

Harris Awards Recognize Outstanding Graduate Students

CLEMSON - Outstanding graduate students were recognized at this spring's Electrical and Computer Engineering Graduate Student Achievement Award Ceremony. Graduate students James (Trey) Shirley and Kenneth Rice received Harris Awards, two department-wide awards which have been given each year for the past 25 years in recognition of outstanding accomplishment in the preceding year by a current Clemson graduate student in each of two areas: laboratory teaching and research.

Trey Shirley received the Harris Award for the Outstanding Graduate Laboratory Teaching Assistant in 2008 based on evaluations by undergraduates enrolled in ECE laboratory courses and assessment by the faculty supervisors of the laboratories. Trey completed the B.S. degree in electrical engineering at Clemson in 2007, and he is currently pursuing the M.S. EE degree with an emphasis in intelligent systems under the direction of Profs. Ian Walker and Randy Collins. Student evaluations of his laboratory teaching are consistently enthusiastic, such as the comment by one student that Trey is "the best TA I have ever had in my life."



L-R: Jim Dismukes of Harris Corp, Trey Shirley, and Dr. Randy Collins

Ken Rice received the Harris Award for the Outstanding Graduate Researcher in 2008 based on the recommendation of a faculty member and evaluation by a committee of ECE faculty. Ken



L-R: Alene Heuser of Harris Corp, Ken Rice, and Dr. Tarek Taha

completed the B.S. degree in computer engineering at Clemson in 2006 and the M.S. CpE degree in 2008. He is currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree in computer engineering with an emphasis in computer systems architecture under the direction of Prof. Tarek Taha. Less than three years into his graduate studies, Rice has four journal papers and three conference papers published or accepted for publication and two additional journal papers and one conference paper currently under review.

Since their inception, the Harris Awards have been accompanied by a monetary stipend, which is provided by the generosity of Harris Corp. Mr. Jim Dismukes and Ms. Alene Heuser, representatives of Harris Corp and both Clemson alumni, were in attendance to present the awards. Both Dismukes

and Heuser earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from the ECE department at Clemson, and both continue to exhibit a passion for the success of the ECE program at Clemson through their ongoing involvement with department.

The high level of academic achievement by Clemson's ECE graduate students was illustrated by the large number of students who have received formal recognition for both their ability and their potential for leadership in the profession of electrical and computer engineering.

The following students were also recognized at the award ceremony: Nahid Alam, Google Anita Borg Scholarship recipient; Steven Boyd, MIT Lincoln Laboratory Fellowship recipient; Ryan Craven, Alan Griffith Stanford ECE Graduate Fellowship recipient; Jason Ellis, South Carolina Graduate Incentive Fellowship recipient; Michael Frye, MIT Lincoln Laboratory



Fellowship recipient; Crystal Jackson, National Science Foundation Fellowship & COES Dean's Fellowship recipient; JaWone Kennedy, Southern Regional Education Board Fellowship recipient; Nan Maung, COES Dean's Fellowship & John T. Mundy ECE Graduate Fellowship recipient; Christopher May, ECE Santee Cooper ECE Graduate Fellowship recipient; Chase Pettit, Milt and Betty Holcombe ECE Scholarship recipient; Kenneth Rice, South Carolina Graduate Incentive Fellowship recipient; Rebekah Schloemann, National Science Foundation Fellowship recipient; Adam Schreiber, Science & Mathematics for Research Transformation Fellowship (SMART) recipient; Sierra Williams, GEM Fellowship recipient; and Brian Wolf, Clemson University Distinguished Graduate Fellowship recipient.