178 New Students Arrive to Study Computer Science

As has been the case in recent years, the Department of Computer Science again this year attracted a large number of students this fall, with a record 137 new students enrolling in the MS in Computer Science Computer Professionals Program this fall.

In addition, 41 students have come to study in the Master’s in Software Development, being offered for the first time.

“This is a significant enrollment for a completely new program and points to the growing recognition of MUM as a leader in providing career opportunities for computer programming,” said Rod Eason, vice president of enrollment management and student life.

The appeal of these two programs relies on their uniqueness.

The Computer Professionals Program appeals to students around the world because of the low up-front cost. Students study on campus for up to eight months and then complete their degree via distance education while working in a paid practicum position at a U.S. company for up to two years. The money they earn pays for their degree. Only highly qualified students with professional experience are accepted into the program.

This contrasts with the new master’s in software development, which accepts students with no background in computer science. The program is oriented toward those wanting to switch careers and who have an aptitude for computer programming.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2
The new online enrollment includes 49 undergraduate students in the BA in Ayurveda Wellness, a program that began in January. In addition, 8 students enrolled in the new BA in Applied Arts and Sciences.

Together, these 57 new undergraduate students compare to 50 new undergraduate students on campus.

“It’s heartening to see that our new online students are every bit as enthusiastic about Consciousness-Based education as our on-campus students,” said Chris Jones, dean of assessment and undergraduate studies. “They have also bonded as an online community in a sweet and profound way. Online is definitely a growth area for the university at this time.”

Interest in online study of Maharishi AyurvedaSM and Integrative Medicine is even more robust at the graduate level, with 67 new students enrolling in this master of science degree, with a total enrollment of 163 students.

“This master’s program has come along at just the right time, when the need for holistic, prevention-based healthcare has never been greater,” Dr. Eason said. “It aligns perfectly with MUM’s mission to improve the quality of life everywhere.”

Overall, not counting students in the MS in computer science, the total enrollment this fall is 760, with 353 online students and 407 on-campus students.

The growth in the proportion of online students is also evident when comparing this to figures from the fall of 2018, which saw 543 students enrolled, with 177 of those being online students and 366 on-campus.

Total enrollment at the university as of early September was 1,750, including 739 students in the MS in computer science and 151 students at Maharishi Invincibility Institute in South Africa.

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**FROM THE FOUNDER**

“*When by the practice of Transcendental Meditation the mind becomes familiar with the deeper levels of consciousness, or, when the mind becomes familiar with transcendental pure consciousness, or when transcendental pure consciousness is found within the conscious capacity of the mind, then the mind gains the ability to work from any subtle or gross level of consciousness.*”

— Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, *Science of Being*

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**Maharishi Ayurveda Treatment Clinic to Open October 14**

While there has been a clinic on campus for a number of years that offers health consultations, beginning October 14 this service will be greatly expanded to include Maharishi PanchakarmaSM cleansing and detoxification treatments.

The new facility is housed in the north Maharishi Peace Palace on the west side of Highway 1, with all Transcendental Meditation®-related activities now consolidated in the south Peace Palace.

Part of the impetus for establishing a full-service treatment facility has been the success of the graduate and undergraduate programs in Maharishi Ayurveda and Integrative Medicine, which now enroll well over 200 students.

MUM is the first university in the U.S. offering accredited bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Maharishi Ayurveda, and it will now house the first university-sponsored Maharishi Panchakarma clinic in the country.

The new Maharishi Ayurveda Integrative Health Center will offer cleansing treatments over a period of three to seven days. They are given in silence, to create a profound inner experience for the guest. Technicians, working in gender-separate wings, administer the treatments that many people describe as deeply luxurious and highly relaxing.

For two and a half hours each day, the client enjoys three treatments:

- Herbalized, warm-oil massage, which loosens impurities, mobilizing them into the blood stream, and opening the channels of circulation.
- Heat or oil applications, which continue the process of dislodging and mobilizing impurities into the blood stream and lower digestion tract in preparation for elimination.
- Internal cleansing, which is a mild herbalized-oil enema that’s essential for eliminating the mobilized toxins and impurities.

According to Professor Keith Wallace, the accumulation of toxins is implicated in cardiovascular disease, Alzheimer’s disease and dementia, arthritis, and allergies. In addition, toxins can exacerbate common symptoms such as fatigue, heaviness, and dullness.

Research has found that Maharishi Panchakarma treatments reduced specific fat-soluble toxins by about 50 percent.

Consultations are offered by Dr. Jim Davis, DO, and Vaidya Manohar Palakurthi.

For more information and pricing, see www.mum-clinic.org.

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**Information about Fairfield**

fairfieldinfocenter.org
Arts & entertainment, businesses, celebrations, clubs, events, food, housing & lodging, jobs, health services, parks, shopping, tours, and more!
MUM Student Farm Receives Organic and Biodynamic Certification

After following US Department of Agriculture organic standards for three years, the MUM student farm has been inspected and verified to meet these standards – and is now certified organic.

In addition, the farm also recently received biodynamic certification, making MUM the first accredited university to achieve this distinction.

Organic certification disallows the use of synthetic pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers, and the farm must be free of these chemicals for a transition period of three years in order to be certified.

Organic agriculture helps ensure greater health for people, the soil, and the plants themselves, said farm manager Kris Johnson.

Biodynamic certification goes a step further, requiring that the farm produce its own fertility. According to Mr. Johnson, that entails locally sourcing all the potting soil, compost, and compost “tea” (a blend of microorganisms used to treat the soil). Each day, some 500 pounds of food waste from the dining hall is added to the composting process.

“Biodynamic agriculture looks at the farm as a whole ecosystem, rather than just extracting cash from the land,” Mr. Johnson said. “It’s more in tune with natural law.”

