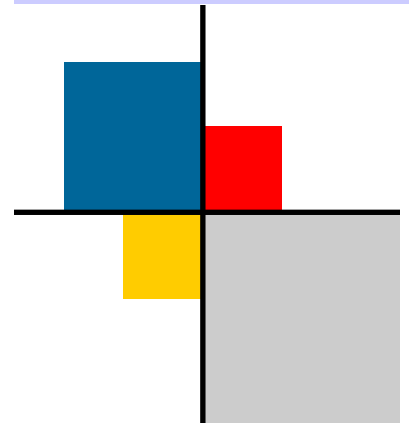**Dr. Richardson wins eHealth grant**
Dr. Sandra Richardson, in collaboration with the University of Memphis' School of Public Health, received a grant from the State of Tennessee's Office of eHealth Initiative, through the State's funding from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). The goal is to evaluate the TN Health Infor-

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## Faculty Activities and Accomplishments, Contd.

mation Exchange Evaluation Program (TNHIE) and provide feedback and guidance to the State for the future of the TNHIE program.   The TNHIE program was established to ensure that providers have affordable and usable options to meet new federal requirements for health information exchange.

### Dr. Dhaliwal receives Federal funding for STEP

MIS faculty, Jasbir Dhaliwal—Director of STEP, Robin Poston—Associate Director of STEP, Mark Gillenson and Tom Meservy worked with the Department of Defense to share knowledge about systems testing.  During Fall 2011 and Spring 2012, the University of Memphis STEP team completed a skills and competency analysis of 203 Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) Test and Evaluation (T&E) professionals.  This effort involved customizing knowledge areas through site visits and administering a survey that would form the basis of customized training modules.  By improving the performance of the DISA T&E workforce, T&E professionals will become better equipped with the skills and competencies required to serve the Warfighter of the future.  Over 250

DISA T&E professionals and their associates have received STEP Certification in Systems Testing from the University of Memphis.

### Department Hosts Guidance Counselors

The MIS Department hosted guidance counselors from the Memphis City Schools in Spring 2012 to better acquaint them with careers in the IT field and the academic program offered by the department.  Approximately 100 guidance counselors attended, and they  indicated that they now feel more informed about the IT field and the programs offered by the MIS Department.   Lloyd Brooks, Brian Janz, Mark Gillenson and Shelley Bennett provided presentations during this important event.

### AACSB Assessment

MIS Department Chair and College Assessment Director Lloyd Brooks joined the 2012 Annual AACSB Assessment Conference, held March 20 – 22 in Houston, Texas.  Dr. Brooks presented, "Tips and Tricks for Providing Effective Assessment of Learning Programs," in support of developing learning programs to meet AACSB accreditation guidelines. The FCBE assessment site is found at  http:// www. fcbeassessment.net.

### Welcome!

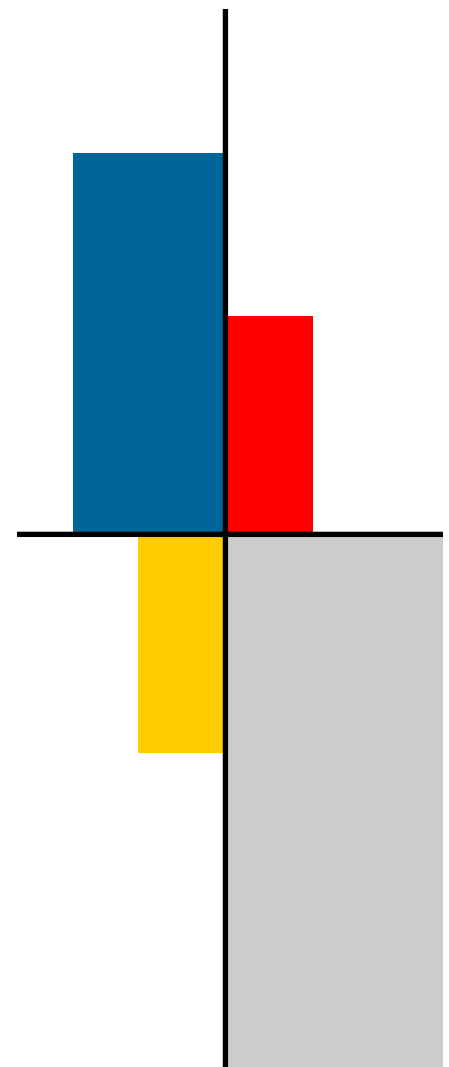Dr. Ling Xue has joined the MIS Department as an Assistant Professor.

### Congratulations!

Dr. Sandra Richardson has been awarded tenure as well as promotion to Associate Professor of Management Information Systems.

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## Faculty Community Service

**Brown appointed President of Arts Council**
Assistant Professor Judy Brown was elected as 2012 President of the Germantown Arts Alliance. The Germantown Arts Alliance is an advocacy and funding organization whose mission is to promote and enrich cultural arts in Germantown.

**Stafford joins Hooks Institute**
Dr. Tom Stafford has joined the Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change as an Advisory Board Member. The Hooks Institute promotes diversity and inclusion in the Midsouth Region.

