Intellectual Property Law for Programmers.

-Prof. Ralph Clifford

Professor Clifford Started with the logic behind having to protect our resources and made reasonable arguments in favor of the same. A general description of all the different kinds of Intellectual property laws and their scope in keeping us protected was given. To summarize, the topics that were touched upon are as follows:

- **Patent law**(Protects inventions): A new, useful thing or process (can be a new widget or a new way to make widgets). If it is based on a previous invention, the innovation must be a non-obvious extension of what came before.
- **Copyright law(**Protects creative expression): The right, subject to some exceptions, to reproduce, distribute, and make new versions of your work. It must have a creative aspect tot it and must be fixed in something tangible so that it can be reproduced.
- **Trademark**(Product identifiers): Right to keep others from using your mark in a way that is likely to confuse typical consumers of the product. It is essentially used to identify who made the particular product.
- **Trade secrets:** The right to prevent others from using your secret, but only if they commit some type of wrong to get it.

Besides the above information, he also touched upon some important aspects of intellectual property law, such as "When to get an IP lawyer". All in all, it was a much-required seminar to educate us, tomorrow's professionals, with the legal expertise needed to do right by our goals and aspirations. Professor Clifford, specifically, was a dynamite speaker who had just the right issues to talk about and the right analogies to make to relate to us.

Introduction to Linux on the HPC server at CIS.

-Dr. Thomas W Gyeera

This seminar was a comprehensive deep dive into the various nuances surrounding the HPC introduced at CIS. It started off with Dr. Gyeera defining the purpose of this new addition: With cloud resources being expensive, this HPC is supposed to be facilitative in terms of research and projects considering the reduction in execution time and computationally expensive resources. A brief description of the software packages included in the HPC, like- Ubuntu, JupyterHub, Pytorch, keras, Tensorflow, Matlab, Eclipse, etc, was brushed up on. Taking us through a brief history of Linux, Dr. Gyeera elaborated on how to access the HPC via various SSH servers, accessing software packages, and API tokens, and working with Linux and UNIX commands. Overall the seminar demonstrated great initiative on the part of the CIS department, by introducing this powerful piece of technology in our incubation stage itself. I feel this would open us up to new avenues in the field of computing. While the seminar could brief us with more information on the possible applications, system specifications, use cases, etc, it was still a useful burst of information that has unimaginable applications in real-world scenarios(Scientific research, Weather forecasting, Aerospace and Engineering, Oil and gas exploration, Financial modelling, Drug discovery and Healthcare, ML and AI, Cybersecurity, Space exploration, Material science, etc). Though the information provided was much needed and to the point considering today's computing environment, I

feel that the seminar could have been a lot more informative with more topics that could've been touched up on.