Chapter Activities Report
UPE Gamma Chapter of New Jersey
At the William Paterson University of New Jersey

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Event Organizers and Contributors: Officers of student society and chapters:

From: UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ:
Jivko Roussev President, Fall 2004
Christopher Markson: Vice President Fall 2004 & President, Spring 2005
Robert Tavoularis Treasure Fall 2004, Vice President, Spring 2005
David Macharia Secretary, 2004-2005
Adam Platt Treasurer, Spring 2005

From: ACM Student Chapter and WPUNJ Computer Science Society (CSS) of Student Government Association (SGA):
Jivko Roussev President, Fall 2004
Bilal Murad Vice President Fall 2004, President, Spring 2005
Christopher Markson Treasurer, 2004-2005
David Macharia Secretary, 2004-2005
Ted Chen Vice President, Spring, 2005
Jack Franks Public Relation Officer, Spring, 2005 (SGA-CSS)

The 2004-2005 proves to be a very active and productive year for the Chapter. We have created, developed and implemented fourteen events with great success. The main theme of these activities is to promote and to help establish networking between students and internal and external academic, business and industry communities. The primary goal is to expand and enrich students academic career beyond the classroom environment to help pave their professional career path in the future. To achieve this goal, we were able to receive support internally and externally. WPUNJ ACM Student Chapter and WPUNJ SGA-CSS joined the Chapter in the design and implementation of all 14 events. The offices of the Provost, and the Dean of College of Science and Health, and the Department of Computer Science provided strong support to each event. The offices of Instruction and Research Technology and Career Development/Service rendered assistance to our Lecture series. Externally, we received strong support from our alumni, and leading computer science/IT industries and academics: AT&T and IBM as well as Columbia University and New Jersey City University. Most of all, the success of these events is possible due to the relentless effort made by the officers of each three student society and chapters. Their hardworking and dedication to promote student extra-curricula activities to enhance their understanding and knowledge in computer science and related fields are essential to our success.

This report consists of two parts. Part I gives brief narratives of each event and Part II provides sample photos/snap shots for the events.
Part I: Summary descriptions of the events (in chronological order):

1. October 8, 2004, Friday, a field trip to IBM Sterling Forest site was conducted. The plan for the trip began in April 2004. It was arranged and hosted by Michael Milch, our own distinguished WPUNJ student who has been with IBM for 27 years. Michael has invited four manager/Directors to make various types of presentation and a tour to their top security Business and Recovery Service Facility Center. 17 students from all CS level and two faculty members (Drs. Cheo and Najarian, Computer Science Department Chair) participated. Students learned a great deal from all these presentations. They are duly impressed by the level of technical and business achievements of IBM. In particular, they were particularly overwhelmed by the level of nationwide community services IBM provided during the 9/11 crisis to help disaster recovery for Wall Street business etc.

   b. Photos were not allowed at the trip site due to company security

2. On 10/12/04, Tuesday: Lecture #1 of the 2004-5 CS Student Lecture Series
   a. The preparation for this lecture started in March 2004. ACM students and I met Dr. Vesandor, the lecture speaker at 2/21/04 National ACM SCENE conference at Drexel University. It was a field trip for CS students. They were impressed by the presentation and asked me to invite Dr. Vesandor to our campus. There were about 40 participated (faculty and students). Via this lecture, students learned and gain industrial application of AI which are not covered in our curriculum. Dr. Vesandor is the Head of ATT Research Labs. The topic of the lecture was “Artificial Intelligence, Good, Bad and Ugly”. Faculty and students from New Jersey City University (NJCU) joined us in this lecture and reception.

   b. Photos related to this event are # 1, 2, and 3 in Part II:

3. On 11/4/04, Thursday, Form 12:40pm to 1:15pm, the Fall 2004 UPE Induction Ceremony was conducted. Two students (Junior) were inducted. UPE officers conducted the ceremony. There were about 35 participants including inductees, family and friends, officers, graduating seniors, other students, faculty and administration. The UPE Chapter Officers are:

