SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE | July 7, 2021
A mid-week update from the SCS Dean's Office | <u>SCS NEWS</u> | <u>SCS EVENTS</u>

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS COMMITTEE: My sincere thanks to Anupam Gupta who has served impressively and effectively as the chair of the <u>Graduate Fellowships Committee</u> since 2015. Nancy Pollard succeeds Anupam as the chair of this committee. Welcome and thanks, Nancy!

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ROBOTICS INSTITUTE SUMMER SCHOLARS (RISS): Now in the sixth week of their 11-week <u>RISS program</u>, 58 undergraduate scholars representing 42 universities and 13 countries are off to a fantastic start — excited to dive deeper into their research in the coming weeks and learn about research topics including space robotics and biology-inspired robots.

SCS NEWS + AWARDS
— <u>Kites</u>, cofounded in 2015 by Language Technologies Institute professor Alex Waibel, <u>has been acquired by Zoom</u> to bolster the platform's real-time translation. Kites uses machine translation technology and predictive AI to translate speech or provide subtitles simultaneously as a person is talking. Translated speech will appear before a speaker completes a sentence, and the software will autocorrect on its own if needed. Zoom intends to work with the research scientists at Kites to improve meetings by providing multilanguage translation.

— <u>Congratulations to Fei Fang and Tuomas Sandholm</u> who were recently recognized by the <u>International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence</u> (IJCAI) for their significant research in AI. Fang, the Leonardo Assistant Professor in the Institute for Software Research, received the 2021 **Computers and Thought Award**; Sandholm, the Angel Jordan University Professor of Computer Science, received the 2021 **John McCarthy Award**. They are among our many faculty members investigating AI — expanding applications and ensuring AI's ethical, unbiased and transparent use.

— Congratulations to <u>Goran Zuzic</u>, who earned his Ph.D. in computer science last year and is now a postdoc at <u>ETH Zurich</u>. His thesis, "<u>Towards Universal Optimality in Distributed Optimization</u>," won the <u>2021 Principles in Distributed Computing Doctoral Dissertation Award</u>.

Until next week,
---- Martial

REMEMBER YOUR RESOURCES
Connect with a <u>Dean's Advisory Committee</u> if you have questions or concerns you want to share.
Connect with a representative leader from <u>SCS Council</u> if you'd like to submit a topic for Council to consider.
Coronavirus <u>Updates & Information</u> and <u>FAQs</u>
<u>SCS Alerts & Resources</u> | <u>For Students</u> | <u>For Staff</u> | <u>For Faculty</u> | <u>For Researchers</u>