Founders' Day 2010

With the Dragon's Den transformed to resemble a tent under an aurora borealis sky, more than 100 alumni from the classes 1929 to 2009 gathered at Cogswell for this annual celebration of the history and achievements of the College.

Guests nibbled on the hors d'oeuvres passed around on trays by the staff of Elegant Event caterers, visited with friend - old and new - and toured the campus with our student Ambassadors.

Dr. Chester Haskell, President, welcomed our alumni and thanked them for staying involved with Cogswell. Board of Trustee's Chair, Michael Novak, shared how excited the Board is about the many new partnerships being developed with corporate entities and foreign universities. Stay tuned for upcoming announcements.

Guests also had the opportunity to see the final version of The Offering, a short, animated film produced under the
umbrella of the Project X class. The film is currently making the rounds of the film festival circuit.

Clarence Wikse (1928) once again donated a cake to commemorate the occasion.

"It was wonderful to have the chance to share with our alumni all of the amazing work our students are doing," said Bonnie Phelps, Dean of Institutional Advancement. "Many in attendance hadn't seen their alma mater in a few years and told me how impressed they are with talent and energy of our current students."

See more pictures of Founders' Day at: http://cogswellalumni.com/foundersday2010/

---

**Digital Audio Workstation Workshop**

Please join us for a free workshop entitled: "Digital Audio Workstation Workflows and Power-User Perspectives" on Saturday, May 8. Sessions run from 10:00AM to noon and 1:00PM to 4:00PM. Lunch is on your own.

The focus of this workshop is DAW efficiency and best practices. Stefan Sozomenu graduated from Cogswell's Electrical Engineering program in 2003 with a specialization in Audio Engineering. Stefan has more than 10 years experience in the software development industry. He was worked for Digidesign, Line 6, Group Logic Inc and is currently a Senior Design Engineer and Software Test at Dolby Laboratories.
RSVP to Bonnie Phelps at bphelps@cogswell.edu or http://www.cogswellalumni.com/datrsvp/. Please direct questions about the workshop to Tim Duncan at tduncan@cogswell.edu.

The Business of Being Creative Panel Discussion

More than 140 people attended the panel discussion on April 7 featuring game industry veterans who know the ins-and-outs of starting their own studios and what they learned about being successful.

Panelists included:

Kai Huang - Co-Founder of Red Octane and its President and CEO since 1999. The company published the popular Guitar Hero franchise and was acquired by Activision in June 2006.

Alejandro Gil - joined EA at the beginning of the Lord of the Rings trilogy and then spent 4 intense years as Co-Founder and Creative Director at Blackpoint Studios. He returned to EA to help finish Godfather 2 and is now Lead Environment Artist at Sledgehammer Games.

Simon Amarasingham - Co-Founder and CEO of dSonic Inc., a company that has been creating audio for games for 10 years including titles such as Brutal Legend, Bioshock and Farmville.

Cogswell is pleased to partner with the Silicon Valley IGDA to bring these wonderful educational opportunities to the local game developers community.
Kai Huang, left, Alejandro Gil, center, and Simon Amarasingham, right, share their experiences as co-founders of large companies.

**Cogswell Fire Science Faculty Killed in Tragic Accident**

James (Jim) Flanigan (61) passed away on April 1, 2010, from injuries he received in a car accident. Jim was a DDP instructor since 2006 and taught both Application of Fire Research and Fire Investigation & Analysis for the College.

A native of New York, Jim graduated from Queens College (B.A.) in 1971. After graduation Jim enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard and completed officer candidate school reaching the rank of Lieutenant J.G. in 1973. Jim was employed as a Special Agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) for 29 years, retiring as a Senior Special Agent and Certified Fire Investigator in 2006. During his ATF career, Jim was a member of the ATF National Response Team, the ATF International Response Team, the Alameda County Arson Task Force, the San Francisco Arson Task Force, the California Conference of Arson Investigators (CCAI) and International Assn. of Arson Investigators (IAAI). After retirement, Jim worked as a fire investigator for Fire, Cause & Analysis in Berkeley, CA.

Jim is survived by his wife of 30 years, Sharon and his son.
Patrick. A funeral mass celebrating Jim's life was held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, at St. Monica's Church, San Francisco. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to: National Fallen Firefighter Foundation, www.firehero.org or American Brain Tumor Assn., www.abta.org.

