



At a Glance: Reasons to Study in CIMS

- Degrees in:
 - Mathematics
 - Computer Science
 - Information Technology
- Campus Life:
 - New dorms
 - 15 minutes from Atlanta
- New Math/Engineering Dual Degree with Georgia Tech!
- WebBSIT program
- Fayette Location Now Available
- CNET certificate

Admission Deadline for Fall: July 15th

In this issue:

A Message from the Dean	1
Dual Degree with Georgia Tech	2
New Computer Science	2
CIMS Students Receive Honors	3
Faculty Spotlights	3
I.T. Faculty Research	4
About CSU & CIMS	4

From the Dean...

In the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences (CIMS), things are moving! During the past year, the university and the college have undergone some significant transformations. While we maintain our college's focus on being an innovative force in technology, mathematics, and research, we have undertaken some exciting new program development projects designed to engage our students in interesting, career-enhancing, and fun studies in Computer Science, Mathematics, Information Technology, and Computer Networking.

Clayton State University is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and is one of the units in the University System of Georgia. We offer nearly 40 undergraduate degrees, 6 graduate degrees, and we have a population of nearly 6500 students. We offer small class sizes, a new state-of-the-art residence hall, a new Student Activity Center complete with brand new fitness equipment and gyms. Clayton State is located in a 163-acre beautiful park-like setting only 15 miles south of Atlanta.

CIMS offers the following degrees:

- Associate of Applied Science in Information Technology,
- Bachelor of Information Technology,
- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics,
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (NEW in Fall 2009).
- Master of Arts in Teaching with a Major in Mathematics (NEW in Fall 2009),

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (Online WebBSIT program).

The new B.S. in Computer Science has an exciting emphasis in computer game design and development. For those who are interested in building and configuring network infrastructures, we offer a certificate program in Computer Networking. Students in the certificate program are eligible to have their education funded through the Hope Grant program; the certificate program provides an excellent entry into technology as well as launching a student toward our AASIT or BIT degree programs.

Also new for Fall 2009 are two new options for engineering studies at Clayton State. The Regents' Engineering Transfer Program (RETP) is a program where a student studies two years at Clayton State and then transfer to Georgia Institute of Technology into the engineering program of her/his choice. Another option is a new Dual Degree program where a student studies three years at Clayton State, transfers into an engineering program at Georgia Tech and upon completion of that program, she/he receives TWO degrees: A bachelor's degree from Clayton State and a bachelor's degree in engineering from Georgia Tech.

Studying in CIMS at Clayton State will provide you with an opportunity to work with a dedicated, highly qualified faculty who are excited about being engaged with students. We have several student organizations that promote social as well as educational interaction. We have fantastic facilities with state of the art classrooms, networking, multimedia, and gaming labs.

Visit our website at <http://cims.clayton.edu/cimsinfo> and please feel free to come to campus for a personal tour. You will see why we are excited about our programs here in CIMS at Clayton State.

I sincerely hope you will take a serious look at Clayton State as you plan your college career. Please feel free to contact me if you wish additional information or just want to talk to me in person about our programs.

Dr. Lila F. Roberts, Dean

College of Information and Mathematical Sciences
Clayton State University

Dual-Degree

- Earn an Engineering degree from Tech
- Earn a degree in Mathematics, Computer Science or Integrative Studies from CSU
- Start college by attending close to home
- Get individual attention in smaller class sizes

CNET

- Funded by the Hope Grant
- 54-hour certificate
- Design and build your own networks
- Work with the latest networking technology

Dual-Degree with Georgia Tech

Interested in engineering? Clayton State University is pursuing an agreement with the Georgia Institute of Technology, known as the Regents' Engineering Transfer Program (RETP), which will enable students to obtain two degrees—one from CSU and one from Georgia Tech. After completing 92-95 hours (approximately 3 years) of coursework at CSU, students will transfer to Georgia Tech where they take 55-60 hours in an engineering discipline. Upon successful completion, a student would receive their engineering degree from Georgia Tech as well as a Bachelors of Science degree from CSU.

The program is designed for students “who prefer to attend another college before coming to Georgia Tech.” Such articulations are ideal for students who want to transition into college life by attending a university that is closer to home or those who enjoy small class sizes where they can receive individual attention. In many cases, tuition and cost of living may be considerably lower as well.

To begin the program, a student must major in Mathematics, Computer Science or Integrative Studies at CSU. After completing the requirements at CSU, the student can then declare an engineering discipline at Georgia Tech which includes Aerospace, Biomedical, Chemical & Biomolecular, Civil, Computer, Electrical, Environmental, Industrial, Materials Science, Mechanical, Nuclear & Radiological, as well as Polymer & Fiber engineering.

In order to be considered for admission to the College of Engineering at Georgia Tech as a dual degree transfer student, CSU students must complete the prescribed program of study at the participating institution, must meet the admissions requirements for their engineering major and meet the Georgia Tech GPA requirements. For Georgia residents, a **cumulative** overall GPA of 2.7 is required, including a mathematics GPA of 2.7 and a science GPA of 2.7.

