From the Chair
Greetings!

Well, since I'm still making myself comfortable and getting used to this new position, I think I'll spend a few paragraphs filling everyone in on what's been happening with the ACM at UIUC over the past few months.

First and foremost: committee positions. We're still looking for ACM members who are interested in getting involved in the ACM at UIUC for next semester. From past experience, we're always looking for people to work on the BANKS OF THE BONEYARD Newsletter Staff. Talk to our Editor Eric Sean Parham for more information if you're interested. Publicity also could use a few more people to do art and design for ACM events. With more ACM activities comes the need to get the word out to ACM members and

National Lecturers at UIUC

As announced in an earlier issue of Banks, the ACM@UIUC have two ACM National Lecturers coming to the campus. On Monday, April 18, we will have Dr. Tamas Doszkocs coming to speak about Natural Language User Interfaces. He is speaking in 100 Noyes, at 3pm.

Dr. Doszkocs, received his Ph.D. in 1979 from the University of Maryland. During the past 15 years, he has worked in academia, industry and government in a variety of R & D and technical management postitions. His expertise and main intrests are in information retrieval, natural language processing and user interface design. His presentation will survey pragmatic artificail intelligence and natural language processing concepts and techniques and their use in implementing free-form (English language) front-ends to Information Retrieval and DBMS systems.

What's Up NeXT?
A Report on the 1988 ACM Computer Science Conference

Sit back, relax and let me take a stab at predicting the future. Don't laugh, I'm serious. A whole new age of computing is dawning and I want to tell you a little about it. This is the story of visualization, Unix, MIPS, and networking which has a happy ending.

About now your saying to yourself "How does he know so much?" The answer is simple. I went to Atlanta. Yes that's right Atlanta, Georgia. While the rest of you were sitting in classes, a group of ACM at UIUC members, myself included, made the long voyage to the 1988 ACM Computer Science Conference (for those of you who question the word voyage, we drove which makes it a *long* voyage). But that still does not explain our sudden increase in knowledge and mystical powers. Well, you see, I happened to sit in on a session entitled "The Future of Computer Science Computing" and heard a gentleman by the name of Guy "Bud" Tribble speak. He is the Vice President of

Software Engineering at a company called NeXT.

Don't tell me you have never heard of NeXT. Just because they haven't actually marketed anything is no excuse for ignorance. My first prediction is that before the end of 1988 almost everyone will know about a company called NeXT and their ever popular founder Steven Jobs (co-founder of Apple, Inc.). What makes NeXT so much in the news is the fact that they have announced that they will release what promises to be the most exciting computers of 1988. But I'll have more on that next month. Right now, I would like to share with you what was said in the session because I found it to be gosh darn interesting.

A Cray XMP on every desk. This sounds a little far fetched. Where would I put it? The way computers

National Lecturers at UIUC

Presently, he is working in the National Library of Medicine, researching implementation of natural language databases. This should be very interesting for all database researchers.

As mentioned here before, we at ACM arrainged for these speakers during our trip to the Computer Science Conference in Atlanta. These gentlemen are visiting us as part of a tour of Illinois. Financial support for the UIUC leg of this trip is provided by Addamax Corp. of Champaign. We wish to thank Addamax for their generous support.

—Chris Gerrib & Jeff Wilson,
Lectureship Committee

From the Chair

nonmembers alike. If you want to get involved in one of the largest, most active ACM Student Chapters in the nation, I'll personally see to it that I find you something interesting for you to do. Stop by the ACM Office 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday and talk to any of the executives for more information.

Getting involved in the ACM at UIUC could mean joining one of the special interest groups—or SIGs—that the ACM at UIUC helps support. In the past few months, SIGBIO headed up by Mike Doyle has done a terrific job of getting themselves established as a very promising and active SIG. Their interests are in computer applications in the biological and medical sciences. If you're interested, give Mike a call, or stop by the ACM Office. The rest of the SIGs are doing pretty well too. I just talked with Don Meyer—Chairman of SIGMICRO—about setting up the ACM Bulletin Board System in the very near future. They'll be working on the Macintoshs in the ACM MacLab.

And speaking of the MacLab, MacLab Director Chris Fuller celebrated the first month of operation on Fool's Day (hmmm, any correlation there?). The ACM MacLab, for those you us who don't make it out into the real

A Farewell From The Chair

And so now it is time to hand the reigns of ACM@UIUC over to the new group of executives. I take comfort in the fact that the ACM will be run by enthusiastic and competent people. I am certain that ACM will continue to provide its members with a variety of events and to be a means of bringing together students, faculty, and staff with interests in computers here on campus.

