Graduate School in Computer Science

Why, How and What

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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

- Heather Murray
  - applications and admissions
  - grad student support from the CS dept.

- Jon Katz
  - why should you get an advanced degree in CS (M.S. or Ph.D.)
  - doing research, emphasizing cryptography, security, and theory

- Atif Memon
  - doing research as an undergrad – why and how
  - doing research, emphasis on software engineering
The agenda (cont.)

- Michelle Hugue
  - picking a grad school
  - “having a life as a grad student”

- Chau-Wen Tseng
  - more on why to get an advanced degree
  - doing research, emphasizing programming languages and bioinformatics

- Bill Gasarch
  - what admissions committees look for
  - why doing research is good as an undergrad
  - more on picking a grad school
The agenda (cont.)

- Graduate student panel:
  Fusun Yaman, Nan Wang, Azarakhsh Malekian, Morgan Kleene
Additional Resources

- Dianne O’Leary’s Grad Student Survival Guide
    - also linked off CS dept. home page, under Graduate Program link

- Tips on writing a statement of purpose
Additional Resources

- Michelle Hugue on grad school

- These slides, and other slide presentations today (and last year), available off my home page – [http://www.cs.umd.edu/~als](http://www.cs.umd.edu/~als)