David Notkin, our dear friend and colleague, passed away at home at 3:30 a.m. on April 22, 2013, following a long battle with cancer. He was 58 years old.

David joined UW CSE in 1984 after receiving his doctorate from Carnegie Mellon University and his bachelor’s degree from Brown University. He spent his professional career as a leader, teacher, and researcher at the University of Washington. A world-renowned expert in software engineering, David served as CSE chair from 2001–06 and was honored with the Boeing Endowed Professorship in Computer Science & Engineering, the Frank and Wilma Bradley Endowed Professorship, and the Frank and Wilma Bradley Endowed Chair. He also recently served as the College of Engineering’s associate dean of research and graduate studies.

David’s educational and research interests were in software engineering, with a particular focus on software evolution focused on understanding why software is so hard and expensive to change. As he explained in his CSE profile, ‘These interests come from my firm belief that the ability to change software — that is, the ‘softness’ of software — is where its true power resides.’
Our faculty continue to excel, as well. This year Susan Eggers was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Shyam Gollakota received the ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award. Dan Grossman was named to the UW College of Engineering J. Ray Bowen Professorship for Innovation in Engineering Education. Oren Etzioni was GeekWire’s 2013 “Geek of the Year.”

I mention these specific accomplishments with great pride, but also with some reluctance, because so many of UW CSE’s students, alumni, and faculty are truly extraordinary. I come to work every day amazed at the company I am honored to keep!

On a sad note, David Notkin, a UW CSE faculty member since 1984 and my predecessor as department chair, passed away on April 22 following a long battle with cancer. On February 1, more than 300 of David’s friends honored him at Notkinfest, a tribute to his extraordinary personal and professional contributions, at which we announced the establishment of the David Notkin Endowed Graduate Fellowship in Computer Science & Engineering to permanently recognize his dedication to graduate education.

The field of computer science is on a roll — advances in the field are central to achieving all of our nation’s priorities. UW CSE is on a roll, too — today we only compete with Berkeley, MIT, Stanford, and Carnegie Mellon for faculty and students. We owe our reputation to you — our students, our alumni, and our friends. We are proud and grateful for what you have achieved.

Have a great summer! You’ll hear from us again in the fall!

Henry M. Levy
Chairman and Wissner-Slivka Chair

From where I sit...

The conclusion of another academic year is a time to look back and to look towards the future.

This issue of MSB celebrates some extraordinary student accomplishments. Seniors Raymond Zhang and Sam Hopkins have been awarded the Engineering Dean’s Medal and the Arts & Sciences Dean’s Medal for the Natural Sciences, respectively — recognizing them as the top students in the College of Engineering and in the Natural Science programs in the College of Arts & Sciences. Raymond and Sam are the fourteenth and fifteenth CSE students to win Dean’s Medals. Senior Matt Bryan was the national winner in the 2013 Computing Research Association Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award competition, and Kevin Clark and Grace Muzny received honorable mention — continuing UW CSE’s record of having the largest number of students recognized in the most recent ten years of this competition.

This issue also celebrates some extraordinary alums. Anne Dinning (BS ‘84), “first among equals” on the Executive Committee of the hedge fund D.E. Shaw, and Ed Felten (PhD ‘93), professor of computer science and of public policy at Princeton University, are the recipients of our 2013 Alumni Achievement Awards. Kevin Ross (BS ‘88) is the recipient of the UW College of Engineering Diamond Award for Distinguished Service, recognizing his post-Microsoft leadership of Washington State’s K-12 FIRST Robotics effort. Heather Underwood (BS ‘09), a graduate student at the University of Colorado working with 1988 UW CSE PhD alum John Bennett, was the first place winner in the 2013 ACM Graduate Student Research Competition Grand Finals.

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CSE’s Raymond Zhang & Sam Hopkins win Dean’s Medals

The Dean’s Medal recognizes the top student in the College of Engineering and each of the College of Arts & Science’s four divisions — arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences — based on grade point average, difficulty of courses taken, and recommendations from the student’s department. This year two CSE students received this honor, the fourteenth and fifteenth CSE students to do so.

Computer engineering senior Raymond Zhang has been named as one of two recipients of the 2013 University of Washington Engineering Dean’s Medal for Academic Excellence.

Since his sophomore year, Raymond has participated in the computational biology group led by Ram Samudrala, associate professor in the department of microbiology. Under Professor Samudrala’s guidance, Raymond is developing a program to predict the structure of how a protein and nucleic acid strand interact. Raymond says he “wanted to come to the UW because of its excellent departments of CSE and Biology.”

