![UTSA Computer Science]

CS KICKSTART

UTSA COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS PLACE 11TH OUT OF 73 TEAMS AT 2017 ACM ICPC CONTEST

(Pictured from left to right) Shane Becker, Myka Hancevic, Luke Taylor, Andrew Sanetra, Chris Murray, and Leon Yuan. Photo courtesy of Dr. Mark Robinson.

Students from the UTSA Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) placed 11th out of 73 teams at the 2017 ACM ICPC South Central USA Regional Programming Contest. The International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) is a multitier, team-based, programming competition where contestants test their skills at comprehension, analysis, problem solving, coding, debugging, resource management, self control, and communication.

Competitors had 5 hours to come up with working solutions to 11 programming problems. Teams from Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas competed in the event at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Two teams from UTSA ACM student chapter competed and won first and second places in the regional division. Dr. Mark Robinson was coach and mentor for the UTSA ACM team.

FERNANDEZ RECEIVES PROVOST TEACHING INNOVATION GRANT AWARD 2017-2018

Dr. Amanda Fernandez

Assistant Professor in Practice of computer science Dr. Amanda Fernandez was selected to receive the 2017-18 UTSA Provost Teaching Innovation Grant Award.

The Office of the Provost and the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars award two teaching grants annually, each up to $5,000 for innovative faculty at UTSA.

These awards are given to faculty who are developing or implementing innovative, creative, and effective approaches to student success in undergraduate teaching and service learning. These approaches can include but are not limited to interdisciplinary activities, new methodologies, best-practices, pilots, new experiences in teaching for students, or the addition of impactful technologies.

Fernandez is designing hands-on activities for Introduction to Artificial Intelligence students that will introduce concepts needed in modeling machine intelligence, while also incorporating the latest AI technologies.

Her goal is to develop an AI teaching tool for the course, which will serve as a supplemental teaching assistant available 24/7 to answer student questions.

DID YOU KNOW…?

The average person blinks 12 to 15 times per minute but when you're in front of a computer screen, that number decreases dramatically to 3 to 4 times per minute.

Source:
Columbus Ophthalmology Associates

UTSA CYBER SECURITY TEAMS PLACE AT PANOPLY SECURITY COMPETITION 2017
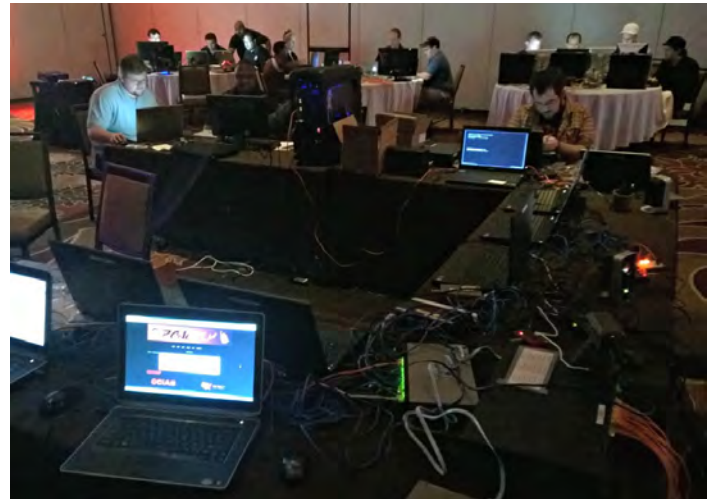

3rd Place Team:
Julian Chan [Junior, Computer Science]
Anthony Hoang [Junior, Computer Science]
Luca Hoffman [Junior, Cyber Security]
Can Vo [Sophomore, Computer Science]

6th Place Team:
Chelsea Hicks [PhD, Information Technology]
Alex Klepal [Senior, Cyber Security & Information Systems dual major]
Nick Mata [1st year MS, Information Technology],
Mitchell Moser [Senior, Information Security & Cyber Security]

7th Place Team:
Michael Poznecki [Senior, Computer Science]
Tyler Rasmussen [Junior, Computer Science]
Emanuel Lopez [Junior, Cyber Security]
Andrew Sneed [Junior, Computer Science]

UTSA Computer Science students put their pen testing, hacking, and network defense skills to the test at the 2017 (ISC)² Security Congress in Austin, Texas. The (ISC)² hosted 55 competing teams in the Panoply network defense competition.

