

# MCS Newsletter



*Fall Semester 2006*



## **MCS Alumni Receive First Decade Award**

Each year Gustavus honors two Alumni with the First Decade award. This award is presented to the men and women who are deemed to have made the greatest achievements in the first ten years after their graduation. The individuals receiving the award this year from the class of '96 are Rebecca Konrad (pictured second from right) and Milo Martin (pictured middle), who were Math and Computer Science majors respectively.

After Graduating, Konrad joined the Peace Corps and spent two years in the Republic of Guinea, West Africa teaching math to high school students, organizing community events, training other Peace Corps volunteers and establishing a girls' soccer program. In 1998 she accepted a position at Blue Cross Blue Shield where she received the highest employee award. In 2001 she sought her

MBA at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. There she played an important role in the establishment and management of the Carlson School Fixed Income Fund, and in 2003 she was selected by the faculty to be Outstanding Finance Student of the Year. After completing her MBA in 2003, Konrad took a position with ING Investment Management, and in 2004 she was one of 15 MBAs selected out of more than 10,000 applicants to become an investment officer for the Global Transaction Team of the International Finance Corporation. Konrad is currently a member of the infrastructure department at the International Finance Corporation.

Milo Martin began graduate study in Computer Science at the University of Wisconsin upon graduation from Gustavus. In 2003, after seven years of research in microprocessor architecture, Martin earned his Ph.D. and took a position at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He has numerous scholarly publications in the proceedings of top conferences and journals, and a conference paper of his on token coherence protocols is now one of the required readings in graduate seminars on computer architecture at multiple top universities. In 2005 he was invited to submit a paper for the International Conference on Computer Design, which is a rare honor. Martin was recently awarded a \$400,000 grant from the National Science Foundation which will support him in his research for simplifying software design for advanced computer architectures.



### **New Department Chair Elected**

Professor Carolyn Dobler was elected to be the next Mathematics and Computer Science Department Chair. She will take over for current Department Chair Professor Max Hailperin, who will be ending a three-year term, on June 1, 2007. Pictured above is Professor Hailperin passing the official Cymbal of Power and Mallet of Persuasion to Professor Dobler.



### **MCS Professor Receives Faculty Service Award**

On October 31, 2006 at the Founders Day ceremonies, three members of the Gustavus community were awarded employee service awards. They were Sandy Grochow, Tami Aune, and the MCS department's Barbara Kaiser (pictured above-left with Sandy Grochow). Kaiser received the Faculty Service Award due to her work with College and community planning and advisory groups. She has been part of the faculty for 22 years and has been active in the Faculty Senate, Curriculum Committee, Personnel Committee, the President's Task Force on Diversity and the Strategic Planning Committee. Sandy Grochow received the Augusta Carlson Schultz award, and Tami Aune received the Eric Norelius award.

### **Gustavus Hosts Programming Competition**

Gustavus acted as one of the host locations for the North Central region of the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest. The competition took place in Olin Hall on November 11, 2006. A total of eight teams competed that day at Gustavus, two each from Carleton College, Luther College, Macalester College, and Gustavus Adolphus College. Each team, consisting of three members a piece, shared a single computer to write programs to produce solutions to each specific problem presented. There were nine problems given, and each team competed by completing as many problems as they could out of those nine.

The competition ended with the Carleton Recursives solving the most problems, three out of the nine, at the Gustavus location. There were many congratulations given, followed by the consumption of many pizzas.



### **Alumni Meet With Students**

On multiple occasions this fall semester MCS students had the opportunity to meet with MCS alumni. The alumni visited current students to talk about careers in Math and Computer Science and to answer questions that students may have about life after graduation. All of the meetings took place at Godfather's Pizza where everyone could enjoy a free meal paid for by the department.