   Jivko Roussev   President
   Christopher Markson  Vice President
   Robert Tavoularis  Treasurer
   David Macharia  Secretary

4. November 4, 2004, Thursday. From 1:15pm to 2:00pm following the UPE Induction Ceremony, two award ceremonies took place:
   a) An Award Ceremony was conducted by UPE Chapter to distribute UPE honor cords to our graduates. Dr. Stephen Hanh, Associate Provost, distributed the UPE Honor’s cords to the two UPE CS January 2005 graduates: Alyson Moran and Jivko Roussev
   b) A Service Award was conducted by UPE/ACM Chapters. Dr. Steve Vail, Interim Associate Dean of College of Science and Health, distributed the award to Jivko Roussev for his outstanding service to WPUNJ UPE Chapter, ACM Student Chapter and SGA-CSS as their President for Fall 2004.

   c) Photos related to these activities are: #4 and 5 in Part II
5. December 2, 2004, Thursday: The semester graduation luncheon was held. Faculty and students celebrated this event from 12:00pm to 1:45pm with their congratulations and well wishes extended to the graduates of January 2005. This event was prepared and implemented by the officers of ACM Student Chapter and SGA-CSS.

6. 02/22/05, Tuesday 12:30pm-1:45pm, a Software Workshop/UNIX was conducted
   a) The need of offering a UNIX Workshop was discussed at the meeting of UPE and ACM chapter and CSS meeting in November 2004. Marvin Kiss and Jack Franks volunteered to conduct the workshop. The primary focus of the workshop is to expose students who like to learn UNIX system outside the classroom settings.
   b) photo related to this event: #18 in Part II

7. On 02/28/05 (originally, postponed due to snow storm to 3/7/05), Monday, 5:00pm-6:45pm: Lecture #3 of the 2004-5 CS Student Lecture Series was held:
   a. The subject of the lecture was “Learn of Demand (LoD)”. The speaker was Dr. Leon Jololian from NJCU. The main objective is to expose students to the state-of-the art learning of Computer Science and other subject matters. This event was implemented with assistance from IRT office. Via this lecture, students learned and gained the state-of -the art Learning on Demand concept for computer science subjects.
   b. Photos related to this event are #6, 7 & 8 in Part II.

8. March 8, Tuesday, Lecture #2 of 2004-2005 CS Student Lecture Series was Conducted at 12:30-1:45pn. The Title of the lecture is " Reflection and Report on 10/08/2005 IBM Field Trip.
   a. In November 2004, responding to the request from students who were not able to participate in the 10/08/04 IBM field trip, the UPE, ACM and CSS members decided to offer this lecture. The lecturers are members who had gained the high-level computer science knowledge through IBM technical staffs. The primary objective is to share their knowledge of IBM as a world leading industry, it's organization, work environment, career opportunities and the site visit of the Crisis Recovering center mission and operation. 12 students attended. Speakers are Ted Chen and Ken Templin.
   b. The photos related to this event are: #8, 9, 10

9. March 30, 2005 at 5:45pm -6:30pm. A presentation by Thereasa Skinner of Career Development Center was held
   At the request and suggestion from the CS seniors, Ms. Skinner made a presentation on " Opportunity Fest 2005". In addition to presentation, Miss Skinner also encouraged students to send her their resumes with indication of particular company of job interest. She will then forward their resumes to those industrial/business sector. Via this students get connected to our internal career service staff to plan for their future professional career. It is an important step they took.

10. March 31, 2005 form 8:30am-3:00pm (approximate). A Filed Trip to Columbia University, NYC, NY was arranged and hosted by Megan Restuccia, a 1999 CS graduate of Computer Science of WPUNJ. Megan is serving as the Program Manager of the Computational Center of Biology and Biochemistry at Columbia University. After about 6 months of back and forth discussion with
Megan, we were able to finalize the trip during the week of March 21. The trip agenda include a series of lectures by Columbia IT professionals and a site visit to data center facilities at Columbia Medical Center. It was definitely an exciting and eye-opening experience for our students.

