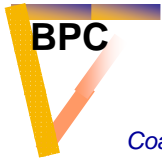




CRA-W & CDC Distinguished Lecture Series Graduate School Panel

University of Waterloo
May 31, 2010



Feedback

- Please fill out Exit Survey before you leave.
- Return it as you leave
(or after the social or after the talk)
- More comments on how to improve this panel
after you leave are also welcome: dls@cra.org





Coalition to Diversify Computing

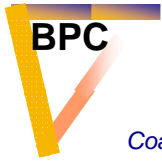
Introductions

Computing Research Association - Women

Therese Biedl (moderator)

- Associate Professor (and Chair of WICS), UW-SCS
- Research interest: Algorithms





A very brief overview

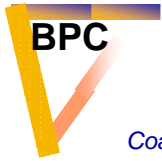
Master's:

- Three options:
 - Thesis: 4 courses, lots of research
 - Essay: 7 courses, a little bit of research
 - Course-based: 8 courses
- \$\$\$-support for at least 5 terms (except course-based)
 - usually via research/teaching assistantship

PhD:

- Usually should have Master's already.
- Thesis: lots of research
- \$\$\$-support for at least 12 terms
 - usually via research/teaching assistantships
 - sometimes (voluntarily) also sessional teachers





Coalition to Diversify Computing

Introductions

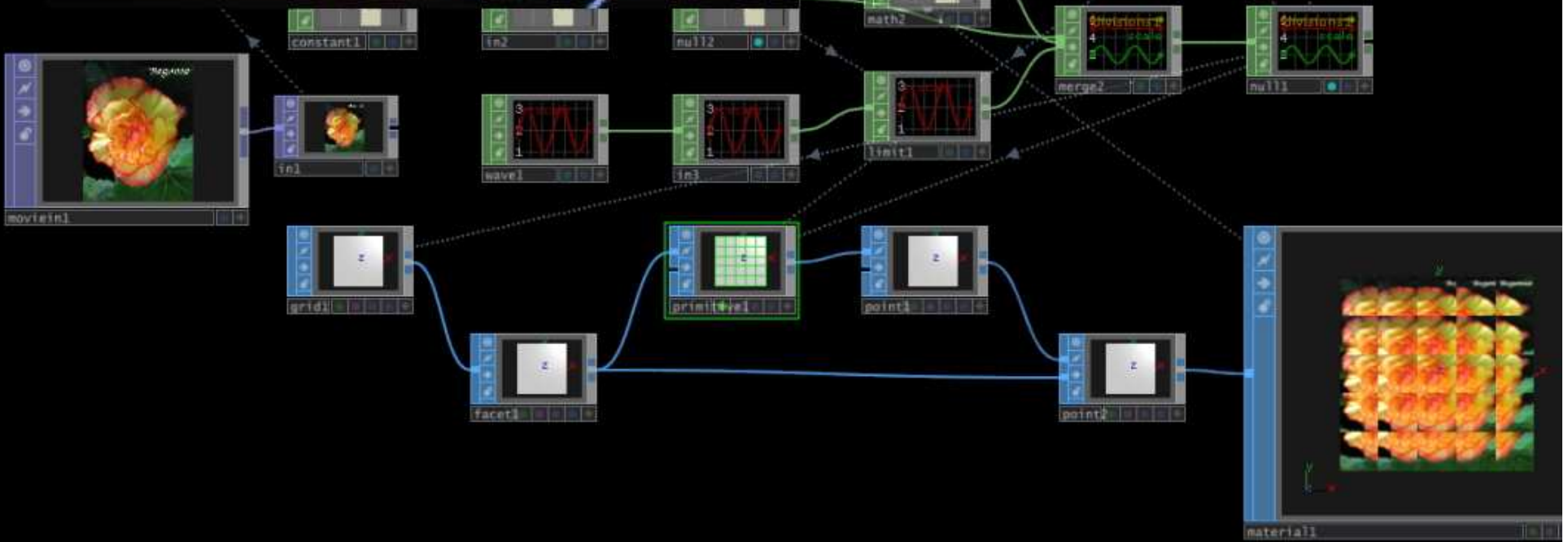
Computing Research Association - Women

Therese Biedl (moderator)

Selina Siu

- Graphics Developer, Derivative Inc.
- Research interest: Computer Graphics







Introductions

Therese Biedl (moderator)

Selina Siu

Marie desJardins

- Associate Professor, University of Maryland Baltimore County
- Research interest: Artificial Intelligence
- Talk today at 4:30, DC 1302





Coalition to Diversify Computing

Introductions

Computing Research Association - Women

Therese Biedl (moderator)

Selina Siu

Marie desJardins

Cristina Ribeiro

- PhD student (1st year), UW-SCS
- Research interest: Software engineering





Coalition to Diversify Computing

Introductions

Computing Research Association - Women

Therese Biedl (moderator)

Selina Siu

Marie desJardins

Cristina Ribeiro

Alma Juarez Dominguez

- PhD student (5th year), UW-SCS
- Research interest: SE, Formal methods





Coalition to Diversify Computing

Introductions

Computing Research Association - Women

Therese Biedl (moderator)

Selina Siu

Marie desJardins

Cristina Ribeiro

Alma Juarez Dominguez

Yuying Li

- Professor (and Graduate Director), UW-SCS
- Research interest: Scientific computing





Coalition to Diversify Computing

Stand Up ... Sit Down

Computing Research Association - Women



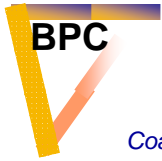
Undergraduate
Student?

Faculty?

Masters
Student?

PhD
Student?





Questions?





Application process (at UW)

- Start early!
 - Apply by December for next Fall
 - Apply even earlier (September?) for NSERC or OGS scholarships
- CV, statement of interest, transcript, GRE
- 3 letters of recommendation (important!)
- Two-stage selection process:
 - “Good enough”: cutoff around B+/78% average
 - Accepted by professor(s) who promises supervision and funding. (Course-work Master’s accepted without supervisor.)
 - Supervisor fixed from beginning (but may be changed.)





Undergraduate research

How can I get research experience NOW?

- At UW:
 - URA: Undergraduate research assistantship
 - Coop position with a professor
 - Not always published: talk to your professors!
- Industry coop positions may involve research.
- Some nation-wide programs:
 - NSERC USRA: undergraduate student research awards
 - CDMP: Canadian Distributed Mentor Program
 - Various others from CRA-W (must be US citizen)





Resources

- Advice for Undergraduates Considering Grad School (Phil Agre)
 - <http://polaris.gseis.ucla.edu/pagre/grad-school.html>
- CRA-W publication: The Graduate Student Information Guide
 - <http://www.cra-w.org/sites/default/files/grad-guide.pdf>
- Choosing A Ph.D. Program In Computer Science (Rachel Pottinger)
 - <http://www.acm.org/crossroads/xrds6-1/choosing.html>
- How to Succeed in Graduate School: A Guide for Students and Advisors: (Marie desJardins)
 - <http://www.cs.umbc.edu/~mariedj/papers/advice-summary.html>
- Internships & more: <http://www.acm.org/crossroads/resources>

These slides will be posted on WICS web page:
<http://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~wics>





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- **Social: NOW, DC1301 (fishbowl)**
- **Talk by Marie: 4:30pm, DC1302**