After graduating in June with double degrees in computer engineering and biology, Raymond will explore working in industry for a few years by joining Google as a software developer in October.

Sam Hopkins, a senior majoring in computer science and in mathematics, has been selected to receive the 2013 University of Washington College of Arts & Sciences Dean’s Medal for the Natural Sciences.

Sam’s research is in theoretical computer science. He seeks to apply techniques and insights from logic, algebra, analysis, and geometry to problems in computer science. He has worked on foundational questions related to randomness and the complexity of computation executed by many cooperating parties, with researchers at Rutgers University and at UW CSE under the advisement of Professor Paul Beame. As an intern at Google, he designed prototype extensions to the Dart programming language.

He plans to spend the summer after graduating wandering around somewhere very far away. In Fall 2013 he will join the Theory of Computation and Programming Languages groups at Cornell University as a PhD student, supported by an NSF graduate research fellowship. In between bouts of math, Sam likes to bike fast, ski fast, and cook fast, although his success in these endeavors is often limited.

Congratulations to Raymond, to Sam, and to all of CSE’s superb students!

CSE Dean’s Medal Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Hopkins</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2013 Dean’s Medalist in the Natural Sciences (Computer Science &amp; Mathematics)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raymond Zhang</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2013 Dean’s Medalist in Engineering (Computer Engineering &amp; Biology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Johnson</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2011 Dean’s Medalist in the Natural Sciences (Computer Science &amp; Math)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Arendt</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2010 Dean’s Medalist in Engineering (Electrical Engineering &amp; Computer Science)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Wei</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2009 Dean’s Medalist in Engineering (Bioengineering &amp; Computer Science)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pavan Vaswani</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2009 Dean’s Medalist in the Sciences (Computer Science, Neurobiology &amp; Biochemistry)</td>
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<td>Chester Chan</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2007 Dean’s Medalist in Engineering (Computer Engineering)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jonathan Su</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2006 Dean’s Medalist in Engineering (Computer Engineering)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terri Moore</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>2004 Dean’s Medalist in the Sciences (Computer Science &amp; Math)</td>
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<td>Erin Earl</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2003 Dean’s Medalist in the Arts (Computer Science &amp; Music)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Carlson</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2002 Dean’s Medalist in the Sciences (Computer Science, Math &amp; English)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corin Anderson</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>1996 Dean’s Medalist in the Sciences (Computer Science &amp; Math)</td>
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<td>Vitaly Schmatikov</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>1994 Dean’s Medalist in the Sciences (Computer Science &amp; Math)</td>
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<td>Eka Ginting</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>1991 Dean’s Medalist in the Sciences (Computer Science &amp; Economics)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Broda</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td>1986 Dean’s Medalist in the Sciences</td>
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Fourth Annual CSE Alumni Achievement Awards

CSE honored two extraordinarily accomplished alumni — Anne Dinning and Ed Felten — during its June 15th graduation ceremony. These awards affirm to CSE graduates and students that each contributes to a long, successful line with impact that drives deep and extends far.

Anne Dinning (BS ’84)
Finance industry leader, community benefactor

Anne Dinning was finishing her doctorate in computer science and considering faculty positions when she fielded an out-of-the blue invitation to interview at a fledgling hedge fund, D.E. Shaw & Co. Founder David Shaw, a former computer science professor at Columbia University, was staffing the firm with scientists and mathematicians to develop a business strategy based on computational finance and quantitative investment management.

Dinning’s award-winning dissertation research (PhD ’89) at New York’s Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences caught his eye. She signed on as a researcher when the company had just 20 employees, drawn by the opportunity to help create something from scratch. Today the global investment firm has more than 1,000 employees in North America, Europe, and Asia, and manages $26 billion in investment capital. And Dinning runs the company as “first among equals” on a five-member executive committee.

Respected in industry and government, Dinning served for several years on the Asset Management Committee of the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets. In 2006 she received the Industry Leadership Award presented by 100 Women in Hedge Funds.

“I appreciate how New Yorkers engage with the city, even in the physical way of taking the subway and walking. In my neighborhood, people know you and say hello,” she says. “But I do miss Seattle’s beauty and closeness to nature.”

Luckily, she returns for summers with Wolf and their two children and enjoys getting back to nature.

