

HINFormation

A Newsletter of the School of Health Information Science,
University of Victoria

January 2010

New Director



Abdul Roudsari joined the School of Health Information Science as Professor and Director effective January 1, 2010. He received his BSc, MSc, and PhD. from London University with his PhD research being undertaken at Kings College London. Before joining the University of Victoria he taught at a number of higher education institutions in the United Kingdom. He was Professor of Health Informatics and Director of the Centre for Health Informatics (CHI) at City University London. He has been a member of the Centre since 1989, having had a particular involvement in a range of research projects concerned with the provision of decision support systems to diabetic patients.

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He has led a major innovative EU-funded home telecare project. This project has enabled the Centre's already large number of international collaborations to be extended to groups in Portugal and Estonia. The research area of home telecare is one that offers opportunities for further substantial projects involving both specific application implementation studies as well as opportunities for research into evaluation methodologies.

His current research focuses on:

- Electronic healthcare (eHealth): this has widely acknowledged potential to improve integration, quality, outcomes and costs in developed countries. Connecting for Health (CfH), in England, is the largest example of its kind in the world and is already at an advanced stage of development. However, there is relatively little work currently being undertaken to develop the potential of eHealth in developing countries. His research focus in this context would be based on existing research by his PhD students in the Gambia, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Mexico.
- Telecare and e-health: management of elderly and chronically-ill patients in their home environment using advanced healthcare technologies for home monitoring.
- Advanced and intelligent methods for the acquisition, processing and interpretation of data from the Electronic Patient Record and from the patient in the community for the purposes of developing Intelligent & Evidence-based Decision Support Systems for diagnosis, state prediction, management and prognosis.

Dr. Roudsari is an elected Member, NHS Connecting for Health Faculty of Health Informatics Management Board (Feb 2006). Nurturing close and effective relationships with key members of the NHS Information Centre and Connecting for Health, he has been able to gain professional recognition for the City Health Informatics program as well as securing funding for other health informatics initiatives.

As a Council Member of the UK Council for Health Informatics Professions (UKCHIP) he is a member of the team which is influencing and guiding the evolution of health informatics as a key profession within the health service.

As Vice Chair of the UK Health Informatics Society he plays a leading role in developing academic and professional initiatives for the benefit of the health informatics community in the UK and further a field.

STUDENTS

November Graduates

Congratulations to our most recent students receiving their BSc in November: David Bittner, David Greig, Barry Kong, Stacey Kowalchuk, Cindy Liu, Ken Perras, Quyen Tran, and Ken Wong.

We also would like to congratulate the six MSc graduates: Christopher Byczko, John Copen, John Dawson, Sean Lake, Antoni Otto, and Stacey Slager.

Welcome

The new students joining us in January are: Katrina Bennett, Matthew Carlson, Adrienne Dempster, Logan Grant, Janessa Griffith, Faye Jones, Gaganpreet Kaur, Zhang Le, Christine Lee, Luyen Nguyen, Ginette Potentier, Mark Valdez, and Rongqian Xu.

Awards and Scholarships

Congratulations to: Margaret Bishop – The Mrs. Annie Greskiw Scholarship in Health Information Science; Lara Dahle – The President's Scholarship; Caitlin Fletcher – Ergocentric Seating Systems Scholarship; Robyn Hatley – The Robert and Norah Wallace Commemorative Scholarships; Jessica Hough – The President's Scholarship; Li-Hsin Monica Lee – The President's Scholarship; Wendy Leung – The Howard Petch Scholarships & The ICBC Scholarship in Health Information Science; Haley Moore – Michael Miller Scholarship; Raman Mundi – TP Systems Ltd. Graham Powell Memorial Scholarship in Health Information Science; Timothy Sheaff – The President's Scholarship; Anson Tran – The President's Scholarship; Eric Young – The Mrs. Annie Greskiw Scholarship in Health Information Science; Xiao Zhong – The President's Scholarship; Leonard Chan – University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship; Eric Parapini – University of Victoria Entrance Scholarships; Paul Payne – UVic Transfer Scholarship; and, HeeSun Yang – University of Victoria Entrance Scholarship.

New students Cleo Chan, Pricilla Ha, Paul Payne, Akosua Affum and Leonard Chan have each received a \$5,000 entrance scholarship made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor.

Adrienne Dempster is the first recipient of the Dr. Mowafa Househ Entrance Scholarship (\$250).

FACULTY AND STAFF

American College of Medical Informatics Fellowship



Andre Kushniruk, Professor, School of Health Information Science, has been elected as an American College of Medical Informatics Fellow for 2009. The American College of Medical Informatics is a college of elected fellows from the United States and abroad who have made significant and sustained contributions to the field of medical informatics.

The objectives of membership in the College are to recognize expertise in biomedical Informatics; to designate to others those who are experts in biomedical Informatics; to assemble a community to promote biomedical Informatics; to participate on projects that advance the field, and to cultivate leadership for growth of the field. To achieve these objectives, it must have among its members the recognized leaders in biomedical informatics.

Only a few Canadians have been awarded this prestigious fellowship over the last 25 years.

Adjunct Associate Professor Don Juzwishin, has moved back to Alberta where he is now the Director of Health Technology Assessment and Innovation at Alberta Health Services.