Panoply is conducted by the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security and the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition and was free to all conference attendees in a multi-session format.

During Panoply, competitors virtually access a target and defend it from other competitors. Points were awarded every time the target was functional when checked by officials. Throughout the competition new resources are added to the common pool, forcing teams to choose between defending existing assets and going after new targets. The team with the highest point total at the end of the competition wins.

In short, Panoply is akin to the outdoor game "Capture the Flag," but in a digital game format using cyber networking skills.

Out of the 55 teams that competed nationally, all three teams with students from UTSA placed in the top ten.

CIAS DEVELOPS CYBER SECURITY CARD GAME

Recently, the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS) launched an innovative game called Cyber Threat Defender (CTD) aimed to encourage student interest in cybersecurity.

CTD is a multi-player collectible card game designed to teach essential cyber security information and strategies. CTD is an easy-to-play, engaging game regardless of age or skill level.

Players must protect themselves from attacks while building robust networks in order to become a true Cyber Threat Defender.

Whether the game is used to introduce elementary school students to basic vocabulary, hone high school students' understanding of defense implementation or provide reinforcement in professional training, CTD is a fantastic complement to any cyber security curriculum.

This game is currently available for use and is gaining popularity from instructors and schools interested in introducing cybersecurity in their classroom curriculum.

**For more information on CIAS's
Cyber Threat Defender game, visit:
http://cias.utsa.edu/ctd.html**

CYBER PATRIOT MENTIONED ON NATIONAL TELEVISION SHOW MR. ROBOT

Catch the hit TV show
Mr. Robot
Wednesdays at 9:00pm
on the USA Network
Rated TV-MA

If you're looking for a new show to watch this Fall, the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS) encourages you to check out Mr. Robot on the USA Network.

During the show's season three premiere, CIAS was pleasantly surprised to find that their cyber security competition, *CyberPatriot*, was mentioned in the episode.

CyberPatriot is the Air Force Association's National Youth Cyber Education Program. The purpose and design is to inspire students toward careers in cyber security or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future.

The CIAS designs, builds, and supplies the technology and virtual machines used in the

> "Need I remind you, I was a *CyberPatriot* finalist."
>
> "Yeah, in middle school."
>
> *Mr. Robot*
> Season 3 Episode 1

CyberPatriot Cyber Defense Competition component of the program. CIAS personnel support the on-line competitions and National Finals components of the CyberPatriot program.

Mr. Robot has an average of 1.4 million live viewers per episode, translating into massive national exposure for CyberPatriot's National Youth Cyber Defense Competition.

As CIAS prepares for the 10th season of the *CyberPatriot* competition, registrations have hit a record breaking number of 5,584 teams competing.— a 26 percent increase from last year.

CIAS hopes the brief mention will bring *CyberPatriot* one step closer to soon becoming a household name for those interested in cyber security and computing competitions.
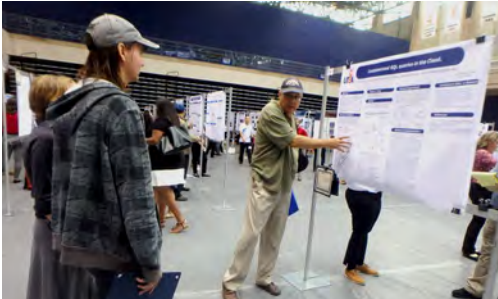
FEATURED PHOTO:
H-E-B LEADS TECH WORKSHOP ON DOCKER WITH UTSA ACM CHAPTER

H-E-B Grocery Company partnered with the UTSA chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery to lead a technology workshop for students on Docker, an open platform for developers and sysadmins to build, ship, and run distributed applications, whether on laptops, data center VMs, or the cloud. The workshop gave students the opportunity to see some of the different technologies used in real world applications and to network with industry professionals outside the classroom.

