

Graduate School in Computer Science



Why, How and What

November 6, 2003



The goal

- Why would you want to be a CS grad student?
- How do you go about becoming a CS grad student?
- What's it like to be a CS grad student?
 - from both a faculty and current grad student perspective
 - what is research?
- Ask *lots* of questions!!!



The agenda

- Gwen Kaye
 - applications and admissions
 - grad student support from the CS dept.
- Michelle Hugue
 - picking a grad school
 - “having a life as a grad student”
- Marv Zelkowitz
 - doing research, emphasis on software engineering



The agenda (cont.)

- Bonnie Dorr
 - doing research, emphasizing AI and computational linguistics
- Bill Gasarch
 - What's it like to be a grad student?
 - Doing research, emphasizing theory
- Atif Memon
 - Doing research as an undergrad – why and how



The agenda (cont.)

- Amitabh Varshney
 - Why should you get an advanced degree in CS (M.S. or Ph.D.)
 - Doing research, emphasizing graphics and visualization
- Graduate student panel:
Jaime Spacco, Elena Zotenko, and Nate Weisbrot



Additional Resources

- Dianne O'Leary's Grad Student Survival Guide
 - <http://www.cs.umd.edu/users/oleary/gradstudy/gradstudy.html>
 - also linked off CS dept. home page, under Graduate Program link
- Tips on writing a statement of purpose
 - <http://www.cs.umd.edu/~arun/grad/sop.html>