Computer Science & Engineering
University of Washington

Annual Scholarship and Fellowship Recognition Luncheon

April 7, 2010
Welcome

Students are what it’s all about in UW Computer Science & Engineering. With more than five hundred undergraduate majors and more than three hundred graduate students, classrooms and research laboratories are energized by students’ enthusiasm for the field, and together we learn, discover and have fun.

It’s important that a UW CSE education remain accessible to Washington’s outstanding students regardless of their financial circumstances. We are fortunate to have twenty-five endowed scholarships and twenty endowed fellowships available as departmental awards. These resources allow us to attract and retain high-achieving students whose success will result in new discoveries and in the next generation of technology leaders.

Generous friends, alumni and corporations are responsible for making these scholarships and fellowships possible. These forward thinking individuals and companies have created legacies that demonstrate the value they place on making a great education available to deserving students. The personal stories of these generous donors are included in this program.

Today is an opportunity to celebrate the partnerships between students, faculty, friends, alumni and industry that make UW CSE a vibrant community. Together we’re making an impact on people’s lives through our efforts!

Henry M. Levy
Chairman & Wissner-Slivka Chair

Edward D. Lazowska
Bill & Melinda Gates Chair
Anderson Family Endowed Scholarship  
Corin Anderson Endowed Fellowship

Corin “Corey” Anderson attended the University of Washington from 1993 through 2003. He earned Bachelor’s degrees in Computer Science & Math, and a Masters and Ph.D. in Computer Science. As an undergrad, he was joined at the UW by his brother, Casey, who earned a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Engineering, and his mother, Cathy, who earned a Bachelor’s degree in Technical Communication. Continuing the family connection, as Corey completed his Ph.D., Casey earned a Masters through the Professional Masters Program in CSE. Sharing the college experience with family didn’t even begin at the UW for the Andersons. Corey, Casey, and Cathy all attended Highline Community College before the UW and graduated with Associates in Arts degrees on the same night (and one day before Corey graduated from Foster High School in Tukwila, WA). Corey’s father, Craig, rounded out the Anderson family support network.

Corey always felt that the culture of CSE was one of its best features, and he did what he could to contribute to it. He was known for decorating his office, especially around the holidays, and for always having snacks for visitors. Corey carried on these traditions after graduation when he joined Google in Mountain View, CA, in 2003. He has greatly enjoyed his tenure there, including working with many CSE alums.

— Anderson Scholar —  
Jedidiah Jonathan

— Anderson Fellow —  
Robert Gens
Burkhardt Family Endowed Scholarship

Ken Burkhardt earned his Bachelor’s degree in Physics from Cornell University, his Masters degree in Computer Science from Rutgers University, and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Washington in 1975. Dr. Burkhardt spent eight years in academia as a faculty member at UW and at Rutgers. During this time, he was also Vice President of Systems at Intec, Inc., an early pioneer in the electronic weighing industry. He left academia to become the chief system architect in the Unisys workstation group. In 1983, together with two other cofounders, he started Dialogic Corporation, the market share leader in the call processing and automated telephone industries. Dr. Burkhardt and his partners grew the company to 1,400 employees and then sold it to Intel Corporation in July of 1999. Since then, Dr. Burkhardt has gone on to leadership roles at Aloha Networks and Verbier Ventures. Dr. Burkhardt has served on the boards of a number of public and private companies and is presently on the board of advisors of several venture capital funds and a former member of the visiting committee of the UW College of Engineering. He is married with three children and spends his spare time playing the piano, skiing, surfing and coaching lacrosse.

Dr. Burkhardt appreciates the education and opportunities that were offered to him as a doctoral student in UW Computer Science & Engineering. By establishing this endowed scholarship, he is securing financial assistance for undergraduate students who might otherwise not be able to afford a University of Washington education.

— Burkhardt Scholars —

Meaghan Kjelland          Cosmo Smith
Aryan Naraghi            Shanshan Sun
David Nufer

The CSE Award for Excellence Scholarship was established by funds from donors who wish to remain anonymous. The CSE Educators Fellowship is a result of contributions from Hellmut Golde and other CSE faculty.

— CSE Excellence Scholars —
Elliott Brossard  Sanjana Prasain

— CSE Educators Fellow —
Rolfe Schmidt

David N. Cutler is one of the world’s leading operating system engineer. He joined Digital Equipment Corporation in 1971 where he built a real-time system called RSX-11M that ran on Digital’s PDP-11 16-bit series of minicomputers and developed VMS, the operating system for Digital’s 32-bit VAX-11 architecture; VAX/VMS was the mainstay of technical computing nationwide for a decade. Cutler then moved to Seattle to found DECwest Engineering. In 1988, Cutler joined Microsoft where he led the development of Windows NT. He is a Member of the National Academy of Engineering and is one of only 22 Microsoft Technical Fellows.

In March 2007, Cutler received the inaugural Microsoft Technical Recognition Award for Career Achievement, the company’s top individual recognition. He donated the prize to UW CSE. More than a dozen friends and colleagues, led by Gary Kimura and Rob Short, augmented Cutler’s gift as a tribute to him, creating the David N. Cutler Endowed Scholarship.