11. On April 7, 2005, the 35th UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ Induction Ceremony was conducted:

   a. The Ceremony began at about 12:45pm. It was conducted by UPE officers. They are:
      Christopher Markson  President
      Robert Tavoularis  Vice President

       Two other officers were not able to participate.

       Six students were inducted. They are: Tatyana Budanskaya, Fatmata Davies, Maceij Durzynski, Andrew Russo, Robert Weirzbicki, and Kenneth Templin. There are about 36 participants including inductees, their families and friends, officers, graduating seniors, other students, faculty and administration. WPUNJ President, Provost sent their congratulations to inductees. The WPUNJ Board of Trustees conveyed their congratulations and well wishes.

       At the of the ceremony, new officers for 2005-2006 were elected. They are:
       Christopher Markson  President
       Robert Tavoularis  Vice President
       Andrew Russo  Treasurer
       Fatmata Davies  Secretary

       These officers are ready for planning, developing and implementing another successful series of events for 2005-2006.

       b). Photos related to the event are: #11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 22 in Part II.

12. April 7, 2005, from 1:15pm to 2:00pm following the UPE Induction Ceremony, the UPE honor cords award/distribution ceremonies took place:

   a) Dr. Stephen Hanh distributed the UPE honor cords to four UPE CS May 2005 graduates. The recipients are: Tatyana Budanskaya, Maceij Durzynski, Robert Weirzbicki and Kenneth Templin

   b) Photo #16 (Part II) is a sample picture of this event

13. One academic and two Service Awards were also conducted by UPE/ACM Chapters. Drs. Kevin Martus and John Najarian distributed the awards to:

   a) Bilal Murad, an Outstanding Service Plaque in recognition of his service to WPUNJ ACM Student Chapter and SGA-CSS as their President for Spring 2005.

   b) Tatyana Budanskaya, a Certificate of Academic Excellence in recognition of her outstanding academic achievement as the #1 Graduate of May 2005, also the recipient of Omicron Omega award from the Department of Computer Science

   c) the following each with a Certificate of Appreciation for their outstanding service:
      ♦ Marvin Kiss as one of the speakers to UNIX Workshop
      ♦ Ten Chen as one of the lecturers to Lecture #2
      ♦ Kenneth Templin as one of the lecturers to Lecture #2
Jack Franks as one of the outstanding speaker to UNIX Workshop
b. Photos related to this event are: #17, 18, 19, 20, 21 in Part II

14. April 14, 2005, a lecture and luncheon honoring the May 2005 graduating seniors was held:

a. The luncheon was from 12:30pm to 1:45pm in Student Center Room 2003 2005. This is to celebrate May 2005 graduates' accomplishments. Bilal Murad's outstanding service to ACM and CSS was recognized and commended again. It should be noted that this year, we received strong support and collaboration from SGA. In fact, it's significant that SGA Treasurer Karen Ellis and other SGA staff joined us to celebrate graduating students' achievements at this occasion.

b. New Officers for 2005-2006 were elected at this luncheon. They are:
   - Ted Chen   President
   - Robert Sebastiano  Vice President
   - Patricia Moore   Treasurer
   - Emmanuel Bakinahe  Secretary

   The first meeting for 2005-2006 will be September 13 2005. We are ready for next year's activities to further enhance the extra-curricula projects

c. Related photos are: #23 and 24 in Part II:

In conclusion, the events and activities implemented in Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 are successful in meeting the stated goal. Our thanks go to the hard work and dedication by the officers of the UPE, ACM student chapters and SGA-CSS, and to all who supported our projects.
Part II: Sample Photos for the events:

1. From left: Fr. Leon Jololian (NJCU), Dr. Gregg Vesonder, the lecture speaker, Dr. Aria Cheo (WPUNJ), Dr. John Najarian (WPUNJ), Dr. Marcia Schlafmitz (NJC)