Edward Felten (PhD ’93)
Computer security researcher, public policy and consumer advocate

Two decades ago Ed Felten decided to focus his career in computer security because it was “newer ground not well plowed,” and he wanted to affect policy through research.

Now, in an era of massive data mining, cyber attacks, and personal privacy concerns, Felten is a leader in a tumultuous field and an advocate for the rights of the public, technology users, and researchers. The National Academy of Engineering elected Felten to membership this year for his work and its impact on public policy.
CSE’s Kevin Ross honored for inspiring K-12 students

A passion for exciting K-12 students about math and science, and a mission to inspire them to become science and technology leaders, has earned Kevin Ross (BS ’88) the 2013 Diamond Award for Distinguished Service. Ross first volunteered as mentor for a high school robotics team in 1999 while working as a senior design engineer at Microsoft. By 2002 the excitement and passion he saw in students impelled him to take his volunteer mission statewide by founding Washington FIRST Robotics.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) now works with more than 7,500 students and 2,000 volunteers across the state. Mentors encourage students to explore, understand, and become excited about science and engineering by working in teams to build robots and compete statewide and nationally. Now retired from Microsoft, Ross volunteers full-time for FIRST.

His mission is a big one — close to 400 teams are spread over about 30 percent of the state’s high schools and 20 percent of elementary and middle schools. The ultimate vision is to have a FIRST robotics team available for every student in Washington.

“We changed the educational and career choices for a significant number of our students. It is a truly profound moment to realize that a student has found a long-term passion as a result of your work,” Ross says.

The UW Engineering Diamond Award is the most recent recognition of his work with students. GeekWire named him the March 2012 “Geeks Who Give Back” honoree, with a page in its GeekWire 2012 Calendar. He was a 2011 nominee for the Microsoft Alumni Foundation Integral Fellows Awards Program, which recognizes alumni who are making significant differences in the lives of others. And by popular demand, a former FIRST student recently created a Facebook page honoring Ross, explaining that he “asks for nothing yet gives everything.” The site allows students to list him as an “Inspirational Person” on their own Facebook pages.

Read about the 2013 Diamond Award honorees at: engr.washington.edu/alumcomm/diamond/2013honorees.html
David Notkin (cont’d from page 1)

David’s long list of professional accolades includes the 2013 A. Nico Habermann Award from the Computing Research Association, the 2013 ACM SIGSOFT Outstanding Research Award from the Association for Computing Machinery’s special interest group on software engineering, and the ACM SIGSOFT Influential Educator Award in 2012. He was editor-in-chief of the publication ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology from 2007 through 2012. He also was serving as general chair of the 2013 International Conference on Software Engineering.

An extraordinary mentor, David received the University of Washington Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award in 2000. His philosophy about working with students follows that of his own adviser, Nico Habermann: “Focus on the students, since graduating great students means you’ll produce great research, while focusing on the research may or may not produce great students.”

On February 1, 2013, more than 300 of David’s friends honored him at Notkinfest — a tribute to his extraordinary personal and professional contributions. At Notkinfest, CSE announced the establishment of the David Notkin Endowed Graduate Fellowship in Computer Science & Engineering to permanently recognize his dedication to graduate education. This fellowship will enable CSE to recruit the strongest graduate students in the nation and the world, and to honor David’s scholarly accomplishments, his leadership in the field of computer science, and his contributions to UW CSE.

A few of the many posts honoring David may be viewed here:

news.cs.washington.edu/2013/04/22/david-notkin-1955-2013/
David enjoying the cherry blossoms during Ohanami 2013 in the quad on the UW campus

CSE future chairs: Hank Levy, David Notkin, and Ed Lazowska with Lyndsay Downs

Cathy Tuttle, Emma Notkin, and Akiva Notkin attending the “tie one on” for David in front of the CSE building

David, sporting his famous commencement attire at CSE’s graduation, June 2010

David and his snowman double in front of lovely Sieg Hall.
Datagrams

UW CSE alum Heather Underwood wins 2013 ACM Graduate Student Research Competition Grand Finals

CSE bachelor's alumna Heather Underwood is the first place graduate winner in the ACM Student Research Competition Grand Finals for 2013. She is completing her PhD at the Atlas Institute at the University of Colorado, working with UW CSE PhD alumnus John Bennett. Heather's research innovation is the PartoPen, an application of digital pen technology to enhance the partograph system used throughout the developing world to monitor labor and reduce labor complications. Her interest in ICTD (Information and Communication Technologies for Development) was sparked by research she carried out as a UW undergraduate. More info about this year's award may be viewed here: src.acm.org.

