HUMAN CENTERED DESIGN & ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

HCDE *Alumni News*

## Keeping *the* HCDE Curriculum Current

Dear HCDE Alumni,

I am pleased to announce updates we have made to the
Master of Science in Human Centered Design & Engineering (HCDE MS) curriculum, effective Autumn
2014. We have added many new courses in design and engineering to our MS curriculum in the last few
years to make this new curriculum possible. We are also in the process of revising our Bachelor's
curriculum, with a projected launch date of Autumn 2015.

The HCDE MS Task Force (Committee Chair: Jan Spyridakis; Members: Gary Hsieh, Julie Kientz, Lauren
Witt, Mark Zachry) sought advice from students, alumni, faculty, Professional Graduate Programs
Advisory Board members, and Corporate Affiliates Program members. The Task Force considered
feedback from all constituents and their experiences in industry, as well as requirements for the jobs that
HCDE graduates obtain.

The Department has added numerous courses within the last few years to enhance the study of design
and engineering, adding to the already rich set of courses that focus on user research methods.
Additionally we have added courses on business strategies and ventures, and a required capstone project
course. Eight new courses are described below.

### DESIGN

In **Visual Communication**, students study principles of visual
design so as to gain a systematic and critical understanding
and be able to create visual communication components of
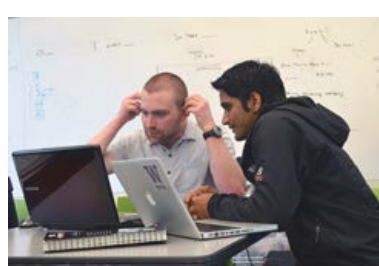print and interactive media.

In **Information Visualization**, students use graphics,
animation, sound, visualization software, and hypermedia to
design and present complex information so as to enhance
comprehension and analysis.

In **Interaction Design & Prototyping**, students gain expertise
in design, development, and critique of solutions in online and
mobile platforms, examining topics such as interaction theory, requirements and specifications, design
language, and prototyping.

### ENGINEERING

In **Computational Concepts in HCDE**, students explore
basic computational concepts and programming skills needed
to work with interactive systems in HCDE, drawing on topics
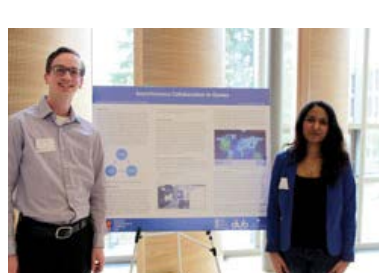such as log analysis, visualization, prototyping, and data
mining.

In **Web Design Studio**, students learn principles and
practices of professional web site design and programming,
gaining hands-on experience with designing and building a
successful website using industry standard techniques.

In **Physical Computing and Prototyping**, students use
electronic devices and fabrication tools to design and prototype interactive systems, including software
and hardware components.

### BUSINESS

In **HCDE in Organizational Contexts**, students learn how to
incubate and develop an idea, manage a design project from
start to finish, collaborate across disciplines, effectively
translate stakeholder needs, work with partners and end-
users, and communicate strategies for project management in
organizations.

In **Designing a Human-Centered Venture**, students
explore how to plan a new venture, examining topics such
as team formation, user and market research, value creation,
and iterative demand planning.

Thank you for your continued support of HCDE. As alumni
when you refer students back to our program, you can be confident that our new curriculum will help
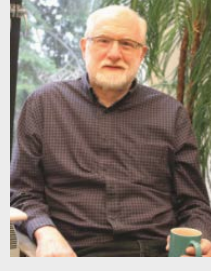students succeed in today's job market and preserve the value of your degree.

*Jan H. Spyridakis*

Jan Spyridakis
Department Chair and Professor
Human Centered Design & Engineering

## Help Build *the* David Farkas Endowment Fund
### Support Undergraduate Students with Financial Need

**Give Today**

*"I've always been a teacher first. Through the endowment I can still make
a contribution to educating students, even though I won't be in the
classroom every day."* - David Farkas

HCDE alumnus and good friend James Prekeges will match all donations
made to the David Farkas Endowment Fund up to $15,000. Please help
us make our $15,000 goal by June 2014! Your contribution honors
Professor Emeritus David Farkas's legacy and support students with
financial need.

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