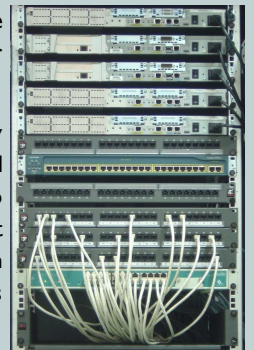
Students who are interested in studying in the Dual-Degree program should send an email to cimsInfo@clayton.edu or visit our website at <http://cims.clayton.edu/cimsinfo/>.

CNET Comes to CIMS

- a 54-hour certificate funded by the Hope Grant!

Are you interested in studying technology but don't have the funds to go to school? Have you ever wanted to build and secure your own networks? If so, a certificate in Computer Networking (CNET) will likely interest to you!

CNET is a program of study designed to expose students to a solid technology curriculum as well as to provide an environment where students can understand and experiment with the latest networking hardware. Graduates gain the necessary skills to obtain entry-level I.T. positions. In addition, because the program contains a significant amount of general education (such as English and Mathematics), the program serves as an excellent entry point for those who wish to transfer into an Associates or Bachelors degree in Information Technology which can be funded by the Hope Scholarship.



The Hope Grant differs from the Hope Scholarship in that it funds the matriculation associated with certificate programs (such as CNET) without regard to previous degrees or a student's GPA. This opens up several possible paths of study. For example, those without an undergraduate degree can start in the CNET program to establish their GPA and then transfer into the Hope Scholarship provided they meet the 3.0 GPA requirement. For those who are already have a degree and haven't used the Hope Scholarship to fund it, the grant allows them to continue their education with minimal financial impact.

The program is headed by Dr. John Burningham, who will be joining the faculty of CIMS this Fall. “I look forward to moving the CNET lab over to CIMS and integrating the program with the I.T. department”, says Burningham.

Students who are interested in studying in any of the programs of CIMS should send an email to cimsInfo@clayton.edu or visit our website at <http://cims.clayton.edu/cimsinfo/>.

College of Information & Mathematical Sciences

Clayton State University

Page 3

Contact Information

College of Information &
Mathematical Sciences
2000 Clayton State Blvd
Morrow, GA 30260

Tel: 678 466 4400

Fax: 678 466 4459

E-mail: cimsinfo@clayton.edu

Web: cims.clayton.edu/cimsinfo/

Bachelor of Information Technology

- Established Program
- Faculty expertise in:
 - Information Systems
 - Databases
 - Networking
 - Web Design
 - Project Management
 - Application Development

CIMS Students Receive Honors

April 2nd marked another night of regalia as several CIMS students were recognized at this year's CSU Honors Convocation. The event was held at 7:30 PM in the acclaimed Spivey Hall (see image). Awards were announced by Dr. Lila Roberts, Dean of CIMS.



The Billy R. Nail award is given to students who have not only exhibited an aptitude for mathematics but have been elected by the mathematics faculty. This year's recipient is Nicholas Wojcik. He will also be one of the first graduates of the mathematics program!

Two awards were given to students in the Information Technology for outstanding scholarship. To qualify, students must have an exceptional grade point average and be nominated by the I.T. faculty. This year's winner for Bachelor of Information Technology Outstanding Scholar is Quoc Vo. The award for Associates of Applied Science in Information Technology (AASIT) Outstanding Scholar goes to Zoila Angulo. Two student were also recognized for their performance in Experiential Learning. Eric Cheung won the Bachelor of I.T. Experiential Award and the AASIT winner is Elizabeth Wnuk.

CIMS will be holding a ceremony for these winners on April 17th at 6PM and will be announcing the winner of the acclaimed Catherine Cowan Aust award.

Faculty Spotlights

To Dr. Kelli Nipper, a 1995 graduate of Clayton State and former middle school teacher, the decision to join the faculty at Clayton State was an easy one. "My experiences as a Teacher Education student at Clayton State prepared me well for teaching at the middle school level and for attending graduate school." But, what drew her back to Clayton State was the faculty. "The faculty are so involved with their students and they even remained in contact with me after I graduated, propelling me forward academically toward my goal of getting my doctorate. I knew I wanted to be a permanent part of a place like this."



Dr. Nipper, Associate Professor of Mathematics, has a Ph.D. in Mathematics Education from the University of Georgia. "To me, being good at mathematics is not about knowing answers. Rather, it is how you behave when you don't know the answer. Good teaching, therefore, allows the opportunity for students to be successful in their own pursuit of the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to be successful in their chosen fields."

Dr. Nipper is currently the 2009 Faculty Smith Teaching Award Nominee for CIMS. "It is quite an honor to be recognized for something I love to do, especially by my colleagues that are very talented teachers." Ending her fifth year at Clayton State, Dr. Nipper claims "every semester I can't wait to meet my students and I never want to let them go. It is a special privilege to get to teach a student more than once."

