

Department of Computer Science

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Overview

In today's cutting edge science and technology, computers play an indispensable and integral role and their application areas are diverse and far-reaching. In order to respond to the ever-increasing demand for technical expertise in the computer and information technology industry, our department's goal is to teach students to be well versed both in theory and application and to be highly adaptable and proficient in practice.

As the first Computer Science graduate program in Korea, we have produced the very best bachelors, masters and PhDs in Korea. We take pride in being a top-notch world-class research and education department. Since its foundation in 1972, the department has produced 1,519 bachelors, 1,888 masters, and 639 PhDs (Aug. 2014 currently), and has been a major talent pool for the entire IT industry in Korea. Our curriculum is well-balanced between theory and application, with much emphasis on experimental approaches. To keep students up-to-date with new developments and advances that have not been incorporated into the regular curriculum, we also encourage them to participate in research projects through independent studies and special topic courses.

Currently, our department hosts eleven Research Centers including KTNET-KAIST Indoor Positioning Research Center, Center for Mobile SW Platform, Defense Software Research Center (DSRC), Software Process Improvement Center (SPIC), Auto-ID Labs, Center for Advanced Image Media Technology, International Research Center for Information Security, KAIST-MSR Collaboration Center, IBM-KAIST Cluster Computing Center, Semantic Web Research Center, and Urban Computing Research Center. We also have three National Research Laboratories: Collaborative Distributed Systems and Networks Laboratory, Database and Multimedia Laboratory, and Global USN Research Laboratory. Through these research centers and laboratories, we support research collaboration with other Korean universities and research laboratories, as well as with foreign research centers and universities.

Our department has specialized academic programs such as Software Graduate Program and Software Advanced Program funded by National IT Industry Promotion Agency, Mobile Software Program funded by Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, Web Science and Technology Division (World Class University), and NCRC KAIST-SNUH Joint Interdisciplinary Graduate Program on Biomedical Informatics funded by National Research Foundation of Korea.

Master's students have the opportunity of Dual Degree Program with TU Berlin, TU Denmark, and Georgia Tech. In addition, a new Dual Degree Program with CMU is under planning. Our department also has a Joint Degree Program with HKUST for Ph.D. students. For more information on the admissions for Dual/Joint Degree Programs, please refer to our department website (<http://cs.kaist.ac.kr>)

Our departmental curriculum covers all topics related to design, implementation, and application of computer system hardware and software. Especially holding pervasive computing as our basic concept, we research and teach in interdisciplinary areas. With our excellent faculty (Aug. 2014 currently, 43 faculty) and first-rate facilities, we will continue government-funded and industry-liaison research, and are committed to our leadership role in computer science in the 21st century.

☛ Life After Graduation

Most graduates of our department continue with master's degree programs or work in industry. Those with Master's degree either advance to PhD programs, or work as senior members in industry and research laboratories. Many of our graduates have been a driving force behind the 1990's IT boom in Korea and founded HandySoft, Serome, Future Systems, Nadatel, etc. Currently 8 listed companies and 76 venture business is founded by Computer Science graduates. Our 639 PhDs work in universities, corporate research laboratories, and industry and are the main backbone behind world-class research in computer science.