— Cutler Scholar —
Chris Nguyen
Denice Dee Denton Endowed Scholars

In 1990, under the leadership of Professor Richard Ladner, UW Computer Science & Engineering established an endowment to help support our commitment to a diverse student population. Fifteen years later, thanks to the generosity of faculty, staff, students, friends, and alumni who share this commitment, the endowment had grown to more than a quarter of a million dollars.

In June 2006, CSE named the endowment to honor Denice Dee Denton, who served as Dean of the University of Washington College of Engineering from 1996-2005. Denice was an inspirational leader and a strong voice for social justice, diversity, and excellence. She possessed enormous vision, courage, integrity, and backbone. Denice left the University of Washington in 2005 to become Chancellor (president) of the University of California at Santa Cruz. She passed away under tragic circumstances on June 24, 2006. The Denice Dee Denton Scholars in UW Computer Science & Engineering serve as a lasting reminder of Denice; of her character and of the principles for which she stood.

— Denton Scholars —
Maria Pimenova       Mariana Zanella

— Denton Fellow —
Lydia Chilton
Dreama Frost Endowed Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was established to honor the memory of CSE Professional Master’s Program Advisor Dreama Frost. Dreama joined CSE in July, 1998. In December, at the age of 28, she was stricken with a sudden illness and passed away. This scholarship was initiated by Dreama’s fiancé, Richard Deal, and was augmented by many generous gifts from Dreama’s friends.

This scholarship is representative of, and a testimony to, Dreama and her life. It represents recognition of her ability and perseverance to achieve a dream under challenging conditions, the desire to utilize knowledge to help us better understand ourselves and the world around us, and the wish to experience joy through helping others realize their dreams. These wonderful qualities, among many others, were the essence of Dreama.

— Frost Scholar —
Boris Kogon

Glerum Family Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the Glerum family in order to provide assistance to freshmen entering Computer Science & Engineering.

Kirk Glerum received his Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from the University of Washington. His wife, Melissa received her Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from Brown University. Their educations prepared them for highly successful careers at Microsoft, and they hope to make the same opportunity available to future generations of students. At the time of their gift, Kirk stated enthusiastically, “We want every smart kid to give computer science a try and see how cool it really can be.”

— Glerum Scholars —
Katie Jackson  Coral Peterson
Hellmut Golde was founder of the UW Computer Science Group (the predecessor of today’s CSE) and served as acting chair of CSE from 1976-1977. Notably, Hellmut’s collaboration with five graduate students in the late 1970’s and early 1980’s to produce a Pascal compiler for the VAX-11/780 computer had a profound effect on the department. Licensed to Digital Equipment Corporation in an agreement that paid royalties, the compiler generated well over $1M in revenue for CSE. Hellmut and his wife, Marcy, have remained active in the department since Hellmut’s retirement.

The scholarship was established by an anonymous donor in 2001 in honor of Hellmut’s accomplishments and contributions to CSE.

— Golde Scholar —
Justin Irwen

Google Endowed Scholarship

In 2007, a group of individuals who were both UW CSE alumni and Google employees came together to establish a scholarship that recognized their Google affinity and desire to support deserving undergraduates studying computer science and engineering. Combining their individual gifts and generous matches from Google and the UW Students First matching gift program resulted in meaningful scholarship assistance for outstanding students with financial need.

— Google Scholar —
Alice Ouyang
Henry L. Gray Endowed Fund

Henry L. Gray was born in Pike County, Missouri, October 1880. He was educated in local public schools, and enrolled in the Engineering School of the University of Missouri in 1901, spending about two years there. He spent the next three years working on railroad and bridge construction jobs in the Midwest.

Gray came to Seattle in June 1906, as a construction engineer on the Milwaukee Puget Sound extension. In 1907 he entered the employ of the Railroad Commission of Washington, and in 1909 was made Chief Engineer; and through the change of name in 1911, became the first Chief Engineer of the Public Service Commission of Washington. He was considered informed on public utility regulatory matters, and made several contributions to the literature on the subject. On February 1, 1913, he resigned from the Public Service Commission in order to open an office in Seattle and specialize in public utility and other engineering work.

In order to have additional electrical education, he attended the University of Washington, graduating in 1945 with a B.S. in Mining Engineering. He retired from active practice in 1970, and devoted his time to writing local historical narratives.

Gray passed away in 1974. Through a generous bequest from his estate, the Henry L. Gray Fund was established in the College of Engineering in 1975.

— Gray Scholar —
Joy Kim

— Gray Fellow —
Lydia Chilton
Jim Gray Endowed Scholarship

The scholarship was established by Jim and Donna Gray in 2004 to provide assistance to freshmen entering Computer Science & Engineering.