Alumni Notes

Christopher Batterman (2008) teaches honors Biology and Zoology for the Clark County School District in Nevada. Ina Bostick (1995) is the Disaster Action Team Coordinator/DAT Dallas West for the American Red Cross Dallas Chapter. Chris Caravalho (1998) works for the City of Palo Alto as a Senior Technologist. Douglas Clarke (1998) is the Director, Embedded Software Program at Related Content Database, Inc. John Conelea (2007) is Art Director for a Xbox Live Indie Game first person shooter to be released in mid 2010. He is also Digital Video Production Artist for Peppermill Resort Spa Casino. Micheala Darling (2003) works for NAVAJO Company, a marketing firm in Milpitas, as Account Executive and Office Manager. Steve Downey (1984) is a Manufacturing Engineer at Varian Medical Systems. Walter Fields (1991) works at Western Digital as a Senior Principal Engineer. Nathanael Girard (2003) is a Multimedia Development Manager at Center Partners. Scot Gresham-Lancaster (2006) presented a session on Remapping: Interest and Abstraction in Converting "Hard" Data for Artistic Sonic Uses at the prestigious Locus Sonic Symposium in Aix en Provence in France in early March. Greg Hilton (2006) was promoted to Verification Engineer II at SanDisk. Cody Jacobson (2008) can't wait to start working at Nickelodeon - 3 months and counting! Until then, he'll continue working on the next Project X film. Danny Johnson (2005) is Lead Designer at TikiBeast. He helped found the company and just launched Tiki Bongk on the iPhone. The game is a puzzle game that provides the user with invigorating and unique twists and turns. Alex Jones (1998) is the Creative Services Manager at Explosion Inc (Strikeforce). Tracy Kosolowski (2008) participated in the "walk the loop for lupus" event on April 17 in memory of her mother who passed away from lupus in 2000. Bee-Ean Kua (1998) is a Principal Product Engineer at National Semiconductor. He has been with the company for almost 18 year. Lynville Lee (1982) is a Senior Program Manager at IBM. David Loja (2007) started Landmark Visuals to do just about any photo editing needs his clients require. Eric Martin (2009) works at Sony Computer Entertainment as a FOQA. Richard Martinez (1991) leads Hewlett-Packards'
Desktop Organization Support Tools and Rich Management Team which delivers support content in user-friendly formats for print and electronic mediums. He is leading HPs transition from providing in-box print manuals to high-quality, web-based customer support. **Alex Mathis (1996)** is still in the Activision family but left Shaba Games to join the Toys for Bob team. **David McCain (1990)** works at L-3 Communications as a Component Engineer. **Enrique Munoz (1997)** left Sony Pictures Imageworks to join the Disney Animation team as a Lighting TD. **Bryan Munro (2009)** is a QA Tester at Sony Computer Entertainment. **Michael Richards (1968)** works at Nationwide Boiler Inc in Fremont as a Senior Designer. **Brandon Russell (2008)** is exploring the world and working at Krome Studios in Melbourne Australia as a Junior Concept Artist. **Ahmed Saad (1997)** is Regional Sales Manager at Innovative Integration Limited. **Ernest Santos (2004)** works at Picarro Inc in Sunnyvale as a Test Technician. **Rich Schritter (2005)** was promoted to Lead Environment Artist at Electronic Arts in November. **Avinish Sharma (1999)** is a Software Engineer at Toppan Photomasks in Santa Clara. **Greg Smith (2003)** was part of the team that built the practical AMP Suit for the Academy Award winning "Best Visual Effects" movie Avatar. He's pretty stoked to have had the chance to work on the film. **Chris Sutherland (2005)** is back at Rhythm & Hues Studio as a Stereo QC TD and is doing quality control for live action stereo plates on the upcoming feature film, Yogi Bear. **Brendan Thompson (2004)** volunteers as a CAD mentor with the Gladstone High School Robotics Team. **Doug Traeger (1997)** joined Precision Remotes Inc as an Engineer. **Armando Vasquez (1986)** is Director of Information Technology at NETIPDental Technologies. **Nathan Webb (1999)** is back at Sony Computer Entertainment as a Motion Editor for Sony's Visual Art Group. **Doug Webber (1994)** joined Merrill Lynch several months ago as their VP, Technology Manager. **Bruce Wilcox (1991)** is Principle RF Engineer at WiSpry Inc.

**Share Your News!**