Professor Hadi Aggoune Speaks at May IEEE Meeting

"Multi-Vehicle Task and Mission Planning with Visualization"

This talk explores engineering visualization as a serious game and highlights its multidisciplinary aspects in terms of integration of science, engineering and digital arts.

**Speaker:** Prof. el-Hadi M. Aggoune, Cogswell Polytechnical College  
**Date:** Thursday, May 27, 2010  
**Time:** 6:45 to 8:00pm

**Schedule:**
- 6:45pm: Networking
- 7:00pm: Presentation
- 7:50pm: Q&A

**Location:**  
Cogswell Polytechnical College  
1175 Bordeaux Drive  
Sunnyvale, CA 94089

**Cost:** Free

The event is a joint CSS/RAS meeting of IEEE

**Abstract:**
Visualization is essential not only to gain in-depth understanding of complex engineering problems but also to expand the boundary of knowledge, optimize human potential and mitigate technology development cost. The Engineering Simulation and Animation Laboratory (ESAL) at Cogswell has been developing a Real-Time Virtual Environment (RTVE) for the Boeing Company since 2004. RTVE is used: 1) for health and condition data display as well as for commanding swarms of unmanned vehicles and 2) to build interactive customizable Concept of Operation Scenarios (CONOPS) to investigate and illustrate new possibilities for swarm technologies and applications. The user can test complex swarm missions in urban, forest and desert settings and utilize different capabilities including a variety of flight views, flight traces and situational
awareness levels (fog of war-fow). RTVE is an integral part of Boeing's Vehicle Swarm Technology Laboratory (VSTL) platform used for rapid prototyping of multi-vehicle task and mission planning, health-adaptive control and vehicle and communication hardware systems. Illustrations will be given from the applications listed above.

**Biography:**
Dr. Aggoune received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. He served as faculty at the University of Washington, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, and The National Polytechnic School, Algiers, Algeria. Currently, he is the Roy C. Anderson Chair Professor and Director of Engineering programs at Cogswell Polytechnical College in Sunnyvale, CA. Dr. Aggoune is the Founder and Director of the Engineering Simulation and Animation Laboratory (ESAL) and winner of the Boeing Performance Excellence Award. He is the Principal Investigator on research and development projects sponsored by the Boeing Company. Dr. Aggoune is a Senior Member of IEEE and a Professional Engineer registered in the State of Washington. His research and development interests include modeling, simulation, and visualization.

**Cogswell Held 2010 Commencement May 15**

Cogswell Polytechnical College held its 2010 Commencement on Saturday, May 15. Participants processed into the hall behind the Stewart Highlands Pipe.
Band of Menlo Park, led by Joe Roberts.

The ceremony took place at the San Jose Marriott hotel on Market Street in the second floor ballroom. Cogswell individually recognized each of the 27 graduates participating in the ceremony. In addition, awards were presented to outstanding students in each of the degree programs, two faculty members and a staff member.

**Presiding Officials included:**

Dr. Chester Haskell, President; Mr. Michael Martin, Dean of the College, Mr. Michael Novak, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Reid Winfrey, representing the Cogswell College Faculty Senate.

**Award presenters included:**

Dr. Chester Haskell for the President's Award and the Faculty and Staff awards, Mr. Reid Winfrey for Digital Art and Animation, Dr. Kathleen Broome Williams for General Education, Dr. Timothy Duncan for Digital Audio Technology, Mr. Vinh Phat for Engineering, Mr. Rob Chaitin for Student Life and Dr. Younes Mourchid for Fire Science.

For their high academic achievement, graduates Wayne Daily, Degrees at a Distance/Fire Science and Robert Ernst, Digital Audio Technology were selected to speak to the estimated 500 graduates, family, friends, faculty and staff in attendance.

