



## General Meeting 3

IEEE's final General Meeting of the Spring Semester featured Professor Paul N. Hilfinger (CS 61B / CS 164).

He first spoke about his history in programming and then his philosophy regarding teaching computer science.

Hilfinger began programming in the 1960s while in high school. Without a computer, he first wrote code on a typewriter with no means to test the code.

After finishing his undergraduate degree at Princeton in Mathematics, Hilfinger went to Carnegie-Mellon to pursue a Ph.D in Computer Science. At CMU, he focused on parallel processing as well as computer security.

With all of his time in the field of Computer Science, Hilfinger has seen the evolution of how it is taught.

He spoke about the dichotomy between teaching CS to users and programmers.

"If they're real programmers, they are attracted by the creative process," Hilfinger said.

He also mentioned that most schools start teaching CS at higher levels now, which will unfortunately cause a loss of important lower level skills, such as those he learned in his youth.

Of course, Hilfinger admitted, he didn't start at the basement of programming.



Professor Hilfinger at IEEE's GM 3.

"I think I would have suffered an early death if I had been entrusted with a soldering iron."

## Student Professional Awareness Conference (SPAC)

On April 17th, IEEE hosted its annual Student Professional Awareness Conference (SPAC). This year's guest was Nat Natraj, entrepreneur, and CEO of eForce.

Natraj spoke to attendees about what to expect in the workforce

as young professionals. He focused most of his talk about the important steps in creating a startup.

"Large companies are a thing of the past, like dinosaurs," Natraj said.

Bits of advice that Natraj gave

included following your passion and not just the money. He also urged attendees to keep their technical edge even if they gain management positions.

Above all else, Natraj reminded, "You're the best, don't let anyone tell you otherwise."

### Inside this issue:

Start Up Fair	2
Poker Tournament	2
ATOMS	2
Finals Food	3
New IEEE Executives	3
Graduating Officers	3

### Upcoming Events:

- None, have a great Summer, we'll see you in the Fall!

## Start Up Fair

In addition to SPAC, IEEE also hosted its first ever Start Up Fair on April 17th. Thirteen companies attended the event, which was hosted in the courtyard between Soda and Etcheverry.

The technology on display varied from social networking via cell phone GPS to wiki hosting services.

The start ups were looking for interns as well as full time employees. Experience was a bonus for most, not a requirement.

"We're looking for an intern willing to learn Ruby who is eager, but doesn't need to have job experience," said Tammy Yao, from Lab256. Lab256 is develop-

ing a vertical search space for event tickets.

Computer Science majors weren't the only group being recruited. Companies were also looking to fill positions in Business Development and Marketing.

Some start ups were not only looking for interns, but took the chance to display their technology to an important user base: college students.

"We want to start [promoting] on college campuses," said Min Liu, from Loopt. Loopt is developing a social networking application for cell phones that allows you to locate your friends by GPS.



Students speaking to Start Up representatives at IEEE's Inaugural Start Up Fair.

As a whole, the event was considered to be a great success. You can expect more events like this from IEEE next year.

## Poker Tournament

On April 24th, IEEE hosted a Poker Tournament in Wozniak Lounge, sponsored by Zynga Game Network. Over 50 students attended the event which was exclusively for EECS majors.

Students could buy-in by providing their resumes. Top prize was an iPhone with an iPod nano going to second and third place finishers. The event was also serviced by Tri-Delta Sorority.

Zynga is the top social gaming company on the web. It has games on Facebook, Bebo, Friendster, and meebo.



EECS students participating in a Poker Tournament sponsored by Zynga Game Network.

## Adventures Through Open Minds Science (ATOMS)

On April 27th, teacher Leslie Buchalter brought her students from the Adventures Through Open Minds Science (ATOMS) Club to UC Berkeley to learn about Electrical Engineering.

After meeting at the Bear's Lair for lunch, Buchalter's students (ages 8-12) came to

Cory Hall to see exhibits hosted by IEEE and HKN.

Exhibits included simple circuits, digital logic, and static electricity. Cars from EE192 were also on demonstrated. Over 100 people were in attendance for the whole-day event.



## Finals Breakfast Food

During Finals, IEEE will provide food to all lower division EECS classes who have 8:00-11:00 am Finals.

Bagels, muffins, croissants will be provided with juice and milk.

The breakfast food will be provided to the following classes:

May 16—CS170

May 17—EE119

May 20—EE121

CS169

CS172

May 21—EE42/EE100

IEEE wishes all of you the best on your Finals!



IEEE will provide breakfast foods for undergraduate EECS Finals.

## New IEEE Executives

The IEEE officer team will have 5 new executives for the 2008-09 school year:

Chair—Priyanka Reddy

External VP—Stewart Bottom

Internal VP—Christine Lo

Treasurer—Angela Hsueh

Secretary—Ravi Dharawat

## Graduating Officers

Berkeley IEEE would like to recognize its graduating seniors.

We thank you for your contributions to IEEE and wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors!



Graduating IEEE officers (from left to right): Peter Martinazzi, Jiahn Jiang, Ali Adabi, Ken Elkabany, James Lin, Aaron Staley, and Linda Sha.

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## Join IEEE

Become a part of the world's largest technical professional association! Go to <http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/home> and sign up for student membership. Members are all invited to our many events, including our general meetings, our monthly member events such as rock climbing, and our member luncheons (free food!) in Cory hall. Members also receive access to over a million IEEE documents. All EECS and non-EECS majors are welcome

## About IEEE

IEEE is an acronym standing for Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

It's an international organization with over 350,000 members, but we here at UC Berkeley can promote services and organize activities locally. Visit <http://www.ieee.com> to explore one of the best websites for electrical engineers and those interested in the field.

We have a long history in the EECS department, serving since 1912.



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