Professor Steve McLaskey, who teaches regenerative organic agriculture, said that biodynamic agriculture takes best care of the soil, the environment, and biodiversity. It requires using as little tillage as possible and using cover crops when the soil isn’t being used to grow food. In addition, it requires setting land aside and not cultivating it so that it provides a nourishing environment for wildlife and wild plants.

“Biodynamic agriculture can truly be called regenerative,” Dr. McLaskey said. “Part of the university’s mission is to be a good steward of the environment. These certifications clearly demonstrate that we’re doing that.”

He said the MUM farm is the only one in Iowa to be certified biodynamic.

Achieving these certifications has been a great satisfaction, he said. “We put in a lot of work. It involves a lot of paperwork, including detailed records of our practices, as well as inspections by the certifying agencies.”

The farm operates throughout the year, growing produce in the campus greenhouses during the winter months. Produce is sold at the farmer’s market and via a subscription program May through mid-October, which is referred to as community-supported agriculture (CSA). Subscribers receive a box of produce each week. This year there are 27 subscribers, with the CSA program expected to expand next year.

Currently there are seven full-time students working on the farm as part of their major in regenerative organic agriculture. In addition, other students sometimes take one or two agriculture courses and work on the farm during that time.

Professor McLaskey, who grew up on a farm and holds a PhD in agriculture, heads the regenerative organic agriculture program.

The farm comprises 18 acres located north of the MUM tennis courts and north of the grain elevator on the edge of campus on Highway 1, with two acres currently under cultivation.

Maharishi School Ranks #1 in Iowa

Maharishi School tops all other private schools in Iowa in five of six categories according to the website Niche.com, which ranks schools and colleges nationwide.

Maharishi Upper School is ranked #1 as the Best Private High School in Iowa out of 53 schools statewide.

The Upper School is also #1 in the categories of Most Diverse, Best College Prep, and Best Boarding. In addition, Maharishi School received a rating of #1 in the category of Best Private K–12 Schools in Iowa.

And out of 77 schools both private and public, Maharishi Upper School ranked #3 in the category Best High Schools for STEM in Iowa, with STEM referring to science, technology, engineering, and math.

Rankings are based on data from the U.S. Department of Education and from reviews from students, parents, and teachers.

Dr. Maheshwari Publishes Second Edition of Textbook on Big Data

A widely used textbook on big data by Professor Anil Maheshwari was published by McGraw-Hill in a 2nd edition this past summer.

The new version of the book is more aligned with the computer science and information systems curricula that are offered at universities around the U.S., Dr. Maheshwari said.

This edition, titled Big Data, has three additional chapters, including a chapter on artificial intelligence. The quality of the production of the book is also higher, including a more attractive cover, more images, and a cleaner font and layout.

Dr. Maheshwari’s book is being used beyond the U.S., including a Chinese translation.

In a separate achievement, Dr. Maheshwari this summer published a paper titled “Yoga Sutra and World Peace” in the Journal of Development Research, which is based in Mumbai, India. See bit.ly/2kViKVN.

Receive Campus Events via Email

To be added to the mailing list, send an email to domenews@mum.edu.

Celebration of Gandhi’s Life

Mahatma Gandhi, Apostle of Peace, 150th Birth Anniversary (1869–2019) Celebration on October 2, 7:30–9 pm, Dalby Hall.
A documentary on brain-based leadership that includes interviews with Professors Fred Travis and Robert Schneider, and former adjunct professor Harald Harung, recently won Best Documentary Feature and Best Documentary Director at the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival Awards.

The filmmaker, Silvia Damiano, came to campus to conduct interviews. In his segment, Dr. Travis emphasizes the importance of a leader having a clear mind. Dr. Harung talks about the importance of mind-brain development in becoming a good leader. And Dr. Schneider explains that an optimally functioning brain depends on an optimally functioning physiology. The film, titled Make Me a Leader, also shows Dr. Travis taking Ms. Damiano’s EEG.

A practitioner of the Transcendental Meditation technique, Ms. Damiano is the founder and CEO of About My Brain Institute. The documentary can be viewed for $10 at aboutmybrain.com/make-me-a-leader. A trailer that includes Dr. Harung and Dr. Travis can be viewed on YouTube at bit.ly/2mAIlUx.

The film describes how to develop the leaders of the future and suggests a new mindset based on science that integrates the entire biological system from the brain down.

Ms. Damiano offers leadership training and wrote in an email, “I am happy I was able to showcase the amazing work of Fred and Harald. I speak about them all the time.”

Course on Essential Oils Open to Public

A four-week course on the extraction and use of essential oils that begins October 28 will be open to the public. Taught by Yashu Sharma, a visiting research scholar studying medicinal herbs, the course will cover commonly available aromatic herbs, including basil, sage, rosemary, thyme, oregano, mints, lemongrass, lavender, geranium, chamomile, and ginger.

Students will explore various methods of extraction of essential oils, including distillation, enfleurage, maceration, solvents, and large-scale extraction.

The course will include hands-on training in essential oil extraction through steam distillation. Students will also learn about the usage of essential oils for different ailments and their formulations in cosmetics, medicines, and aromatherapy.

Dr. Sharma is an expert in the field of horticulture and was involved in research and extension activities for more than five years at the University of Agricultural Sciences in Dharwad, India. She has been conducting research on medicinal herbs, conservation, and quality analysis of herbs for 10 years.

For the past five years she has been teaching horticulture courses, including fundamentals of horticulture, plant propagation, fruit and vegetable production, commercial floriculture, ornamental horticulture and landscape gardening, spices and plantation crops, post-harvest technology, medicinal and aromatic crops, and high-tech horticulture.

Those who are not currently full-time students will need to learn either beforehand or upon arrival. The cost is $380 for registered participants.