I am grateful for have having the opportunity to work with such an energetic group of students and have enjoyed being apart of the ACM executive council. It was a pleasure to see the cooperation of a team environment among the executives and their dedication that transformed many last minute ideas into events and that developed long involved projects into successes.

We hope that this past tenure of the ACM executive council has taken ACM in the direction that best served our membership. And as we have said before, we are always interested in your input as a guide to planning our future activities.

As for me, I am headed to AT&T Bell Labs in Naperville and will be doing software development on one of their switching systems. My first assignment will be to return to school and earn a Master's Degree in Computer Science. I am considering Stanford and UIUC; so there is a chance of me being sighted around the ACM office, wherever that may be, next year.

I wish Rich, Lisa, Chris, and Scott all the best and leave them with this one last bit of advise...

As ACM has been growing, a need has developed for maintaining organization and unity among all the activities ACM partakes in. It is important as every to keep in contact with all the committees to ensure that the things we have worked hard for and have accomplished do not fade away. It is essential to have more people reporting to the officers on committee activities. If you can find better ways than myself and those before me of tapping into our large membership and involving more members in executive decisions, you will be able to continue the services ACM currently offers as well as bringing new events to ACM that are now just future envisions. - Best of Luck.

—*Robert A. Camp, Chairman*

From the Chair

world, is located in Room 202, 1204 West Springfield Avenue, right down the hall from the ACM Office. The MacLab is currently running a Macintosh II with a 100 meg hard-drive networked to three Macintosh SEs and a LaserWriter. The MacLab is open during regular ACM Office hours and is available for any ACM members. If you need to get some work done and the Union's crowded (always), stop on by.

The ACM Lectureship Series is doing well this semester. Chris Gerrib and Jeff Wilson have introduced a number of ACM National speakers to students here on campus. Keep your eyes open for upcoming announcements of additional speakers. They're interesting and free to students, and cover a wide range of topics in computer science and applications.

Well, enough for now. Over break, I did a little spring cleaning and rearranged the ACM Office here, and I don't think the dust has quite settled.

Maybe I'll throw a sheet over the chair until next time.

—*Rich Bloch, Chairman*

> ### BANKS OF THE BONEYARD
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> Editor:
> Eric Sean Parham
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> Contributing Editor:
> Tom Begnel
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> Columnists:
> Scott Mahlke

Faculty Spotlight Reporting:
A Way to Meet the Professors

Now that we begin the second half of our semester this Spring it is time to once again consider next, that's right, NEXT semester. So are you going to let it be another one of those boring, don't-get-out-and-see-the-world semesters? Again?

Why not try writing for the "Faculty Spotlight" column seen biweekly in this here Banks of the Boneyard newsletter? I have written the column for a few years now and have enjoyed meeting and talking with over a dozen faculty members in the Department of Computer Science. I've learned a lot about current research projects and have enjoyed sharing what I've learned with our hundreds of Banks

readers.

Since I will be gone next semester working once again at a co-op position at Monsanto in St. Louis I will need to find some new and exciting writer to fill in as Faculty Spotlight reporter. It's a simple task to set up an appointment with a Professor and to spend a few minutes discussing his research and interests. It's a great way to meet some of our Department's new professors and learn about their research projects first hand from those who are involved. I think it would be a good idea to expand the Spotlight to focus on professors of other departments. For example Business MIS, EE, and CompE professors who are

doing computer-related research.

If you might be interested in carrying on the Faculty Spotlight torch feel free to give me a call at 328-3832, even if you would just like more info about it. You could start this semester if you would like or even wait till next, whichever is most convenient for you, and I will fill you in on all you need to know about it. So what are you waiting for? Beat those boring semester blues by getting out and meeting some important and interesting people, and see your byline on Banks of the Boneyard newsletters all over campus.

- Tom Begnel, Contributing Editor

SIGGRAPH

In the name of all the SIGGRAPH members, I would like to thank Don Meyer of SIGMICRO, Lionel Humel, Mike Schwager and everybody who helped SIGGRAPH and SIGMICRO with the EOH project. Now, that the EOH 88 is in the past, we need to look toward next year's EOH. For that, we need people interested in computer graphics to help with the SIGGRAPH project. Also, If you are interested in becoming the next SIGGRAPH chairman or just an executive member come to the ACM general meeting in 314 Altgeld Hall or come to the next SIGGRAPH meeting in the ACM lounge at 1204 W. Springfield in Urbana. For more information call the ACM Office at 333-5828.

—*Abbas Zein, SIGGRAPH*

What's Up NeXT?

are shaping up, in four to five years, this could very well become a reality.

Graphics are changing from toys to a necessity.

Convergence on a networked Unix-based workstation with "Parc style" user interfaces much like the Macintosh will be the standard for the next ten years.