Jim Gray (James Nicholas Gray) was born January 12, 1944, and was lost at sea off the northern California coast while sailing on January 28, 2007. Jim was one of world’s most distinguished computer scientists. His numerous contributions to the field of database systems were recognized with membership in the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the European Academy of Science. He was also a fellow of both the ACM and IEEE. In 1999 Jim was awarded the ACM A.M. Turing Award for his seminal contributions to our understanding of the concept of transactions and their implementation.

Jim’s pioneering research on transactions at IBM in the 1970’s provides the foundation for today’s world of electronic commerce. Every time someone uses an ATM, reserves a seat on an airplane, or purchases an item on the web, they are relying on the mechanisms that Jim first developed. These techniques ensure that the “right” thing always happens — even in the presence of software and hardware failures. While they seem second nature to us today, when Jim conceived of them they required very deep insight into the complexities of concurrently executing queries against a shared database system.

— Gray Scholars —

Wilson Lee Andrew Rogers
James Hewitt Endowed Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was created in honor of James A. Hewitt Jr., Senior Systems Engineer/Architect in Computer Science & Engineering.

James was born in Lincoln, Nebraska on March 8, 1974. He grew up in Dallesport, Washington, graduating from Lyle High School in 1992. Shortly after, he moved to Seattle to begin his college education and, later, his career at the University of Washington. On August 9th, 2003, James passed away in an accident at the age of 29.

James was known to his family and friends for his warm, generous, and playful spirit. With boundless energy and a true appreciation for life, he continuously challenged himself, seeking out opportunities to enhance his life learning. His wide range of interests ranged from scuba diving to flying and included world travel, motorcycle riding, bass guitar, coursework in Islamic studies, and the attainment of his pilot’s license. He was also the Founder and CEO of TechWolf Networks Inc.

— Hewitt Scholars —

Eric Arendt           Yang Wang
InfoSpace Endowed Scholarship

InfoSpace is a leading provider of Internet infrastructure services for consumers, merchants and wireless devices. Naveen Jain, former chairman and chief strategist, founded the company in April 1996 with the vision of delivering real world information on the Internet — anytime, anywhere, and on any device. “Giving back” has become a corporate ethic and a cultural value within the company. Established in 2000, the InfoSpace Foundation’s mission is to provide the resources needed to make a positive difference in the communities where the company’s employees live and work. The purpose of the InfoSpace Endowed Scholarship is to provide educational opportunities to talented Computer Science & Engineering students who may not otherwise be able to pursue their college education.

— InfoSpace Scholar —
Leilani Battle

Intelius Endowed Scholarship

The scholarship was established by Naveen and Anu Jain in order to provide assistance to freshmen entering Computer Science & Engineering and the Foster School of Business. Naveen Jain, a cofounder of Intelius, has served as the company’s Chief Executive Officer, President, and as a member of their Board of Directors since their inception in January 2008. Both he and his wife, Anu, strongly believe in giving back to the community and making a difference in peoples’ lives, and their hope is that this award will help attract top students to the UW and provide opportunities for students for a better future.

— Intelius Scholar —
Alex Hanson
Gary Kildall Endowed Scholarship

As a student at the University of Washington, Gary Kildall received three degrees: a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics (1967), a Master’s degree (1968), and a Ph.D. (1972) in Computer Science. He was hired as an assistant professor at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey and later joined Intel Corporation to write programming tools for the Intel 4004 microprocessor.

A pioneer in the computer revolution, Gary developed CP/M, which became the dominant microcomputer operating system of the 1970’s. He was one of the first people to recognize that even the early, simple microprocessors could support a complete minicomputer-style operating system; and he created an editor, assembler, linker, and loader, along with the first file system to use floppy disks as a general purpose storage medium. As personal computers began to be used, he saw that their true potential would be in connectivity, so he developed extensions to CP/M that let computers share files and peripheral devices over a network.

Gary’s company, Digital Research, Inc., introduced operating systems with windowing capability, preemptive multitasking, and menu-driven user interfaces years before Microsoft developed Windows. He also created the first practical open-system architecture, which allowed operating systems and application programs to be independent of the specific machines on which they ran. A firm believer that life and work should be fun, Gary also developed an early computer-based arcade game as well as precursors to current interactive multimedia.

Gary passed away in 1994, at the age of 52. His daughter Kristin established the Gary Kildall Endowed Scholarship in his honor in 1997, and it has been awarded every year to outstanding UW CSE undergraduate students. Recognition of Gary’s extraordinary accomplishments has increased recently with his inclusion in the wonderful 2004 book and PBS television series They Made America.

— Kildall Scholars —

Mark Bun   Rita Sodt
Gary D. Kimura Family Endowed Scholarship

Gary and Christine Kimura are native Seattleites. They received their undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Washington. Gary (CSE - BS ’78, MS ’82, PhD ’84) was in the first class to receive undergraduate computer science degrees from the University. After completing his PhD, Gary worked at Digital Equipment Corporation and then Microsoft where he was an original member of the Windows NT Operating System design team. In 1999 Gary returned to the University as an Affiliate Professor teaching the Operating System design classes.