2. From left: Chris Mark son, Dr. Cheo, Bilal Murad, Dr. Vesonder, David Macharia, Jivko Roussev

3. Lecture #1 participants: Faculty and Students of NJCU and WPUNJ showing togetherness of both CS departments

4. UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ, 34th Induction Ceremony Conducted by its officers. From left: Chris Mark son, Jivko Roussev, Robert Taroularis, David Macharia

5. Inductee Adam Platt (center) From left: Dr. Cheo Mrs. Platt (Adam’s mother), Adam, Jivko Roussev (Chapter President), Mr. Platt (Adam’s father)

6. Lecture #3 3/7/05 From left: Ms. Jane Hutchison (WPUNJ IRT), Dr. Cheo, Dr. Leon Jololian (NJCU), Mr. Jeff Kim (WPUNJ IRT)
7. Lecture #3, 3/7/05 from left: Ted Chen (ACM Vice President), Dr. Cheo, Dr. Jololian, the speaker and Bilal Murad, ACM President

8. Lecture #3 Participants: Computer Science Students with ACM Officers

9. Lecture #2, 3/8/05, “Reflection and Report on 10/-9/04 IBM Field trip” Presentation by Ted Chen and Kenneth Templin

10. Lecture #2, 3/8/05 “Reflection and Report on IBM Field Trip” Back row: from left: Kenneth Templin, Ted Chen, Andrew Russo, Emmanuel Bakinahe, Bilal Murad, Front row: from left: Dr. Cheo, Marvin Kiss, Kerryann Gore, Deniz Mursel

11. UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ 4/7/05, the 35th Induction Ceremony Conducted by Chris Markson (President, Left) and Robert Tavoularis (Vice President)

12. UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ, 35th Induction Ceremony Inductees reciting their pledges with pride. From left: Robert Wierzbicki, Kenneth Templin, Andrew Russo, Maciej Durzynski, Fatmata Davies, Tatyana Budanskaya
13. UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ, 35th Induction Ceremony, 4/7/05
Associate Provost, Dr. Stephen Hahan (Left) congratulating and addressing the new UPE inductees.

14. UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ, 35th Induction Ceremony, 4/7/05
Dr. Kevin Martus, Associate Dean, College of Science & Health Congratulating and addressing new inductees.

15. UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ, 35th Induction Ceremony, 4/7/05
Bilal Murad (right), WPUNJ AMC Student Chapter President congratulating new inductees.

16. UPE Honor Cord Award Ceremony. Sample photo Associate Provost Stephen awarding UPE honor cord to one of the inductees: Maciej Durzynski

17. Academic Excellence Award: Tatyana Badanskay (left 4) receiving the award from Interim Associate Dean Dr. Kevin Martus (Left 3) Others from left: Dr. Cheo, Dr. John Najarian (CS Department Chair) Chris Markson (Chapter President), Robert Tavoularis (Chapter VP)

18. Outstanding Service Award: Marvin Kiss (left 4) receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Dr. Martus for his outstanding contribution as the speaker and contributor to the 2/22/05 UNIX Workshop
19. Service Award: Ted Chen receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Dr. Martus for his outstanding contribution as one of the lecturers and the organizer of Lecture #2.

20. Outstanding Service Award: Bilal Murad receiving the award plaque for Dr. Martus for his contribution as the President of ACM and WPUNJ SGA CSS Spring 2005.

21. Service Award: Kenneth Templin receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Dr. Martus for his outstanding contribution as one of the lecturers of Lecture #2.

22. WPUNJ UPE Gamma Chapter of NJ, 35th Induction Ceremony: Inductees, UPE Chapter Officers, ACM Student Chapter leadership, and Computer Science faculty.

23. Officers and faculty advisor of WPUNJ ACM Student Chapter and SGA CSS: Departing Officer Bilal Murad (left 5) From left: Patricia Moore (Treasurer), Dr. Cheo, Emmanuel Bakinahe (Secretary), Ted Chen (President), Robert Sebastiano (Vice President).

24. From left: Patricia Moore, Emmanuel Bakinahe, Dr. Cheo Carol Parken (Computer Science Department Secretary), Ted Chen, Marvin Kiss (Computer Science System Administrator).