Unix will become a standard (interesting...). Unix will need support of dynamic shared libraries, lightweight processes and multiprocessors.

Systems will soon connect to everything. Networking will move toward a standard with easy access to disk servers and computational servers. Ethernet/ TCP-IP/ NFS are *defacto* standards.

Hardware will continue to become more powerful. Expect 100+ MIPS in the mid 1990s. Possibility of multi-servers. Special attachment processors for graphics, number crunching, and neural nets will be especially useful in academic environments.

Job Opportunities with OptImage
Interactive Services

It started at NV Philips in the Netherlands: CD-digital audio, CD-ROM, Laservision, and Compact Disk-Interactive (CD-I) were invented there. Then R. R. Donnelley & Sons, America's largest commercial printer, united with Philips in a joint venture. That venture is OptImage Interactive Services, a premier organization that will bring CD-I and CD-ROM technologies, tools, and services to publishers and multimedia developers.

We are offering you, the students of the University of Illinois, the chance to join a team that is at the forefront o this new industry. We are talking about a high tech Sun workstation, networked environment, well-defined business goals, and a people oriented environment.

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User Interface Expert - Support CD-I user shell/interface development, support operations in tuning user interfaces that are application dependent. Should have experience in object-oriented programming languages and interfaces, and user interfaces for multi-media applications. If you have designed your own prototypes, that's a plus.

Digital Video or Audio Experts - Video position requires video compression experience. Audio position requires audio compression (ADPCM) experience. You should also be familiar with C, UNIX and hopefully the Sun environment. Experience with DSP microcode is a plus.

Database Engineers - Again, need to be proficient in C and UNIX; MS-DOS may be helpful. Will be involved in identification and modification of retrieval engine generators for CD-ROM applications, and in data organization and structuring.

In addition, the people we are looking for should be bright, lucid, pragmatic, self-motivated, able to handle themselves in a small company, start-up environment but also able o make the transition to working within a multi-national corporate framework. We are an equal opportunity employer, and do encourage women and minorities to apply.

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Send resumes to:

Dr. Richard Bruno, Vice President
OptImage Interactive Services
300 Adams Street, Suite 601
Chicago, IL 60606

From the New Editor's Disk

The issue that you are now holding is my first 'official' newsletter as 'official' editor of the *BANKS OF THE BONEYARD*. Although this issue is not much of a newsletter, that's mainly due to the fact of spring break, and the incompetence of the new editor. Rest assured that spring break is over, and I should become a better editor as we progress.

I've worked with the *BANKS* since the beginning of last semester, and I've seen a lot of great changes made. I've met many interesting people while on the newsletter staff, and have had the great opportunity to, pardon the dying metaphor, rub elbows with a good number of top brass at the University of Illinois. My resume has certainly fattened up, and I've been introduced to a number of job contacts. But the best thing thing about working on the *BANKS* is that I've had a heck'uv'a lot of fun!

All this may sound like I'm preparing to leave. On the contrary, I'm just beginning. I'd like to encourage everyone to get involved with the Association of Computing Machinery at the University of Illinois. Your help is always needed, and I always appreciate seeing a new face around. I'm looking for more writers, artists, graphic-designers, layout editors, and just people interested in joining the team. If you're even slightly interested, please don't hesitate to give me a call!

Thanks for your time.

—*Eric Sean Parham, Editor*

What's Up NeXT?

The extra MIPS will be used by a number of things including: user interfaces, graphics of the highest possible quality, sound and music, signal/array processing, databases, and artificial intelligence.

Adequate memory will mean no paging or approximately 32 megabytes.

All in all, it sounds pretty impressive. I would not mind having this kind of power today. I'd like to leave you with a couple of the better quotes from the session to ponder in your free time.

"Computer science students know everything about nothing. They need to broaden their base."

"Standards—A place where you stand when you do something interesting."

The ACM at UIUC is continuing to develop a relationship with NeXT. Look for an interview with Todd Rulon-Miller, the Manager of Sales at NeXT, sometime in the very near future.

—*Chris Fuller, MacLab Director*

ACM Calendar of Events

Wed April 13   NEWSLETTER Meeting
7:00 pm
ACM Lounge, 1204 W. Springfield, Room 301

Thurs April 14   Computer Graphics Environment Seminar
3:00 pm
Room 112, Gregory Hall

Thurs April 14   3D Graphics in Fluid Dynamics Seminar
10:00 am
169 Computing Applications Building

Mon April 18   Dr. Doszkocs - National Lecturer
3:00 pm
100 Noyes Lab
4:00 pm
217 Noyes Lab

Tues April 19   Performance of Parallel Computers Seminar
10:00 am
115 Digital Computer Lab