Christine (BS ’80, MS ’98) received her B.S. in Metallurgical Engineering, and M.S. in Materials Science and Engineering. She worked 21 years at Boeing in both the commercial and aerospace divisions before retiring in 2002. Gary and Christine want to provide financial assistance to help students attend the University of Washington, just as Gary received assistance for his undergraduate education.

— Kimura Family Scholar —
Daniel Kitt

Todd Laney Endowed Scholarship

Todd Laney is a Seattle native who graduated from Garfield High School and attended the UW and studied Computer Science & Engineering from 1983 – 1987. Todd believes everyone with a passion for CSE should have the opportunity to attend a great University like the UW. He believes a quality education will allow students to follow their passion for computer science and engineering later in life.

— Laney Scholar —
Joy Kim
Patricia G. Lynch and Theodora and Eugene Russell Memorial Scholarship

This endowment was created through a gift from the estate of Theodora Lynch Russell in 1994. Ms. Russell wanted to honor her sister, Patricia G. Lynch, who graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in journalism and enjoyed a successful career as a technical writer for Hewlett Packard. Ms. Lynch knew both founders of the company; Mr. Hewlett and Mr. Packard. Patricia never married and was preparing to retire to a home in Maine when she died suddenly of a ruptured appendix.

Patricia and Theodora spent their childhood in Montana. Theodora graduated from Central Washington College of Education in 1928. She taught in Washington and Alaska for several years and then studied to become a nurse at Seattle General Hospital’s School of Nursing. Russell was an active civic leader in White Plains, NY.

This scholarship is administered by the College of Engineering and benefits scholars in its ten departments.

— Lynch/Russell Scholar —
Saptarshi Bhattacharya
Microsoft Endowed Scholarship
Microsoft Endowed Fellowship

The Microsoft Endowed Scholarship and the Microsoft Endowed Fellowship were established in 1993 to provide financial assistance to undergraduate and graduate students in Computer Science & Engineering.

By designating this gift for Computer Science & Engineering, Microsoft made an important investment in the future of the software industry. According to Bill Gates III, “Institutions such as the University of Washington provide the software industry with the research and development talent we need to continue our success. Microsoft has enjoyed a close working relationship with the University of Washington and will continue to look forward to a strong relationship in the future.”

— Microsoft Scholars —
Dan Gerdesmeier  Tom Sommerville  Krysta Yousoufian
Jiayun Guo      Hakson Teh     Milda Zizyte
Fransiskus Xaverius

— Microsoft Fellow —
Daniel Leventhal
The Jerre Noe endowed scholarship was established by Jim and Donna Gray in 2001 in honor of Jerre’s accomplishments and contributions to CSE. Jerre was recruited from SRI to head the newly-created Computer Science department in 1968 and served as chair until 1976. Beginning in 1950, Jerre, then SRI’s Assistant Director of Engineering, led the technical team of the ERMA (Electronic Recording Machine, Accounting) Project — a joint venture between SRI and Bank of America laying the cornerstone of modern electronic banking. The project resulted in checks with pre-printed account numbers; a check reader and sorter that could process ten checks per second with an error probability of less than 0.00001 percent; and the ERMA prototype, which was the first machine to enable multiple workers within a branch bank to determine account status and validate inputs electronically. In March 2001, Jerre and his ERMA team were honored with the Weldon B. Gibson Achievement. As chair, Jerre brought not only technical expertise, but also a sense of excellence and culture that still forms the cornerstone of CSE today.

On the evening of November 12, 2005, after a brief battle with mesothelioma (a rare and aggressive form of cancer), Jerre Noe passed away at the age of 82.

— Noe Scholar —
Chih-Chi (Chelsey) Chang
Pedrizetti Family Endowed Scholarship

Ray and Louise Pedrizetti have two sons, and have named this scholarship endowment with the family name to encourage their sons to continue giving to higher education and other nonprofit organizations. Ray began his higher education at Bellevue Community College, and transferred to the University of Washington’s College of Engineering. He earned a bachelor’s of science degree in electrical engineering in 1981. His first job after graduation was at Fluke Manufacturing Company. Later he joined Microsoft, managing server and other hardware technologies. He retired from the company in 2004.

— Pedrizetti Scholars —

Andrew Rogers  Panharith Thong

RealNetworks Endowed Scholarship

The RealNetworks Endowed Scholarship was established in 2006. This generous gift is intended to support UW CSE in providing worthy undergraduate students in need of financial assistance with an opportunity to advance their education.

RealNetworks has enjoyed real success in the world of digital media — hundreds of millions of people have downloaded the company’s RealPlayer product to stream and download audio, video, and other multimedia content. Its software and subscription services provide access to news, sports, and entertainment content (RealOne), downloadable games (RealArcade), and streaming and downloadable music (Rhapsody, RealPlayer Music Store, RadioPass). The company also serves the enterprise market with tools for creating, delivering, and licensing digital content.