COS RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2017

David Holland explains his research to visiting conference attendees

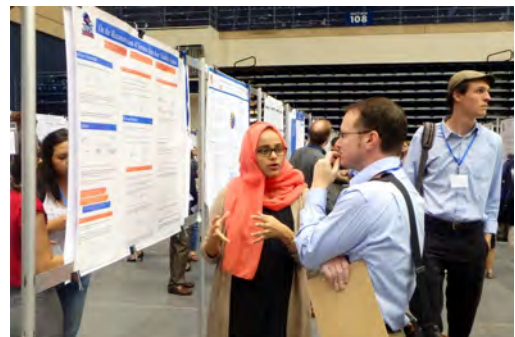Ridwan Rashid Noel explains Dynamic Load Redistribution

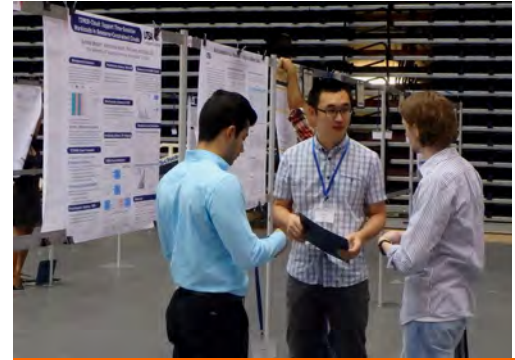Sergio Zamarripa describes the concept of digital image segmentation

Safwa Ameer discusses her research involving visibility graphs

Dr. Ray Bateman from U.S. ARL presents current cybersecurity projects

Even UTSA's mascot, Rowdy Roadrunner, participated

Hamidreza Moradi discusses his research poster with other CS students

Each year, the UTSA College of Science hosts its annual research conference at the Main 1604 campus for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research. More than 1,000 students from UTSA and other institutions in the U.S. and Mexico registered to attend this year.

The highlight of this year's conference was the 311 posters that were presented. 40 of those posters came from UTSA's department of Computer Science, including undergraduate, masters, doctoral, and post-doctoral students.

In addition to the poster presentations, the department featured speaker presentations from current students, including Sam Silvestro, Sergio Zamarripa, Ridwan Rashid Noel, and Eric Ficke. Additionally, representatives from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory and UTSA's new Center for Security and Privacy Enhanced Cloud Computing (C-SPECC) gave presentations regarding their current research projects.

Junior Computer Science major Sabrina Mosher and PhD Computer Science major Mitra Bokaei Hosseini received Best Undergraduate Student Poster and Best Graduate Student Poster respectively.

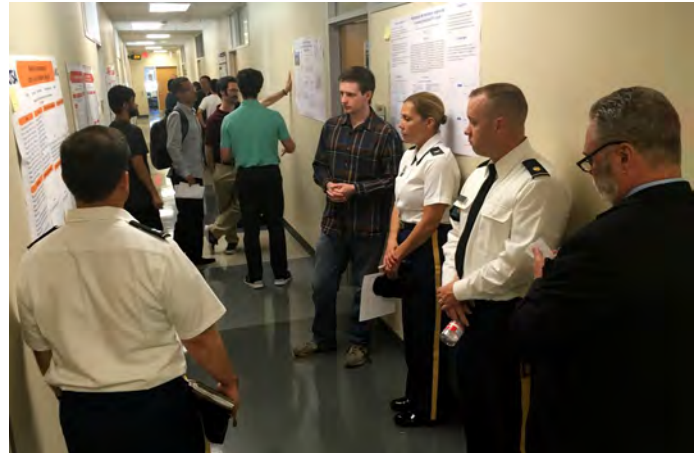Students from University of the Incarnate Word presenting at UTSA

CS POSTERS AND COOKIES 2017

On November 3rd, the second floor hallways of the UTSA North Paseo Building were crowded with students and visitors for the annual Posters and Cookies event hosted by the Department of Computer Science.

Students and faculty were invited to share their current research activities and accomplishments with their colleagues and peers in an informal setting. Additionally, the event provided an opportunity for students to network with industry professionals such as the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.