Etzioni voted “Geek of Year” at 2013 GeekWire Awards

At the May 9th GeekWire Awards ceremony, in a GeekWire Awards first, CSE's Oren Etzioni was voted “Geek of the Year,” along with Dr. Rebecca Gardner. The acceptance speeches from the awards ceremony may be viewed here:
www.geekwire.com/2013/listen-acceptance-speeches-winners-geekwire-awards/

Gollakota wins 2012 ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award

CSE professor Shyam Gollakota has received the 2012 ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award — presented annually to the author of the best doctoral dissertation, worldwide, in computer science — for his MIT doctoral dissertation “Embracing Interference in Wireless Systems.” In his dissertation, Shyam presented ZigZag, the first WiFi receiver that successfully reconstructs the transmitted information in the presence of packet collisions. He also introduced TIMO, a WiFi receiver that decodes information in the presence of high-power cross-technology interference from other devices such as baby monitors, cordless phones, and microwave ovens. Congratulations to Shyam, and to his MIT Ph.D. advisor, Dina Katabi! Learn more about Shyam here:
homes.cs.washington.edu/~gshyam/

CSE's Adrian Sampson, Thierry Moreau win $100,000 Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship

Qualcomm invited multiple teams from 15 universities to submit proposals for $100,000 2013 Qualcomm Innovation Fellowships. From 138 proposals, Qualcomm selected 33 finalist teams who made presentations at Qualcomm's three R&D Centers. On April 11th, the 8 winners were announced: teams from UW, UCLA, Princeton, Cornell, UIUC, UCSD, UCB, and Columbia. Congratulations to CSE Ph.D. students Adrian Sampson and Thierry Moreau, and to their advisors Luis Ceze and Dan Grossman, for winding up on top in this incredibly intense competition for their submission entitled, “Approximate Acceleration.” More about the Innovation Fellowship here:
www.qualcomm.com/about/research/university-relations/innovation-fellowship/2013

Eggers elected Fellow of AAAS

CSE professor emerita Susan Eggers has been elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, as a member of the Class of 2013. She is co-inventor of a computer processing technology that makes more efficient use of a chip's computing power. The technology changed industry standards and was adopted by Intel, IBM, and others. Susan is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Election to the Academy is of comparable prestige to NAS, NAE, and IoM, but the membership is more broad, including the humanities and arts, public affairs, and business as well as the mathematical, physical, biological, and social sciences. Fifty-six University of Washington faculty members are Fellows of the Academy, including CSE's Ed Lazowska.
Three CSE undergrads recognized in CRA awards competition

The Computing Research Association Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award competition recognizes undergraduates in North American colleges and universities who show outstanding research potential in an area of computing research. In the 2013 competition, three UW CSE students were recognized: 2013 national winner Matt Bryan, and honorable mentions Kevin Clark and Grace Muzny.

Matt's research focuses on creating brain-computer interfaces — machines that read brain activity to discern a user's intention without the need for physical movement. His contributions employ various machine learning techniques to allow the devices to work for a wider variety of people, to be more robust to noise, and to adapt to the users' changing needs over time. He has led several research teams in Raj Rao’s Neural Systems Lab, has published and presented papers at various venues around the world, and recently received a grant from the Center for Sensorimotor and Neural Engineering. This seed grant funds a spin-off project from his work, which will be continued over the next two years. After graduating this quarter, he will work on distributed file systems as a senior software development engineer at EMC Isilon, located in downtown Seattle.

Grace's current research identifies idioms at scale in natural language processing. It leverages Wiktionary to create a scalable machine-learning approach for differentiating between literal and idiomatic senses of a given phrase. This research works to make Wiktionary a more complete resource by identifying idioms that are not yet marked as such. She plans to spend the summer bicycling across the country with the open road and the wind to guide her.

Kevin's research has primarily been on sentiment analysis, automatically identifying subjective information in text. He worked on a project called RevMiner, a system that extracts information about restaurants from reviews. The extractions are then used to concisely summarize and provide quality search of restaurants. Recently he has worked on building personalized recommender systems that exploit mined opinions to improve recommendation accuracy. After graduating, he plans to take a year off to travel and then start a computer science Ph.D. at Stanford.