— RealNetworks Scholars —

Kate Mitchell  William Pitts
Tock Family Endowed Scholarship

Theron Tock graduated from UW CSE in 1990, attended University of Illinois’ graduate school, and worked for Sun Microsystems in San Francisco. He followed this by joining a start-up company focused on streamlining health care back-office operations using the internet. The success of that company provided the independence to cofound Neoteris in 2000. Kalée Tock graduated in 1995 from Harvard with a degree in Chemistry. After teaching in Italy for a year, she attended graduate school at Stanford receiving degrees in both chemistry and education. Following her graduate studies, she joined Stanford as a researcher at the Educational Program for Gifted Youth.

The Tocks established this scholarship in recognition of the importance of education in both their lives. Their goal was to have a scholarship that benefits students for whom an education might otherwise be out of reach. They hope that recipients of the Tock Family Scholarship will later look back at their time at the UW as pivotal in their lives.

— Tock Scholars —

Ben Carr  Yifan (Benny) Zhang

Alfred C. Weaver Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established to honor Dr. Alfred C. Weaver, a professor of computer science at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. Dr. Weaver has been Chairman of the Department, Director of the Computer Science Corporate Partners Program, and has taught more than 20 different courses within the Department. He has directed the research of 9 Ph. D. dissertations, 27 master’s theses, and 29 master’s projects. Dr. Weaver is a member of Phi Eta Sigma, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, ACM, and IEEE. He is a Fellow of the IEEE. He holds patents and copyrights and has founded several companies.

An anonymous donor dedicated the scholarship to “an incredible person, a fantastic computer scientist, husband, father, and friend.”

— Alfred C. Weaver Scholar —

Alex Hanson
Wisniewski Endowed Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was established in 1998 by Dr. Jo-Anne Wisniewski in memory of her husband, John. John Wisniewski graduated from the University of Washington in June, 1973 with a double major in psychology and mathematics (numerical analysis). A week after graduation, he married Jo-Anne, who majored in mathematics.

John obtained his Masters degree in computer science from Washington State University in 1975. After graduation, he worked for the Department of Defense in Fort Meade, MD. He then went to work for Sandia Labs in New Mexico. In the summer of 1978, he went back to school at the University of Illinois to complete a Ph.D. in Computer Science/Applied Mathematics, graduating in 1980. He then returned to Sandia Labs in New Mexico until 1989 when he moved his family to Oregon to work for Mentor Graphics.

In the meantime, his pride and joy and only child, Jonathan, was born. He loved being a father and was proud of both his wife and son for all their accomplishments. He became an expert veterinary assistant for his wife, not to mention a stall cleaner specialist. Dr. Wisniewski began working for Intel in 1992 where, in four short years, he had a major impact on both individuals and projects. In March, 1997, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died at home five months later.

Dr. Wisniewski loved teaching as well as learning and acted as a mentor for many young people. He was known for his ability to problem-solve even before the problem could be recognized by those around him. He gave quietly of himself throughout his life. His steadfast support of his family and his embodiment of a successful work ethic provided inspiration to everyone he interacted with. His positive outlook on life brought out the best in people. Watching others obtain the goals they set for themselves was one of his greatest pleasures.

— Wisniewski Scholars —
Saptarshi Bhattacharya          Kristin Weber
Yamasaki Endowed Scholarship

Brian Yamasaki came to the University of Washington as an undergraduate in the early 1980’s with the intention of pursuing a degree in business. He took a computer science course out of curiosity and found he just couldn’t stop. He had been bit with the “technology bug.” Brian cites the intelligence of the students and instructors in Computer Science & Engineering as inspiration for him to work twice as hard to achieve his full potential. In 1986, he graduated with two Bachelor’s degrees, one in Computer Science and one in Business Administration.

Brian strongly believes that the UW is at the heart of innovation and academic excellence in the Pacific Northwest. He understands that at the core of every great University are the students that will set standards, challenge conventions, and ultimately contribute to society. Brian hopes this scholarship will help attract and nurture the best and brightest students to study methods, ask hard questions, create new solutions, and become the next great leaders in technology, whether in academia or industry. Brian enjoys his many connections and conversations with undergraduates as they journey through their education.

— Yamasaki Scholars —

Ji Mun   Mason Remy   Zach Stein
ARCS Fellowship

The ARCS Foundation (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists) has helped launch hundreds of careers by awarding millions of dollars to outstanding graduate students. The Seattle Chapter of the ARCS Foundation celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2008. The Foundation is one of the largest foundation donors to the University of Washington and among its most steadfast long-term partners.

Volunteers of the Seattle Chapter, a group of more than 110 women in the Puget Sound area, are dedicated to helping graduate students in science, engineering and medicine earn advanced degrees and become leaders of world-wide scientific discovery. Since 1978, they have provided merit-based fellowships totaling approximately $10 million. As a result, the ARCS Foundation has greatly helped the University of Washington recruit highly gifted graduate students.

— ARCS 2009-10 First Year Fellows —
Daniel Leventhal (Jeffrey P. Bezos)
William & Mary Conner Endowed Fellowship

William M. Conner, founder of Conner Development Company, holds a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington (1953). He has been a member of the residential construction community, building for sale and rental housing throughout the Puget Sound region.

