

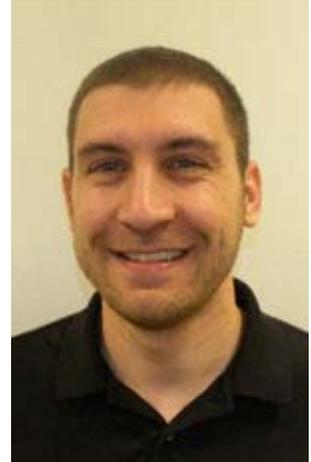
Outstanding CSE Students for 2011-2012

Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Computer Science - Brandon Nelson

Former Marine **Brandon Nelson** is utilizing his G.I. Bill to pursue a degree in Computer Science at UNT. During his time at UNT, Brandon's passion for coding has grown through the knowledge and experiences his professors have provided. In addition to a BS in Computer Science, he is pursuing a minor in Mathematics. He has been able to use his mathematical background to improve his abilities in software engineering. With a planned graduation in December 2012, he looks forward to a promising career.

In addition to Computer Science, Brandon also loves music. He has been a percussionist for nearly twenty years. Brandon is married to his loving wife Jennifer, and loves spending time with his puppy and two cats.

Brandon would like to thank all of UNT's staff and faculty for their continued support and efforts. He would also like to thank them for the honor of this award.



Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Computer Engineering – Andrew Allen

Andrew Allen transferred to UNT in 2009 and is currently working towards Bachelor's degrees in Computer Engineering and Mathematics. He will graduate in May 2012 and plans to attend graduate school. He is interested in artificial intelligence and spends some time studying machine learning. He was also selected to take part in UNT's Research Training Group (RTG) last summer.

Drew enjoys playing soccer, running, and reading in his spare time. He would like to thank everyone in the CSE department for three outstanding years.



Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Information Technology – Brett McCormick

Brett McCormick transferred to UNT in the Fall of 2009 from Collin College (Collin County Community College), where he studied Convergence Technology in an NSF funded ATE program. He found out about UNT's IT program through David Keathly and Convergence Technology Center staff Ann Blackman. Once he got to UNT, he dove straight into college life at Santa Fe dorms, where he met his best friends and girlfriend, and started adjusting to Engineering school.

As Brett went through the IT program, he met his partner in crime Kyle Taylor, and they have really developed an entrepreneurial spirit. Once they gained enough knowledge through the CSE classes, they started work on their Senior Design project, a Public Transportation Tracking System powered by mobile phones. Their project paper has been accepted at the National Transportation Workforce Summit so Brett and Kyle will travel to Washington, DC on April 24 to participate in the conference and represent UNT.

Brett's senior design team is developing their transit tracking system with collaboration from Denton County Transit Authority, and they are planning on testing their system during April and May. They will present their project during the Design Day on April 27. Brett is the team lead and he said it has been an exciting, but stressful process!

Outside of the design lab, Brett gives tours to prospective students as a College of Engineering Ambassador in the Dean's Office. Brett said it has been an amazing job and opportunity to work with the Dean's office staff to help prospective students decide on an engineering school.

Brett also participates in other extracurricular activities, such as the College of Arts and Sciences Innovation Challenge, AT&T Hackathon event, member of UNT IEEE student chapter, recreational and high school soccer referee, UNT Robotics Society, Keep Denton Beautiful Volunteer, Excellent Engineers Volunteer, and Girl Scouts Robotics Competition volunteer (IEEE event), and more!

From Summer 2009 to January 2012, Brett worked at UNT's own Network Security Lab, and he has since began pursuing work in the mobile apps industry. Over the summers, he has also worked in the CSE Department's Robocamp programs. In Summer 2012, Brett will be doing an internship with Bottle Rocket Apps in Addison as an Android Developer.



Outstanding Master's Student in Computer Science – Sandeep Panchakarla

Sandeep Panchakarla is from India and he considers himself fortunate to have such a wonderful family. During his childhood, his parents had to work so hard to provide him and his younger brother a proper education, good food and other basic necessities. His Dad never wanted to compromise with his educational standards. There were days when his Dad had to get help from a friend to pay the fee for him to get in a good school. There were days when his parents had to work so hard to clear all the debts they had. Yet his parents never compromised with anything about their family. Sandeep's mom, who is also his best friend, used to tell him all these things as bedtime stories which helped him to understand the value of life.

Sandeep feels lucky to get the same care and guidance from his major professor here, Dr. Xiaohui Yuan. Sandeep said Dr. Yuan has taught him about the subjects and also life. Dr. Yuan has been his teacher, friend, philosopher and guide. Sandeep is thankful Dr. Yuan has steered him in the right direction through some tough situations. Sandeep want to thank his labmates, Giritharan Balathasan and Mohamed Abouelenien, for working with him and being his good friends.

Sandeep is very happy and his parents are proud that he was recognized as Outstanding Masters student in Computer Science at UNT. He believes he received this award because of the support from all these wonderful people in his life. Sandeep is grateful to UNT for recognizing him as an outstanding student. He thanks everyone for inspiring him to do his best.



Outstanding Master's Student in Computer Engineering – Brandon Gozick

Brandon Gozick received his BS in Computer Engineering from University of North Texas in Summer 2010. The following semester, he began UNT's Graduate program and received a position as a Research Assistant in the Network Security Lab (NSL). During his time here, his interests have grown tremendously in adaptive and ubiquitous mobile computing. He worked with a fellow student on project creating an indoor navigation method for the blind which was subsequently awarded UNT's 2012 Graduate Students Impact Award. This award is given to those projects that could make the biggest impact on improving lives and society.

Brandon defended his thesis titled "A Driver, Vehicle and Road Safety System Using Smartphones" in March 2012. His research resulted in potential safety enhancing techniques that categorized real time problems that arise for drivers on the road using only smartphone based sensors. This project spawned Mobile Life Guard, which was accepted by the NSF Innovation Corps program at Stanford University where he served as the Entrepreneurial Lead on a team with fellow CSE Professor, Dr. Ram Dantu. His team was only 1 of 21 teams out of more than 350 selected and was awarded with a \$50,000 grant to improve the driver safety system for potential public use.

He currently has 3 IEEE publications and 2 more under review. His current research interests are in the converging area of Mobile Cloud Computing. When not in the lab, Brandon is either on the court playing basketball with friends or creating interactive Android applications.



Outstanding PhD Student in Computer Science and Engineering – Oleg Garitselov

Oleg Garitselov received his MS/BS in Computer Science from Moscow Baumann State University in 2003. After serving in the US military for five years and working for two years as a government contractor he went back to pursue his PhD in Computer Engineering in January 2010. His area of interest is Nanoscale VLSI Systems Design. While receiving great support from his major professor, Dr. Saraju Mohanty and co-major professor Dr. Elias Kougiianos has put Oleg on fast track for completing his research and studies.

He also taught robotics and game programming to high school students that attended the UNT Robocamp program in the summer of 2010. He has won a fellowship award to attend Design Automation Summer School (DASS) in San Francisco, CA in summer of 2011.

Oleg has published/presented 2 journal and 9 international conferences articles. The research is funded by Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC) and National Science Foundation (NSF). Additionally he served as a program committee member/reviewer for 13 conferences and workshops. He has defended his PhD dissertation titled "Nanoscale CMOS Statistical Modeling for Mixed-Signal Circuits" in February 2012.

