First Annual Silicon Happy Valley Alumni, Student, and Faculty Conference
Theme: EE and CSE Collaboration
Friday, April 17, 2015
Penn State Information Science and Technology Building, Room 222
University Park, PA  16802
Sponsored by PSU Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Engineering Alumni Societies

PROGRAM

8:00 am  
Sign In

8:30 am  
Introduction and Logistics
Matt Graham (‘00 CMPEN) and Eric Foreman (‘99 EE)

8:45 am  
Welcome Session
Amr Elnashai, Harold and Inge Marcus Dean, College of Engineering, Penn State

9:30 am  
Session 1 – Advances in Hardware Technology
Chair: Eric Foreman (‘99 EE), PhD / Senior Development Engineer at IBM

A Lab in Your Pocket with Smartphone Spectroscopy
- Perry Edwards (‘13 EE), PhD / CEO and Co-founder Atoptix, LLC

Laser Engineer: The Unexpected Virtue of Being Multidisciplinary
- Benjamin R. Campbell (‘03 EE), Assistant Prof of Engineering, Robert Morris University

10:30 am  
Morning Break

11:00 am  
Session 2 – Distinguished Speaker
Chair: Will Tracz (‘74 CMPSC), PhD / Lockheed Martin Fellow Emeritus and ACM SIGSOFT Chair

Lessons Learned from Working in Industry and Academia
- Douglas Comer (‘76 CMPSC), Distinguished Prof of Computer Science, Purdue University

12:00 pm  
Student Poster Session and Lunch
1:15 pm  **Session 3 – Commercialization**  
Chair: Matt Graham (’00 CMPEN), Senior Software Engineer at Etsy.com  

*From Engineering to Entrepreneurship: Building on an EE/CSE Degree*  
- Todd Erdley (’92 EE), CEO of Videon Central, Inc.  

*I Have an Idea…Now What?*  
- Elizabeth Gemmell (’01 EE), Patent Attorney  

*Is My Software Patentable?*  
- Robert Masters (’85 EE), Partner and Global Vice-chair of IP, Paul Hastings, LLP  

2:30 pm  **Afternoon Break**  

3:00 pm  **Session 4 – Research**  
Chair: Marty Shoup (’85 CMPSC), Senior Architect and Software Dev Manager (Retired)  

*Ongoing Research in the Institute of Networking and Security Research*  
- Thomas La Porta, William E. Leonhard Chair Prof of Comp Sci and Eng, Penn State University  

*Intensifying Sunlight to Lower the Cost of Solar Power*  
- Chris Giebink, Assistant Prof of EE, Penn State University  

4:00 pm  **Panel Discussion – Future Software Development**  
Moderator: Marty Shoup (’85 CMPSC), Senior Architect and Software Dev Manager (Retired)  

Panelists:  
- Brian Ghigiarelli (’07 CMPEN), Senior Software Engineer at Asymmetrik  
- Jason Gibbs (’08 EE), PhD / Principal Software Engineer at X-Nav Technologies, LLC  
- Robert Wall, postdoc scholar, Computer Science and Engineering Department, Penn State University  
- Will Tracz (’74 CMPSC), PhD / Lockheed Martin Fellow Emeritus and ACM SIGSOFT Chair  
- Jeff Yost (’85 CMPSC), DBA / Architect / Product Manager at Cerner Corporation  

4:30 pm  **Wrap-up**