Bill served as President of the Seattle Master Builders Association (SMBA) and President of the Washington State Home Builder’s Association. He was twice named “Builder of the Year” by the SMBA. In 1995, Bill was an inaugural inductee into the University of Washington’s Department of Building Construction Hall of Fame. In 2000, Bill retired from the daily operations at Conner Homes Company, however, he remains involved in an advisory role to company leaders.

In 1993, Bill and Marilyn established this endowed fellowship to support graduate students in the College of Engineering. Bill and Marilyn have been long-time UW supporters also giving of their time. Bill served as a vice chair of the Major Gifts Committee for the Campaign for Washington and Marilyn has served as a volunteer on the Friends of Alzheimer’s Research Board

— Conner Fellow —
Wm Austin Webb
Jeff Dean/Heidi Hopper Endowed Regental Fellowship

Jeff Dean received his Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Economics from the University of Minnesota. He received his Ph.D. in Computer Science in 1996 from the University of Washington, enjoying his time in Seattle greatly. After graduation, Jeff worked for Digital Equipment Corporation’s Western Research Lab for almost three years. In 1999, Jeff joined Google as an early employee, writing significant portions of Google’s crawling, indexing, and query serving systems, building systems infrastructure for large-scale storage and computation, and generally having a great time working on difficult problems with great colleagues and producing software used by hundreds of millions of people.

Heidi Hopper received her Bachelor’s degree in 1990 in Psychology from the University of Minnesota. She received her Ph.D. in Organization Behavior and Human Resources Management from the University of Washington in 1997.

Heidi and Jeff both believe strongly in the value of education at all levels. They hope that this fellowship will help attract and support the best and brightest students to explore and solve problems in computer science.

— Dean/Hopper Fellow —
Francis Iannacci
Anne Dinning-Michael Wolf Endowed Regental Fellowship

Anne Dinning joined D.E. Shaw group in 1990, after receiving a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from the University of Washington and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from New York University’s Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, where she won the Howard Grad Memorial Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Candidate. From 1995 until her retirement in 1999, she was the managing director responsible for the firm’s worldwide asset management activities, as well as in 1996 for the management of an international broker dealer business based in London. In August 2002, Dr. Dinning rejoined the D.E. Shaw group as managing director. She directs certain strategic initiatives and is jointly responsible for the overall management and trading of the firm’s investment strategies, as well as on the firm’s institutional asset management business and certain other strategies. Dr. Dinning is a member of the joint executive committee of D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P.

Michael Wolf received his Bachelor’s degree in Physics and Applied Math from UC Berkeley in 1984 and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Stanford University in 1992. Dr. Wolf joined D.E. Shaw group in 1992 and later worked at various firms in the financial and technology industries. Dr. Wolf’s 1991 paper on compilation for improved data locality was included in a 2004 “Best Of” retrospective of the ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation (PLDI). Dr. Wolf is currently a full-time stay-at-home parent.

Anne and Michael appreciate the opportunities that have been made available to them because of their excellent educations and want to make similar opportunities available to others.

— Dinning-Wolf Regental Fellow —
Benjamin Wood
Clairmont L. Egtvedt Endowed Engineering Fellowship

This College of Engineering endowment was established in 2003 with a gift from the estate of Evelyn Egtvedt, in memory of her husband, Clairmont L. Egtvedt who earned his B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1920 from the University of Washington.

Evelyn Smith was born in London, England in 1901, the youngest of six children. She was raised and educated in Canada, and in her teens attended business school. Later, she moved to Seattle and found employment here. While living and working in Seattle, Evelyn was introduced to Claire Egtvedt. It was love at first sight, and they married after a short courtship. Mr. Egtvedt was an engineer with the Boeing Airplane Co. in its very early beginnings. Evelyn was an eyewitness to history in the making, as she shared life with Claire, the “father of the flying fortress” who later became President and Chairman of the Board at The Boeing Company. Evelyn had a wonderful sense of humor. She loved to hear and to share humorous stories, and she possessed the rare quality to laugh at herself. A gracious and generous lady, she was hostess to many famous people in the Egtvedt home including Charles Lindbergh. Mr. and Mrs. Egtvedt had no children of their own, but throughout their lives they were vitally interested in the care and education of children. Indeed, their philanthropic gifts have supported many worthy endeavors in the greater Seattle area and around the world. After Mr. Egtvedt’s death in 1975, Mrs. Egtvedt remained actively engaged in philanthropic causes. She was particularly interested in promoting Christian higher education, and contributed heavily to many schools and colleges. In honor of her husband, she sponsored the building of the Egtvedt Hall at Warner Pacific College and contributed generously to the Schools of Law and Engineering at the University of Washington. Although Mrs. Egtvedt became an American citizen, she maintained a deep love for her birthplace; and made numerous trips to visit England in her later years. She passed away in 2002.