37 research posters were presented at this year's event, varying from topics including (but not limited to) augmented reality games, privacy policy, big data, cybersecurity, and cloud computing.
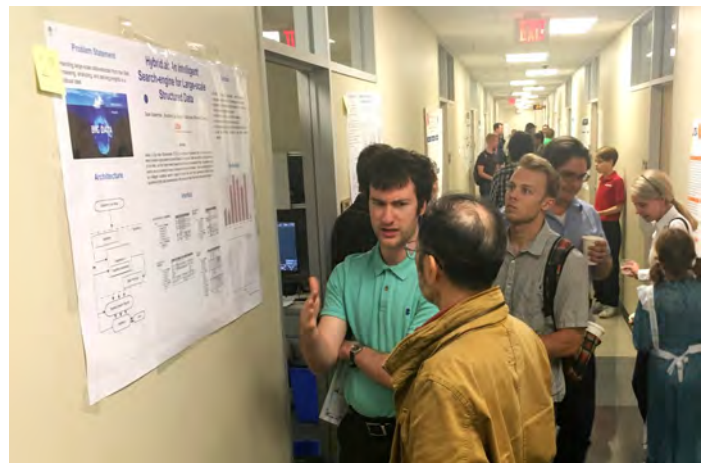
In-lab demonstrations were conducted for attendees in the San Antonio Virtual Environments (SAVE) Lab, providing hands-on examples of the research being conducted by current students.

UTSA CS graduate student Eric Ficke meets with representatives from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory to discuss his research on cybersecurity.

UTSA CS PhD student Brita Munsinger demonstrates her virtual reality research to current UTSA students at the Posters and Cookies open house event.

UTSA CS PhD student Sean Soderman explains his research on interactive large-scale in-memory analysis to Assistant Department Chair Dr. Weining Zhang

UTSA CS AT ANNUAL CORE-4 STEM EXPO & FAMILY DAY

UTSA students from the College of Science and the College of Engineering came together to host a family fun day for local middle school students and their families.

The CORE-4 STEM Expo and Family Day was hosted on the Main 1604 UTSA campus and provided families the opportunity to discover careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Current UTSA computer science students offered live demonstrations for attendees and hands-on activities. In addition to the various university department activities, visitors enjoyed live music, food trucks, and a pumpkin smash hosted by the College of Engineering.

The "Monster Mash Pumpkin Smash" was a demonstration of catapults designed and built by current Engineering major students.

The event was open to the community, and over 400 middle school students attended with their families.

Visit us on the web!
http://www.cs.utsa.edu/

Go here >>>

for all archived newsletters >>>

Featured Job Opportunities!

#	Employer	Job Title	Type	Application Deadline	How to Apply
1	Raytheon Company	Cybersecurity Operations Center Analyst (SOC)	Full Time	December 8th at 10:00am	Apply via UTSA Handshake
2	Futurex	Entry-Level Software Developer	Full Time	December 15th at 5:00pm	Apply via UTSA Handshake
3	780th Military Intelligence Brigade	Cyber Operations / Cyber Analyst	Full Time	December 31st at 10:55 pm	Apply via UTSA Handshake
4	iHeartMedia	Cyber Security - Intern, Summer 2018	Internship	January 5th 8:00am	Apply via UTSA Handshake
5	UT Health Science Center	Innovation for Cancer Prevention Research Undergraduate Fellowship	Full Time Fellowship	January 31st at 11:55pm	Apply at http://go.uth.edu/CPRIT-summer
6	Girlstart	Girlstart STEM CREW Intern	Internship	February 1st at 12:00am	Apply via UTSA Handshake
7	RSM US LLP	2018 Summer Externship - Pathways	Part Time Experiential Learning	April 1st at 11:00pm	Apply via UTSA Handshake
8	Texnology Possibilities Corp	Robotics Clubs USA – Instructor Intern	Part Time	May 1st at 5:30pm	Apply via UTSA Handshake

VISIT UTSA'S CAREEREDGE WEBSITE

http://careercenter.utsa.edu/

FOR MORE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES LIKE THESE!!!

SPRING 2018

UPCOMING CAREER EVENTS

Veterans' & Graduate Student Mixer
February 7th 6:00PM—8:00PM

STEM Career Fair
February 8th 8:30AM—11:30AM

All Majors and Internship Career Fair
February 8th 1:30PM—4:00PM

Summer Jobs Fair
March 28th 9:00AM—1:00PM

Have Questions?

Story Ideas?

Photos?

Email the editor at

cs@utsa.edu

Kimberly Ward