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## Departmental Activities

**Future Business Leaders of America**
The MIS Department hosted 560 high school students enrolled in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) programs at Memphis-area high schools. The competitive events were held on February 17 with an awards banquet in the Holiday Inn on campus on February 21, where Dean Rajiv Grover provided opening remarks. MIS faculty involved included Lloyd Brooks, Bill Kettinger, Ted Lee, Tom Meservy, Margaret Schultz and Tom Stafford. Students participated in competitive business events such as database, public speaking, job interview, presentation graphics, entrepreneurship, and project management.

**Organizational Affiliations**
Department Chairman Lloyd Brooks has joined the Executive committee of the Society for Information Management.

**AMIS Award**
The MIS Department's student chapter of the Association for Management Information Systems (AMIS) won third place in a contest in Provo, Utah, hosted by the international Association for Information Systems (AIS) in Spring 2012. Team members included Brittany Arnold, Joseph Borwick, Max Zhiglov, Nicole Smith, and Teresa Wells. Faculty sponsors were Drs. Wade Jackson, Tom Meservy, andMargaret Schultz.

**MIS Advisory Council**
Two companies on our MIS Advisory Council have been named to the *Information Week* 500 most innovative companies in the USA. First Horizon was ranked #1 in banking and #14 overall. FedEx was ranked #35 overall.

Bruce Livesay has become the council chair this year, leading an extensive range of senior executives from organizations including :
- ServicMaster
- FTN Financial
- TruGreen
- Merck
- Allenberg
- EMC
- Thomas & Betts
- KPMG
- International Paper
- IBM
- First Horizon
- Methodist Healthcare
- First Horizon
- Sedgwick Claims Management
- Hastham
- FedEx
- Hilton Hotels
- City of Memphis
- Buckman Labs
- Memphis Daily News
- Pinnacle Air
- MLGW
- Impact Counseling
- Electronic Vaulting Services
- Tennman Digital
- Evergreen Packaging
- Emerge Memphis
- Crye Leike Reality
- Morgan Keegan
- Verified Person

THE UNIVERSITY OF
**MEMPHIS.**
Dreamers. Thinkers. Doers.

## Research Productivity

**Student Publishing**

Ph.D. student Jignya Patel, along with Drs. Poston and Dhaliwal, had a paper accepted in the *2012 European Conference on Information Systems* entitled, "A Software Testing Assessment to Manage Project Testability."

**Graduate Publishing**

Xihui "Paul" Zhang, (Ph.D. 2009) along with Professors Dhaliwal, Gillenson and Stafford have published, "The Impact of Conflict Judgments between Developers and Testers in Software Development," in *Journal of Database Management.* This article was one of the first pieces to reach press from Paul's dissertation research. Paul is with the University of North Alabama in Florence.

Colin Onita (Ph.D. 2010), along with cohort member Paul Zhang and Professors Dhaliwal and Poston, have published "Alignment within the software development unit: Assessing structural and relational dimensions between developers and testers," in the *Journal of Strategic Information Systems* (20:4). Colin is on the faculty at University of Akron.

Yang Yang (Ph.D. 2008), along with Professors Stafford and Gillenson published, "Satisfaction with Employee Relationship Management Systems: The Impact of Usefulness on Systems Quality Perceptions," in *European Journal of Information Systems* (20:2).

**Faculty Publishing**

Professor Mark L. Gillenson recently published the second edition of his current database management textbook: *Fundamentals of Database Management Systems*, 2nd edition, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2012. This is the second edition of Prof. Gillenson's third book on database management.

Bill Kettinger, along with colleagues Chen Zhang and Don Marchand, published "CIO and Business Executive Leadership Approaches to Establishing Company-Wide Information Orientation," in *MIS Quarterly Executive* (10:4).

Judy Simon, along with Kaiser, Goles, Hawk and Frampton from other universities, published "Information Systems Skills Differences Between High-Wage and Low-Wage Regions: Implications for Global Sourc-

ing,"" in the A-rated *Communications of the Association for Information Systems* (29:1).

Post-Doctoral Fellow Insu Park has published "The Effect of Pre- and Post-Service Performance on Consumer Evaluation of Online Retailers," in *Decision Support Systems* (52:2).

Mark Gillenson, along with Peter Aiken of Virginia Commonwealth University, Paul Zhang of the University of North Alabama, and David Rafner, published "Data Management and Data Administration: Assessing 25 Years of Practice," in the A-rated *Journal of Database Management (*22:3).

T. Hu, Robin Poston, and Bill Kettinger published "Non-adopters of Online Social Network Services: Is It Easy to Have Fun Yet?" in *Communications of the Association for Information Systems*, 2011, (29:25).

Radhika Jain, Robin Poston, and Judy Simon published "An Empirical Investigation of Client Managers' Responsibilities in Managing Offshore Outsourcing of Software Testing Projects," in *IEEE*

*Transactions on Engineering Management,* 2011, (58:4).

Radhika Jain, Judy Simon, and Robin Poston published "Mitigating Vendor Silence in Offshore Outsourcing to India: An Empirical Investigation," in the *Journal of Management Information Systems*, 2011, (27:4).

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