— Egtvedt Fellow —
Robert Gens
Faithful Steward Endowed Fellowship

Shun-Tak Leung graduated with a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Washington in 1996. In the fall 1990, he stepped into Sieg Hall, then home of Computer Science & Engineering, to begin his studies. He had only a week earlier departed from Hong Kong and arrived alone in a new land. In the fall of 1996, he stepped out of the now familiar Sieg Hall into another adventure in the heart of California’s Silicon Valley.

In his journey, he always remembers with gratitude the divine grace and human kindness he has experienced along the way. For his six years of graduate studies in Seattle, he especially thanks Prof. John Zahorjan, his ever-optimistic adviser, for the advice, support, and constant encouragement; and Prof. Ed Lazowska, with such contagious enthusiasm, for critical help in his early career. As it was once spoken, it is more blessed to give than to receive. Through this endowment, he is delighted to give back in some small way for so much that he has received. As it is written, those who are given a trust must prove faithful. He is honored and humbled to establish a lasting legacy with what is at his disposal today. It is fitting that this will benefit generations of graduate students to come. He trusts that they, too, will find the University of Washington a welcoming and stimulating place to learn, to grow, to pursue their dreams.

It is his earnest hope that the beneficiaries will in time become benefactors; that those entrusted with talents and opportunities will live up to their calling and stay faithful in their stewardship; and that those endowed with abilities and equipped with knowledge will be the first to serve but the last to claim privilege or honor.

— Faithful Steward Fellow —

Sidhant Gupta
This endowment was established to honor Marilyn J. Fries by her children and their families.


Marilyn and her husband, Jim, had three children: Ed, Bob, and Karen. Each followed Marilyn into the information technology field. Ed concluded his 20 year career at Microsoft as Microsoft Game Studio’s vice president of games publishing. Bob designed both hardware and software at Digital Equipment Corporation and then Microsoft, where he currently leads a storage systems project. Karen has worked on product design — making computer interfaces easier — for the last 15 years at Microsoft.

Throughout her career — including her time as a University of Washington student — Marilyn Fries had a keen interest in the status of women in computer science, and in engineering as a whole. Marilyn led by example, and also by her commitment to organizations such as the Society of Women Engineers. Today, women continue to be underrepresented in computer science.

The Marilyn Fries Endowed Regental Fellowship in Computer Science & Engineering provides a permanent legacy to Marilyn, enabling the University to attract and/or retain outstanding graduate students in Computer Science & Engineering. Like Marilyn, these students will be role models who lead by example and by commitment.

— Marilyn Fries Fellow —
Franziska Roesner
Hacherl Endowed Fellowship

This fellowship was endowed in 2007 in recognition of the widespread effects that computer systems have on everyday life, and of the importance of allowing future designers of those systems to acquire the knowledge and experience to do so wisely.

Don and Cindy Hacherl both did their graduate work at the University of Washington. Don’s studies were in Computer Science & Engineering. After leaving the UW, Don spent the next two decades at Microsoft where most of his time was spent designing and implementing distributed computing systems. This fellowship was prompted by Don’s interest in supporting students who will contribute to the continued success of the software industry in our region.

— Hacherl Fellow —
Adrian Sampson
Dora Zee Ling Endowed Fellowship

This endowment was established to honor Dora Zee Ling, by her son, Daniel Ling and his partner, Lee Obrzut.

Dora Zee Ling was born on July 27, 1924, in Shanghai, China. She was intellectually brilliant, strong-willed, and determined at a time and in a culture that discouraged such traits in women. She pursued the rigorous education and training to become a physician like her father, even though she suffered from a serious congenital heart defect. She loved children and was dedicated to improving their well-being by doing research in the area of tuberculosis in children. She had an inquiring mind with wide ranging interests ranging from art and literature to the sciences and was always concerned about social issues. She died prematurely and unexpectedly at the age of 39, of a brain tumor, and was greatly loved by her son and her husband.

Daniel Ling and Lee Obrzut are life partners. Dan came to the Seattle area to help found Microsoft Research. He was one of the leaders who transformed the new laboratory into a world renowned research institution in the area of computer science. Lee found a psychological counseling service that helped disadvantaged children in Northern Arizona. He then held senior accounting positions for the State of Arizona. Both Lee and Dan believe strongly in the value of education and particularly want to help students achieve their educational objectives. They are delighted to be able to fund this fellowship because they recognize the important contributions that Computer Science & Engineering at the University of Washington has made to both the discipline of computer science as well as the intellectual and economic vitality of the Seattle area.

— Ling Fellow —
Yoav Artzi
Allan and Inger Osberg Endowed Presidential Fellowship in Engineering

This College of Engineering endowment was established by Allan and Inger Osberg in 2006 to support graduate students in a variety of disciplines.

Allan Osberg graduated from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1945. He was the Presidential Medalist, recognizing his academic achievement as the top student graduating from the University that year. Mr. Osberg received an M.S. from Harvard University in 1947. He is president of the Osberg Construction Company, which was founded by his father.

Allan and Inger Osberg have long been supporters of the University of Washington and the College of Engineering. They are lifetime members of The President’s Club, of which Allan Osberg served as a Trustee from 1976-80. In addition, Allan also served as an active member of development committees for the university’s two campaigns. They have been recognized with the status of “Laureate” for their giving.

