G

G is for Graphics, the digital kind.
That we’re great in this field we need no remind.
A force in the field since ‘73
Is the Prog. for C. Graphics—it’s called PCG—
The leader’s Don Greenberg, DG #1,
And Bala and Marschner join in the fun.
Five SIGGRAPH awards and five Hollywood Oscars
—go elsewhere for graphics? You’re off your rockers.

The Program for Computer Graphics was started in 1973 by Don Greenberg, with the goal to synthesize pictures that are physically accurate and perceptually indistinguishable from the real world. The group works in modeling, rendering, light reflection, and much more. Some current work involves animation and character rendering.

The PCG has been very influential. Indeed, it has garnered five SIGGRAPH awards and five Technical Oscars. The latest Oscar was given to Steve Marschner and Pat Hanrahan (of Stanford) for their model for reflecting light from skin; the model was almost instantly adopted by the film industry and was used, for example, on Gollum in Lord of the Rings.

Note: David Gries is DG #0.

H

H is for Honors earned by our folk.
What does an honor in others evoke?
A sense of esteem for the holder thereof.
The holder’s done something we can all be proud of.
For research, teaching, service, and more,
We’ve garnered our share of honors and more.

How about a hand for 33-year-old Jon Kleinberg, who won a $500K MacArthur Genius award in Fall 2005? His work on networks resulted, among other things, in his hubs-authorities model of networks, which influenced how search engines do their ranking.

Give a hand also to Juris Hartmanis and John Hopcroft, ACM Turing Award Winners, to Don Greenberg, Hartmanis, Joe Halpern, Gerry Salton, and Eva Tardos for really distinguished awards in their fields, and to Hartmanis and David Gries for their CRA Distinguished Service Awards.

What about Dan Huttenlocher, NY State Teacher of the Year (over all disciplines), and Gries, winner of 4 national education awards?

There are too many awards in CS to list here, but you will find them listed in our 40th anniversary booklet.

It’s important to say that the junior faculty get their share of recognition, too. Here’s one measure of that: In the past three years, 21 different faculty (out of 33) gave a total of 83 invited lectures at conferences.

The Best