**Mr. Gareth Chang** delivered the Commencement Address. Click [here](#) for the full text.

**Student Award Recipients:**

- 2010 President's Award for Outstanding Student - Stepan Shurygin
- 2010 Outstanding Student, Digital Art and Animation - Jessica DeLacy
- 2010 Outstanding Student, General Education - Joseph Nery
- 2010 Outstanding Student, Digital Audio Technology - Robert Ernst
- 2010 Outstanding Student, Engineering - Dean Sala
- 2010 Outstanding Student, Student Life - Phillip Jenne
- 2010 National Fire Academy Achievement Award - Wayne Dailey
- 2010 National Fire Academy Achievement Award - Brad Palmer
- 2010 National Fire Academy Achievement Award - Jason Senior

**Faculty Award Recipients:**

- 2010 Dorothy Scholten Award for Excellence in Teaching - Dave Perry
- 2010 John & Ginnie Chin Excellence in Teaching Award - Tim Duncan

**Staff Award Recipients:**

- 2010 President's Award for Outstanding Staff - Cindy Ha

**About the Commencement Speaker:**

Mr. Chang is the Chairman and Managing Partner of GC3 & Associates International LLC, a private investment and consulting company. He has over 30 years experience in developing high-tech and media businesses in the U.S. and internationally. He is currently the founding Chairman of D5 Studio which focuses on production and distribution of 3D animation, TV dramas and feature films for international markets. He is also the Chairman of Netstar Group Holding Company, a private equity funded network integration enterprise located in Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and China, as well as Chairman/CEO of Towona Media Holding Company, a mobile TV enterprise headquartered in Beijing. Read more.

**Rhythm & Hues Visits Cogswell College**
Once again Rhythm & Hues generously sent one of its senior artists to spend a day at Cogswell. Gavin McMillian taught an advanced rigging class in the afternoon open only to Cogswell students. In the evening he provided a public question and answer session.

More than 50 students, alumni and prospective students gathered in the Dragon's Den to get a first-hand look at what it's like to work in the industry. Gavin's engaging personality and wealth of stories drew the audience in and questions never lagged.

Gavin's candid answers to everything from "What's a typical day like?" to "What's the company looking for in an artist?" to "What was your favorite practical joke?" garnered laughter as well as thoughtful head nods.

Thank you Rhythm & Hues for sharing Gavin with us! We look forward to next year!!
California Firefighters Olympics Comes to Santa Clara

The 2010 Firefighters Olympics takes place in Santa Clara between July 11 and 16. The event consists of 31 areas of competition including basketball, bass fishing, bowling, cycling, dodgeball, flag football, golf, ice hockey, mountain biking, paintball, rock climbing, soccer, softball, surfing, table tennis and volleyball, water polo - something for everyone.

The Firefighters Olympics began in 1970 as an opportunity for all California Firefighters to get together in a friendly competition that promotes physical fitness and provides an informal forum for exchanging ideas. The Santa Clara Firefighters, Local 1171 is honored and excited to be the 2010 host.

Cogswell College will have an information table at the event to promote its Fire Science degree program - and to cheer on all of the Cogswell Fire Science graduates, students and faculty who participate in the event.

Alumni Notes

View where he manages art direct branded integrations for social media advertising and leads a multi-disciplinary creative team. **Erik Linden (2006)** is Creative Director at Helmet Camera Central where he handles site maintenance, tech support, graphic design and gets to test all of the company’s new products. **Manol Manolov (2009)** is a Video Production Specialist at Cisco Systems in addition to running his own company, MzM Audio. **Glenn McGarigle (2002)** owns Zcreation in San Francisco. The company is a boutique virtual agency specializing in website and marketing collateral development to businesses of all sizes. **Chris McGee (1998)** just joined Killspace Entertainment as a Senior Artist. The studio snapped up a number of the ex-Pandemic employees and is working on two yet unannounced games. **Jen Morgan (1994)** now works at Gingko Home Furnishings as a Sales Associate. **Eberhard Ojong (2000)** has relocated to Indonesia where he is Business Development Manager at Kompas Gramedia. **Brad Older (1991)** is a Program Manager, PMP at Intel Corporation. **Evan Piercey (1986)**, in addition to his duties at Sun Microsystems is a Principal Program Manager at Oracle. His goal is to convert engineering innovations into great customer experiences. **Nicole Plum (2007)** has joined a growing list of Cogswell Alumni who now work at Trion World Network. She is an Environment Prop Artist there. **Ted Sanger (2000)** left Electronic Arts to join Trion World Network as a Senior Animator. **Nate Stephens (1996)** is a Lead Environment Artist at Sony Computer Entertainment America in Santa Monica. **Chris Waltner (2007)** is a Character Animator at Gloomshade where he works remotely animating a large variety of characters and props for the TV series City of Friends. Gloomshade opens up a network of highly skilled digital artists to companies and clients. **Robert Weinberg (2007)** works at Electronic Arts as a Software Engineer.