This year’s recognition extends UW CSE’s record of having the largest number of students recognized in the most recent ten years of this competition! A list of all winners may be viewed with our CSE undergrad student recognition:

www.cs.washington.edu/students/ugrad/allawards/

CSE's annual scholarship & fellowship recognition luncheon

April 24th marked the annual CSE Scholarship and Fellowship Recognition Luncheon, where the donors of our endowed undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships meet the students they are supporting. It’s always a happy event!

Undergraduate scholarships enable top students to obtain a UW CSE education, regardless of means. Such support is increasingly important in these days of relentlessly rising tuition. Graduate fellowships enable CSE to compete successfully with the nation’s other premier programs for the top graduate students from across the nation and around the world.

Thanks to the many friends, alumni, and companies that support UW CSE’s extraordinary students!

Information about our donors and students may be viewed here: lazowska.cs.washington.edu/CSE_luncheon_program_2013_FINAL.pdf
Alumni entrepreneurs have a tip for you: "Do your consumer research on Decide.com"

New electronics and appliances are introduced in the marketplace seemingly every day. As technology changes at a rapid pace, the volume of products and outlets can be overwhelming to a consumer. So how do you outsmart retailers and get the lowest price? CSE alumni may have created the solution with Decide.com. The path to launching Decide.com was lined with tenacity and perseverance.

The first business idea that the brothers Ma and Ooi pitched to Professor Oren Etzioni looked like a dud, and he told them so. Undeterred, Brian Ma ('05), Ian Ma ('09), Hsu Ken Ooi ('06), and Hsu Han Ooi ('07) went back to Hsu Han’s basement and, outside day jobs and school, built a career guidance and resume service website called EggSprout. Eighteen months of hard work later, the egg was laid but there were no signs of sprouting, so they paid a return visit to Etzioni, eager to brainstorm anew.

"Most people who fail at a startup stay with their day jobs, but these brothers were enthusiastic and ready for the next thing," Etzioni says. "They proved their mettle. I was impressed with their tenacity, an important quality for entrepreneurship."

After tossing ideas around, they landed on a service to guide shoppers in choosing the best electronic products and the best deals. Brian had noticed his girlfriend was constantly visiting websites to check prices, a big time sink for most shoppers. As competition between manufacturers, retail stores, and website sellers relentlessly intensifies, prices constantly fluctuate, often dozens of times a day. Sophisticated consumer profiling and volatile "smart pricing" give retailers huge leverage over shoppers. What to buy? Where to buy? What to pay and when? How to avoid getting ripped off? Shopping is all too often a frustrating, unpleasant chore. The brothers and their mentor seized the challenge.

"Being an entrepreneur is a roller coaster, but there is something magical about coming up with an idea in a basement and using computer science to turn it into reality." Hsu Ken Ooi

By this juncture in 2008, Etzioni had sold Farecast, his successful air ticket search service, to Microsoft Bing. Brian, long aiming to be an entrepreneur, had quit his project manager job at Zillow with no plan for a next step. Hsu Han soon followed him out Zillow’s door, while brother Hsu Ken quit his website analysis/design job at Zaaz — to the double dismay of their parents. The three tried

to convince Ian to quit school and help them, but he cheerfully resisted, and joined full-time after earning his degree.

**Back to the Basement**

Jobless and living off their savings, they went back to Hsu Han’s basement for almost two years of up to 20-hour days fueled by pizza and ramen. They cranked out ideas, crunched terabytes of data, and developed algorithms to track product price fluctuations over a year. After finding predictable variations and cycles, they spent almost six months in 2010 analyzing and validating their data and developing the business model and plan for Decide.com. They joined forces as cofounders and set out on the next challenge — raising funding — spurred on by their company cheer "Let's do this!"

"We were four young guys with very little experience, working on laptops in a basement, and we had to meet with successful entrepreneurs and investors and ask for millions. It was surreal," Hsu Ken says.

"Initially I was super scared," Brian admits. "I didn't know how to put ideas together or how to pitch, but Oren taught us how to represent the company and what to say. He understands people and business, and we learned from him."

Series A funding of $2.5 million from Madrona Venture Group closed on July 1, 2010. In September 2010 they brought on former Farecast and Microsoft Bing executive Mike Fridgen as CEO.