— Osberg Fellow —
Travis Kriplean

Donald C. Whitworth Endowed Fellowship

Donald C. Whitworth graduated in 1938 with a B.S. in Aeronautics & Astronautics. He left a portion of his estate to the UW College of Engineering to establish a scholarship supporting outstanding graduate students. The College uses this endowment, created in 1992, to recruit and retain exceptional graduate students rotating the award among its ten departments. This year the endowment benefits Computer Science & Engineering.

— Whitworth Fellow —
Sidhant Gupta
Weil Family Endowed Fellowship

Dave Weil is a graduate of Stanford University (BS Mathematics, 1974) and the University of Washington (MS Computer Science, 1977). Following graduate school, he spent four years as a software developer for The Boeing Company, eventually getting involved in software development for early microcomputers. In 1980, he joined Microsoft Corporation where he spent 17 years as a software developer, program manager, and software development manager for a variety of products including Visual C/C++ and Microsoft Works. He retired in 1997.

Marsha Weil is a graduate of the University of Washington (BS Occupation Therapy, 1978, and MS Occupation Therapy, 1993). She worked for the Northwest Center, the UW Experimental Education Unit, Seattle Children’s Hospital, and Bellevue School District while raising two sons. She retired in 1998, but continues to work on-call for Bellevue School District to keep current in her field.

The goal of this fellowship is to attract first-year graduate students by providing them the opportunity to work in a research setting during their first year in the program.

— Weil Fellow —
Gilbert Bernstein
Wissner-Slivka Endowed Fellowship

The Wissner-Slivka Foundation was established by Lisa Wissner-Slivka and Benjamin W. Slivka in 1997 to provide grants primarily in support of education.

Lisa Wissner-Slivka earned a B.A. in Computer Studies from Northwestern University in 1985 and an M.B.A. from the University of Washington in 1988. She worked at Microsoft as a program manager and product manager on programming language tools and electronic mail applications for six years. She currently serves on the boards of the Bellevue Schools Foundation, Social Venture Partners, Kindering Center, and Puget Sound Susan G. Komen Foundation. Her past board service includes Bush School, Seattle Children’s Theatre, and the Overlake Hospital Foundation, and she was co-chair of the Kindering Center capital campaign that completed successfully in 2001.

Benjamin W. Slivka grew up in the Mount Baker neighborhood of Seattle and graduated from Garfield High School. He met Lisa at Northwestern University, where he earned B.S. degrees in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics in 1982 and an M.S. degree in Computer Science in 1985. He spent 14 years at Microsoft working on OS/2, MS-DOS, Windows, Java, and MSN. Perhaps his most visible project at Microsoft was starting the Internet Explorer team and leading it through the release of IE 3.0. After a brief stint at Amazon.com, he retired in 2000 to focus on his family and philanthropy. He co-founded DreamBox Learning in 2006, and DreamBox Learning K-2 Math – a web-based math game for kids 4-8 years old – launched in early 2009 to rave reviews. He is a Trustee of Northwestern University and a director of the Garfield High School Foundation.

— Wissner-Slivka Fellow —

Wm Austin Webb
Competitive Scholarships and Fellowships

Boeing Scholarship

Boeing has been a generous supporter of UW students for decades. The company focuses on the student experience by giving generously to establish scholarships and sponsor events and conferences led by student groups. In recent years, Boeing has provided scholarship assistance for freshmen entering Computer Science & Engineering through the Direct Admission program.

— Boeing Scholars —

Mick Ayzenberg  Katy Hulsman  Ekaterina (Katia) Nepomnyashchaya

Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship

Google established the Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship to honor Anita’s memory and support women in technology. Google hopes to encourage women to excel in computing and technology and become active role models and leaders in the field.

— Anita Borg Fellow —

Saleema Amershi
Competitive Scholarships and Fellowships

Intel Fellowship

Intel Corporation and the Intel Foundation together support graduate fellowship programs at select universities in the United States. These fellowships are awarded to outstanding students in Engineering, Computer Science and other technical majors focusing on semiconductor technologies, micro-architecture, Software Technology and Design, and communications. This is a highly competitive program with a limited number of fellowships awarded annually.

— Intel Fellow —
Daniel Halperin

Microsoft Research Ph.D. Fellowship
MSR’s Women’s Scholarship

The Microsoft Graduate Fellowship Program is designed for graduate computer science students in a program leading to a Ph.D. from one of several top universities in the U.S. The student must be completing the second or third year in a Ph.D. program.

The Microsoft Research Graduate Women’s Scholarship is a one-year scholarship program for outstanding women graduate students and is designed to help increase the number of women pursuing a PhD. This program supports women in the second year of their graduate studies.

— Microsoft Research Ph.D. Fellow —
Kayur Patel

— MSR Women’s Scholar —
Tamara Denning
Congratulations 2009-10 scholars and fellows, and thanks to the friends, alumni, and companies who support our students!