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EDITORS' MESSAGE

Welcome to the September edition of *Inroads*. We hope some of you are enjoying a break now but are mindful that not everyone can take a break. For ourselves, we usually only have one week in September, so it's "business as usual."

In this edition we have some interesting opinion pieces and articles, as well as the Backpage. This time John Barr has taken a slightly different direction with a matching game of connecting the window with the Operating System—one for all the family to try, as he has included some classics.

One of our Associate Editors, Jacqui Whalley, introduces us to the shaders' debate and exposes some of the pedagogical dilemmas in teaching graphics.

Never one to make things too easy, David Ginat explains the new challenge of the widest inversion algorithm.

David Bunde and his team of Zack Butler, Christopher L. Hovey and Cynthia Taylor introduce us to the second in their series of prominent propagators, Sushil Prasad. Sushil heads a team in Parallel and Distributed Computing Curriculum Development and Educational Resources (CDER), which promotes the inclusion of parallel and distributed computing (PDC) in CS curricula and published a set of curricular recommendations, many of which were incorporated into the ACM/IEEE Computer Science Curricula. However, he has a surprising end goal.

We have several pieces on curricula, including the regular column from Cara Tang who writes about two-year transfer programs in Information Technology. And Henry Walker's Circular Syncopations offers some interesting insights into combining technical with social and ethical issues in seminar-type classes.

Stephanie E. August, Sami Rollins, Paul Tymann and Mark A. Pauley explain the changes to the S-STEM and IUSE Programs from the NSF Officers point of view. Stu Zweben, Jodi Tims, Yan Timanovsky present their analysis of the data from the Eighth Annual Study of Non-Doctoral Granting Departments in Computing. This is often useful as a gauge on what is being considered for funding, by considering the status of key elements of computing programs of study within academia. The authors explain the modifications to the survey undertaken in 2019-2020 and the mappings across two year programs and present data

comparisons of Bachelor offerings across various faculty sizes, of enrolments and graduations and their variations due to gender and ethnicity, among other data. They also point out differing trends for computer engineering compared to trends for computer science and cybersecurity.

Juan Gutierrez-Cardenas asks the question "Are Information Systems and Computer Science overlapping more and more?" and gives his interesting perspective on this. This will appear under a new category, "As I see It."

We are making some changes to the format of *Inroads*. Specifically, and as mentioned above, we are introducing another category known as "As I See It" for position piece articles. Such articles will be reviewed as other submissions are. We also encourage "Letters to the Editors" or the *ACM Inroads Blog* for anyone wishing to comment on an article or on anything related to *Inroads* vision (<https://inroads.acm.org/about.cfm>)—"... the promotion and strengthening of computing education within the international computing education community." Please email your thoughts to eic@inroads.acm.org with the subject line Letter to Editors or subscribe to and comment on the Blog (<https://inroads.acm.org/blog/>). We will review the Blog for thoughts that complement material in the print edition. We welcome your thoughts and comments on any issue related to *Inroads*, and relevant to anyone reading it. At this time, when we have had to all quickly become proficient at online meetings and online teaching, we are especially interested in your solutions to this changing environment—things which have worked well for you and why you consider this to be so, and things which have not gone so well and why not.

In addition to writing articles, we welcome other forms of participation in *ACM Inroads*; for instance, we are always looking for more reviewers. If you are interested in becoming a reviewer, please contact us. As we continue to evolve, we look forward to receiving many of your thoughts through Letters to Editors, the *Inroads Blog*, and submissions for "As I See It." ♦

Margaret Hamilton and James Harland
Editors-in-Chief