Have you ever built your own computer? Dr. Byron Jeff has spent much of his 20-year academic career building embedded systems and teaching students how to build and program their own small scale computer systems. "Not all computing in today's world has to be purchased off the shelf.", says Dr. Jeff.



Dr. Jeff started building embedded computer systems as an undergraduate student at Georgia Tech, where he completed his Ph.D. in Computer Science in 2005. Over the years, embedded systems have decreased in size, from multichip boards that fit in metal lunchboxes down to projects that can now easily fit into an Altoids tin. As with all computing hardware, the speed, power, and capability of these systems have increased as their size has diminished.

Dr. Jeff plans to have an embedded systems lab component in the new Computer Science Bachelors Program that is starting in Fall 2009. During his 7 years in CIMS he has worked with students on several internship projects that utilized embedded systems components, including a student built vending/gaming machine. In addition Dr. Jeff has taught a variety of classes in Computer Systems, Information Security, and Programming.

Dr. Jeff's next major project involving embedded systems technology is a retrofitted electric car. "A pure electric plug-in vehicle can serve most of the transportation needs of urban commuters. I am planning on constructing a vehicle in a cost effective manner by building and programming my own homebrew speed controller using my Linux laptop." Hopefully sooner than later you will see him on campus with his quiet, cost effective, environmentally friendly vehicle.

Contact Information

College of Information &
Mathematical Sciences
2000 Clayton State Blvd
Morrow, GA 30260

Tel: 678 466 4400

Fax: 678 466 4459

E-mail: cimsinfo@clayton.edu

Web: cims.clayton.edu/cimsinfo/

I.T. Faculty Research

Dr. Junfeng Qu, Dr. Muhammad Rahman, Dr. Lei Zhu and Dr. William Hong (Dept. of Mathematics) recently had their research accepted at WORLDCOM '09. The international conference is extremely competitive — accepting only 27% of the research that was submitted. “It is my fourth year to publish my research at the International Conference on Information and Knowledge Engineering, which has an EIC value (Estimated Impact of Conference) of 0.8 out of 1.0 in database/knowledge and data management/data security/web mining areas.”, says Qu. “By attending international conferences, I can keep myself up to date with current trends and research at the same time. This enables me to keep my courses on track with cutting-edge research and technologies that bring value to students.”

In addition, Dr. Rahman will be presenting his research at the 20th Midwest Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science (MAICS) conference in April. His paper - titled “Automatic Recognition and Extraction of Geographic Named Entities from a Machine Readable Dictionary” - examines the growing area of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to analyze complex data sets. When asked about the importance of the field, Rahman states that “named entity identification and recognition is a subtask of information extraction. It is a very active and exciting research area of natural language processing.”

Mr. Larry Booth, along with other researchers, received the prestigious Best Paper award for the Distance Learning Administrators Conference. Their work, titled “Continuous Course Improvement, Enhancements, and Modifications: Control and Tracking” explores the area of “maintaining quality courses for a totally online degree.” In addition to being published in the conference proceedings, their work will be presented in the Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration. “Continuous program improvement depends on feedback from students and instructors and the evaluation of quantitative performance data”, says Booth.

Finally, Dr. Shakil Akhtar will be attending S-STEM workshop in Arlington, VA—with all expenses covered by the National Science Foundation (NSF)! The conference examines opportunities for students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

About the University and College

Clayton State University is a four-year, comprehensive, accredited University, offering more than 30 undergraduate degrees and several Master Degrees. It is conveniently located 15 minutes south of Atlanta and resides on 163 acres.

Clayton State now offers on-campus living, which is an appealing option for both in-state and out-of-state students. The dorms are equipped with high-speed Internet connections (1000Mbps!), cable, a kitchen, laundry facilities, and much more.

CIMS was established in 1998 and is housed within the new Baker University Center—a state-of-the-art building that is equipped with high-speed networking, a variety of computing labs and modern classrooms. It currently employs approximately 30 faculty and offers the following:

Computer Science: As our newest degree which starts next Fall, CIMS offers a traditional Bachelor of Science in Computer Science that emphasizes computer gaming. Courses include computer graphics, architecture, operating systems, networks, game analysis, and human-computer interaction.

Mathematics: CIMS also offers a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics which includes courses in calculus, linear algebra, finite mathematics, statistics, as well as advanced studies in modern geometry, differential equations, numerical methods and graph theory. A minor is also available.

Information Technology: Our IT department offers a Bachelor of Information Technology, where students study the latest technology in networking, security, databases, and eCommerce. The

department offers several courses online, as well as both day and night.

Dual Degree Program with Georgia Tech: Students in this program take coursework in Mathematics for 3 years at CSU and then transfer to Georgia Tech to study engineering for 2 years. After completion at Tech, students receive a Math degree from Clayton State AND an Engineering degree from Georgia Tech.

WebBSIT: Clayton State is a member of the WebBSIT program — a consortium of five universities. The program offers IT core curriculum and all upper-division IT courses fully online. It is ideal for students who maintain full-time jobs, or those that live far away from campus.



Laker Hall was recently opened in Fall 2008.