



NOTES

FROM DEAN CLARK

March 7, 2016

Dear members of the Hajim School community:

The **Department of Computer Science and the Goergen Institute for Data Science** will be well represented this May at the **AAAI International Conference on Web and Social Media** with a total of **five papers accepted**, including three examining various aspects of the Donald Trump campaign. The authors and co-authors include **Jiebo Luo**, Associate Professor of Computer Science; **Henry Kautz**, Professor of Computer Science and the Robin and Tim Wentworth Director of the Goergen Institute for Data Science; graduate students **Tianran Hu**, **Yu Wang** (pursuing a joint PhD in political science and computer science), **Yuncheng Li**, and **Nabil Hossain**; and research assistant **Haoyuan Xiao**. The interdisciplinary nature of this research is reflected in the fact that two of the Trump papers are in collaboration with **Richard G. Niemi**, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, and Thuy-vy Thi Nguyen, a PhD student in Clinical and Social Sciences in Psychology is co-author of another paper.

Another paper by Jiebo and PhD student **Quanzeng You** -- "Image Captioning with Semantic Attention" -- **describes the engine behind a system that has been sitting atop the leader board for the Microsoft COCO (Common Objects in Context) Captioning Challenge**, beating the likes of Google, Microsoft, Baidu/UCLA, Stanford, UC Berkeley, Univ. Toronto/Montreal, and other power houses in the field of using deep learning for image captioning. The Challenge is designed to **spur the development of algorithms producing image captions that are informative and accurate**. This paper, written with three Adobe Research scientists, will be presented at the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition in June. Very impressive!

Congratulations to **Ibrahim Akbar '17** of Electrical and Computer Engineering, who has been **named recipient of a \$1,500 scholarship from the Rochester Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE)**. The merit-based scholarship was established to recognize outstanding engineering, engineering technology, science or technology students who are part of IEEE and reside in within the Rochester Section.

The **NullSpace team of current and former Hajim School students** is back in the news with their **virtual reality vest**. Click [here](#) to read a LiveScience article that gives a good description of the innovative technologies the team has incorporated into their prototype, and how they are readying it for market.

Condolences to the family and friends of Howard Saltsburg, former professor of Chemical Engineering, who passed away last month. Click [here](#) to read about his contributions to the department and his field.

As always, keep me updated, and have a great week.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Clark

Professor and Dean



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