

## **Fall 2009 Computer Science Advising Newsletter**

The recession has made the job market tougher, but there are still lots of positions for CS majors. Nevertheless, it is still a good idea to check out the job fair this coming October 5<sup>th</sup>. You can get more information at <http://www.jmu.edu/cap/careerfair/fallfair.htm>.

You have probably noticed that we now have two listservs for CS: one for job-related stuff and the other is for everything else. You can remove yourself from the jobs listserv and rejoin later. Please don't remove yourself from the main CS listserv.

### ***Madison Advising Peers***

The university has started a new program in which students are academic advisors. The advisors can help with GenEd and general questions. Read about it at <http://www.jmu.edu/advising/peers.shtml>. You can email advising questions to [map@jmu.edu](mailto:map@jmu.edu).

### ***Seniors—Apply to Graduate Now!***

Seniors planning to graduate in May 2010 must submit an application by October 15th, so you only have a few weeks to get this done if you haven't already. Start the process by picking up an application packet from Carole Ritchie in CS/ISAT 219B. You must print and fill in a form from the CS web page, print your transcript, and fill out the application itself, see your advisor, and return the signed application packet to Ms. Ritchie by October 15th.

### ***Dropping Courses***

The last day to drop a class with a W grade is Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. After this date, you may only receive a WP or a WF under extraordinary circumstances at the discretion of the professor.

### ***Advising Appointments***

The CS advising team wants to see every student this semester:

*Freshmen*—You will be registering on your own for the first time beginning October 26th, and you need to see Ms. Harris to determine what you should take in the spring. There will be a group advising session on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 4:30 pm in ISAT/CS 243. Individual advising sessions will be scheduled in the two weeks afterwards as needed.

*Juniors and Sophomores*—Registration for spring semester begins October 26th, so you need to discuss your plans for next semester (and thereafter) with your advisor to make sure that you are on track to graduate on time.

*Seniors*—You need to see your advisor to get your application to graduate signed. At this time any problems can be dealt with as well.

If you are not sure who your advisor is, you can find out on [ecampus](http://ecampus.jmu.edu).

### ***Synopsis: Dates and Deadlines***

Now to October 26th—Sophomore, juniors, and seniors see their advisors

October 14<sup>th</sup>—Freshman advising session, 4-4:30 pm, ISAT/CS 243

October 15<sup>th</sup>—Applications to graduate in May 2010 due

October 22<sup>nd</sup>—Last day to drop a class with a W

October 26<sup>th</sup>—Spring semester registration begins