**Moving Up and Into the Big Data Market**

Decide.com launched its website in June 2011 with pricing information and predictions for consumer electronics. In 2012 they expanded into home appliances, tools, and exercise
equipment. They also launched an iPad app and late last year offered memberships for access to the price prediction “when to buy” data. Free services include a simple system of product ratings, from “Love it” to “Don’t buy it” based on product specifications and millions of user reviews. The website is cleanly designed, easy to use, and visitor friendly, with tips on everything from buying cameras to what to give mom for Mother’s Day and when to get the best price.

The company now has an office in lower Queen Anne and a staff of thirty, including eight CSE graduates and four from other UW departments. The company recently closed $8 million in Series C funding led by Paul Allen’s Vulcan Capital and has raised $17 million total to date. And they have a high-powered board of directors including new additions Steve Hall of Vulcan and Dawn LePore, former CEO of Drugstore.com. With about 80 percent accuracy, they now use those 230 terabytes of data to predict future prices for 1.6 million products sold by major retailers across the country.

**Heady Time, Hands-on Roles**

Uniformly high-energy and upbeat, the alumni cofounders are excited about their early success and the smart, talented people drawn to the company. They are cognizant of the challenges of growing Decide.com, and grateful for all the guidance and support that have taken them this far. Each has a hands-on role using his skills to nurture the concept they birthed.

Brian, the most business oriented, is a product manager who focuses on strategy, site use, and deploying staff to solve problems. Hsu Ken fell in love with product design and the depth of that discipline, becoming skilled in Photoshop, website creation, and how people interface with a site. The two younger brothers are the “hard-core developers” — Hsu Han is a data miner, analyzing millions of price points every day, and Ian is an engineer with a focus on data mining and machine learning.

They’ve all matured with the company, through the early days of being fast-moving “deciders” to adapting to the greater complexity of a diverse staff and more dispersed responsibilities and decision-making.

“One reason we started the company is so that people can feel good when they buy something with their hard-earned money, and can buy with confidence,” Hsu Ken says. “Being an entrepreneur is a roller coaster, but there is something magical about coming up with an idea and using computer science to turn it into reality. Giving people a useful product sends me over the moon.”

“We want everyone to check Decide.com before they buy anything,” Brian says.

The brothers four are grateful that Oren took a chance on them and has guided and backed them every step of the way.

“He’s like a wizard,” Ian says. “He knows exactly what to do and say, and now the company is backed by $17 million.”

And the wizard’s take on it all? “They are just great guys, committed, hard-working, and energetic. If anything, they have exceeded my expectations,” Etzioni says.

**New Dean of Engineering: Michael Bragg**

This summer, Michael Bragg will join the college as the Frank & Julie Jungers Dean of Engineering.

An aeronautical engineer by training, Bragg is currently with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he has served as professor and interim dean of the College of Engineering. Bragg brings a wealth of experience to the UW. He has held numerous leadership positions at Illinois, including head of the aerospace engineering department, associate dean for research and administrative affairs, and executive associate dean for academic affairs.

He has been instrumental in curriculum innovation at Illinois, including supervision of the Technology Entrepreneurial Center and is a cofounder of two faculty startup companies. Additionally, Bragg has grown education programs and championed diversity.

You can learn more about him in the fall issue of The Trend. Please join us in welcoming Mike to UW Engineering.
CSE’s Dan Grossman named to UW College of Engineering J. Ray Bowen Professorship for Innovation in Engineering Education

J. Ray Bowen served as the University of Washington’s Dean of Engineering from 1981 to 1996. When he retired, the J. Ray Bowen Professorship for Innovation in Education was established “to recognize distinguished faculty in the College of Engineering who display dedication to educational innovation and curriculum development.”

Effective July 1, CSE’s Dan Grossman will assume the Bowen Professorship. Dan earned this distinction for a wide range of contributions, which included leading CSE through a major modernization of our undergraduate curriculum; leading our efforts to utilize the Coursera MOOC platform; superb classroom teaching; superb student mentoring; and a world-class research program. Additionally, Dan sits on the steering committee for the ACM-IEEE/CS Computer Science 2013 curriculum.

“This is a deeply meaningful honor, not only as recognition for educational innovations I’m passionate about, but also as an indication that my peers and colleagues would take the time to nominate and select me,” said Grossman. “Fundamentally, a professorship is valuable as an award, as a title, and as a source of financial resources. But more importantly, it would let me serve as a role model to others by demonstrating the opportunities we have for innovation in education. I view this professorship as both an opportunity and an obligation.”

Congratulations, Dan!