

August 21, 2008

Dear First Year Student,

Welcome to the Computer Science department at Hofstra! Our students, computer science and computer engineering, and faculty form a closely knit, collaborative and supportive community. We are very happy that you will become a part of it.

We would like to invite you to our **kick off party during Common Hour (11:15-12:15) on Wednesday September 10 in room 200 Adams Hall**. This will be a casual event designed to give you a chance to meet your professors, your fellow students and the staff of our department. You will also meet the members of the student club and organizations in the department.

On a practical note:

- **Major advisors:** We would like to stress that it is important that you come visit the department early in the semester to meet with your major advisor. Your advisor is a faculty member in the department who is assigned to guide you during your studies, particularly to make sure that you register for the right classes and satisfy the major requirements. The major advisor can talk to you also about your background, about your career goals, about any questions regarding the computer science or computer engineering majors, and about internships, independent projects, etc. Each semester before registering for classes, you should come and talk with your faculty advisor about the courses you should take. Just come to the department office (Room 211, Adams Hall, Phone: 516-463-5555) and ask our administrative assistant, Ms. Tucker, to give you the name and contact information of your advisor. Then e-mail your advisor to set up your first appointment.
- **Fall 2008 classes:** We would like to give you some pointers about the major classes you should take in the fall.
 - **CSC014 and CSC015:** Students who major in Computer Science or Computer Engineering take Discrete Structures for Computer Science (CSC014) and Fundamentals of Computer Science (CSC015) in their first semester. Some students place out of CSC15 by scoring 4 or higher on the Computer Science AP exam. Such students should register for CSC 16 instead of CSC 15. If you are a computer science or a computer engineering major, you must take at least CSC014 during your first semester.
 - **Computer science freshmen** usually take CSC014, CSC015, WSC 1 and two elective distribution courses (16 credits total).
 - **Computer engineering freshmen** have more restricted schedule. They must take CSC14, CSC15, ENGG15 (or equivalent), WSC 1 and an

appropriate level of MATH (MATH 71, MATH72 or MATH50). Some students are taking ENGG015 and WSC 1 bundled as part of a First year Cluster. Students who are not Calculus Ready (as determined by the Mathematics Department) should take CSC50 Pre-calculus. Those who have placed out of MATH71, should take MATH72. Do not substitute CSC050 with any other MATH class. If you needed MATH50 and were not able to register into it, please get in touch with your Advising Dean in the Advisement Office, tell them that you are Computer Engineering major and need MATH50.

- **Drop CSC005:** If any of you, computer science or computer engineering majors has registered for CSC005 Overview of Computer Science, drop it! This class is for non-majors. It does not count towards the major degree requirements. If you do not know what class to take instead, talk to your major advisor in the department.
- **Final Enrollment Days:** August 25-28, 3:30-7. Faculty advisors will be available, on duty to help during the Final Enrollment days. You do not need an appointment, just call or walk in.
 - **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 12pm-3pm,** Dr. Gretchen Ostheimer, (516) 463-6106, 209 Weed Hall
 - **Monday and Tuesday, 3 -7pm and Thursday 12pm-3pm,** Dr. Chuck Liang, (516) 463-5559, 201A Adams Hall
 - **Wednesday and Thursday, 3-7pm,** Dr. Gerda Kamberova, (516) 463-5775, 211 Adams Hall

If you have any questions, we encourage you to contact your major advisor. Our secretary, Ms. Zsa-Zsa Tucker, (516) 463-5555, is also available to help you and she will give you the contact information for the advisors. The advisors will be happy to talk to you and to make sure that you are registered for the right classes. .

You must use your Hofstra e-mail account, all university correspondence will be send to your Hofstra e-mail address. If you do not want to make Hofstra your primary e-mail, then be sure that you forward it to the e-mail address of your choice. This is important, since we will be sending you announcements regarding classes and events.

Welcome again.

With best wishes on the part of Department,

Dr. Gerda Kamberova
Associate Professor and Chair