We welcome Adjunct Assistant Professor, Brian Shorter, to our sessional teaching staff. He is teaching both HINF 450 and 461 this term. Returning sessional instructors are Michael Hsieh ('88) and Erdem Yazganoglu.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

The following six MSc students successfully completed their oral exams last term and will be graduating in June 2010:

1. John Copen
Date: September 18, 2009
Title: Rapid Usability Assessment of an Adaptive Health Knowledge Translation System Interface
2. Reza Shahporiarani
Date: September 17, 2009
Title: Telemedicine and Remote Monitoring in the ICU (Tele-ICU), Is There a Need?
3. James Nicoll
Date: November 13, 2009
Title: Predicting Technology Induces Errors - An Application of Computer Simulation
4. Shirley Wong
Date: November 27, 2009
Title: The New Identity Management for British Columbia Health Sector
5. Simon Hall
Date: November 13, 2009
Title: Usability Analysis of the Tele-Nursing Call Management Software at HealthLinkBC
6. Saba Ateyah
Date: December 19, 2009
Title: Evaluating a Balanced Scoreboard in a Hospital Setting

Welcome

New Masters students admitted in January are Dennis Lee (on campus) and Yvonne Ng, Corina Saratan and Nirmal Summan (distributed stream).

HINFshare

HINFshare (HINF: Health Informatics) is an online tool that helps its users to find the best links related to Health Informatics on the Internet. The content of HINFshare is created and used by its users. Registered users can post links to interesting articles or news. HINFshare is free to register and use.

Please visit HINFshare at <http://hinshare.com> and take a moment to register. Registration is free and takes only a minute. Your feedback is most welcome.

Avesta Razavi (MSc candidate)

ALUMNI

Where they are now.....

Zen Tharani ('02) has joined Global Village Consulting (GVC) in Vancouver as a Senior Consultant, Business Analysis & Project Management. Also working at GVC is Anushka Premji-Osman ('03).

Landon Cunningham ('07) is working as a Business Operations Coordinator with Amaranth Consulting Group.

Nancy Gabor (MSc '07) has joined AMBiT Consulting, a small 'strategic program management' firm in Vancouver that is best known for its work leading the IMIT for the UBC Faculty of Medicine and the provincial medical school expansion. (www.ambit-consulting.com). The company specializes in using best practice project management and business analysis to support public sector clients in the management of public sector program and project

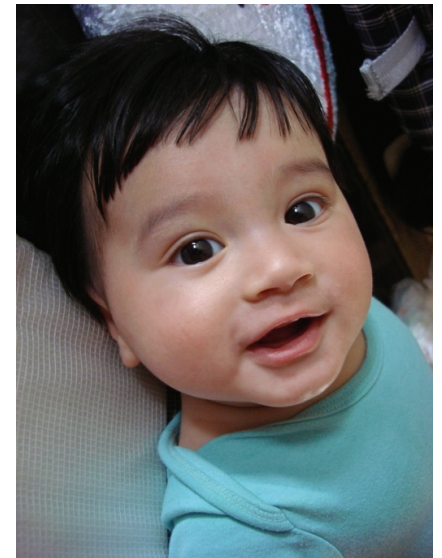
developments and has a core specialization in collaborative technologies and medical education programs.

Mowafa Househ (PhD '09) has taken a position as an Assistant Professor, College of Public Health and Health Informatics, King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This is a new university with construction expected to be completed this year. <http://www.ksau-hs.edu.sa/English/Media/Pages/PhotoGallery.aspx>

Ms. Anjum Khamisani (MSc '09) has been named Head of the Department of Health Information Management Services (HIMS) at the Aga Khan University Hospital, in Karachi, Pakistan. Anjum joined AKUH in October 2005 as Assistant Manager in HIMS. She completed her Bachelors in Microbiology from St. Joseph's College, Karachi in 1987 and pursued another Bachelor in Health Information Management from State University New York, Downstate Medical Center, New York, USA in 2001. She received the title of RHIA (Registered Health Information Administrator) from the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) in 2002. She graduated from our Distributed Stream online MSc program in May 2009.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Catherine Claiter ('00) is being presented with a Distinguished Alumni Award on February 3rd. See http://alumni.uvic.ca/services/special_messages/aw_10/DA.html for more details.



My husband Salim and I welcomed Elijah Parker Nensi on June 28, 2009. Attached is a picture of him at just over 5 months.

Krista Louie ('01)

MISCELLANEOUS



Health Informatics: International Perspectives is the working theme for the international

conference being held in Victoria, BC, Canada, February 24 – 27, 2011. Health informatics is now a global phenomenon, supporting the organization and delivery of healthcare across the globe, both in developing and developed countries.

Mark your calendars and watch for updates and the Call for Papers at <http://itch.uvic.ca>

Accepting Expressions of Interest
New Double Degrees Program:
Master of Nursing and
Master of Science in Health Information
(online delivery)*



A Collaboration between Schools of Nursing and Health Information Science

Health informatics professionals are responsible for designing, developing, implementing, evaluating, maintaining and updating health information systems in a wide array of health care settings.

Class Anticipated for Sept 2010.

For information please visit <http://nursing.uvic.ca>

*Pending final approval of Provincial Government and University of Victoria