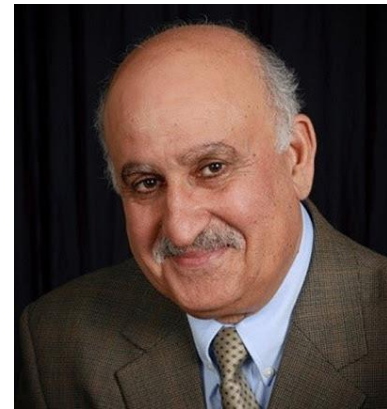


Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Spring 2024

Welcome to the spring 2024 edition of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering newsletter! In this issue we celebrate the exceptional research, academic, and career accomplishments of our students, faculty, and distinguished alumni. Our community is at the forefront of creating technologies that profoundly impact our daily lives. From pioneering artificial intelligence technologies that transform industries to robust cybersecurity measures that safeguard vital information, our community is leading the way in engineering a smarter, safer future.



Central to the mission of our department is a commitment to spearhead innovations and push the boundaries of knowledge. This edition highlights the remarkable achievements of our students who secured first place in the 2023 Grainger Computing Innovation Prize with their project: the AI Infant Health Monitor. Additionally, Professor Yu Cheng has been honored as a member of the 2024 class of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers fellows “for contributions to secure wireless networks.”

As we share these stories of success and innovation, I invite you to reflect on the collective effort and exceptional talent that define our ECE family. Let’s celebrate these accomplishments and inspire each other to continue expanding the limits of what’s possible in engineering.

Jafar Saniie

Walter and Harriet Filmer Endowed Chair in Electrical and Computer Engineering
Department Chair

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS



Engineering Professor Yu Cheng Earns Field Distinction

Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Yu Cheng has been named a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers for his research finding vulnerabilities and developing groundbreaking security tools for use in wireless networks.

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2024 ECE Day: Seminar and Student Research Competition

Eighty students participated in the department's annual ECE Day event, which showcased student research, and a seminar was presented by Kenneth Zdunek (Ph.D. EE '91), senior vice president and chief technology officer at Roberson and Associates and adjunct faculty at Illinois Tech.

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STUDENT NEWS



From ECE 441 to Winning the Grainger Computing Innovation Prize

Lukas Klicker (EE, M.S. CPE 5th Year), Alex Maliwat (CPE, M.A.S. Artificial Intelligence for Computer Vision and Control 4th Year), and Joanna Findura (CPE, M.S. CPE 5th Year) took first place at the 2023 Grainger Computing Innovation Prize Competition with their artificial intelligence infant health monitor project. Developed under Walter and Harriet Filmer Endowed Chair in Electrical and Computer Engineering Jafar Saniie's supervision in the ECE 441 Major Design Experience course, their system uses AI for pose analysis, thermal estimation, and cry evaluation, with the aim of combating sudden unexpected death in infancy.

[Read More](#)

Excellence in Cybersecurity: David Arnold (EE/M.S. CPE '19, Ph.D. CPE Candidate)

'An Amazing Place': Fulbright Scholar Finds a Welcoming Space at Illinois

Tech: Narmeen Aamir (M.A.S. CPE 2nd Year)

An Internship Leads to a Long-Term Opportunity: James Benson (EE, M.S. CPE 6th Year)

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ALUMNI NEWS



Keeping the Lottery Fun and Fair

While Harold Mays (EE '89) never expected to work for the lottery, he says its support of Illinois schools and special causes has been very fulfilling. He encourages everyone to create their own path, regardless of where life leads you.

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Partnership Program Offers Path From France to America: Maureen Rakotondraibe (M.A.S. ECE '22)

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