university of washington college of engineering

computer science & engineering

“The University of Washington Department of Computer Science & Engineering is at the center of a revolution. Information technology is transforming all aspects of our lives and driving our economy. It’s where the action is...where the breakthroughs are occurring...where the smartest young men and women are choosing to study and to work. Ranked among the top ten programs in the nation, UW CSE is tightly coupled to other outstanding programs at the University of Washington, and to the Puget Sound region’s burgeoning high tech economy. In education, in research, in technology transfer, and in leadership, UW CSE is defining the future.”

ED LAZOWSKA, BILL & MELINDA GATES CHAIR

education
The Department of Computer Science & Engineering has two undergraduate programs: a Computer Science program offered through the College of Arts & Sciences, and a Computer Engineering program offered through the College of Engineering. At the graduate level, we offer full-time study towards the Masters and Ph.D., as well as a part-time evening/distance Professional Masters Program for the region’s fully-employed professionals. Working with UW Educational Outreach, we offer dozens of Certificate Programs enrolling many thousands of students each year. Wide-ranging partnerships with units such as the Information School, the Mathematical Science departments, UW’s Bothell and Tacoma campuses, and the state’s community colleges and K-12 schools extend our reach even further. Our students are extraordinary, and we invest in them accordingly. In recognition of this, in 1999 we received the inaugural University of Washington Brotman Award for Instructional Excellence, UW’s departmental distinguished teaching award.

research
Our faculty, staff, and students are engaged in forefront research in most of the principal areas of the field. Particular strengths include:

- embedded systems, VLSI systems, and reconfigurable computing
- computer architecture
- networking
- operating systems and distributed systems
- programming systems
- information retrieval, database systems, and intelligent internet systems
- software engineering
- computer graphics, computer vision, and animation
- human interface to computing
- artificial intelligence and robotics
- theory of computation
- computing and biology
**technology transfer**

Our faculty and graduates have been instrumental in the creation of companies for decades — from Aldus, Dialogic, Digital Research, IC Designs, Pixar, and Visio...to AdRelevance, Consystant, Impinj, Netbot, Nimble Technology, Numinous Technologies, Performant, and Safeware Engineering. UW CSE technologies include WebCrawler (the first full-text web search engine), MetaCrawler (the first web meta-search engine), and Simultaneous Multithreading (a revolutionary computer architecture that is gaining widespread adoption). Our most important contribution, though, is people — the students who graduate from UW CSE carrying with them skills, knowledge, creativity, and drive.

**leadership**

Through its faculty, staff, students, and alumni, UW CSE is integrally linked to the College of Engineering, the University of Washington, the State of Washington, and the nation; our impact can be seen in the agendas being pursued at all levels.