School of
Information Sciences

**Graduate Information
Science and Technology
Program**

Why Information Science?

The opportunities for information science graduates are seemingly limitless. The amount of available information TRIPLES each year, meaning that there is a critical need for professionals who can manage this invaluable resource. Demand is growing—and will continue to expand—for those who have the advanced knowledge and skills essential for designing and managing information systems that meet the needs of businesses, people, and society.

Information Science is an interdisciplinary science that looks at the relationship among people, information, and technology. The field incorporates key aspects of computer science, cognitive science, the social sciences, and mathematics. This curriculum provides a strong foundation in information access and retrieval, systems design and management,

Danielle Lee, PhD student

and human-computer interaction. As a result, students develop a broad range of skills beyond programming and gain a competitive edge that will appeal to employers in Fortune 500 companies, health care systems, academic institutions, manufacturing, banking organizations, and state and federal government agencies.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that information technology-related jobs will see a **growth of 27–53 percent** over the next decade. Typical job titles for our alumni include the following:

- Senior information analyst
- Chief information officer
- Director of security and privacy
- Information architect
- Director of medical records
- Vice president of technology compliance

Simply put, our degree program offers you the skills and knowledge to become a key leader in any business or organization.

The Graduate Information Science and Technology Program
at the University of Pittsburgh

If you look at virtually any industry—health care, law, finance, manufacturing, or government—information is the driving force behind its evolution and growth. Embedded in even the simplest of transactions, information is integral to making any organization function effectively. Information science graduates, therefore, are indispensable resources for any employer.

The Graduate Information Science and Technology Program at the School of Information Sciences, the *i*School at Pitt, is designed to provide students with the theoretical foundations and advanced knowledge in storing and retrieving information, communicating information among systems, and understanding the interaction between people and information systems as well as the role of information systems and technologies in both business and society.

Here at the *i*School, you will have exciting opportunities to work with faculty engaged in cutting-edge research in the information science and technology field. Pitt is one of the top public research universities. This provides our students with access to research projects and laboratories that will develop the next generation of information technologies. Moreover, since the University is situated within a major urban area, our studuents have a vast array of internship and employment opportunities with major U.S. corporations.

At the *i*School, students acquire more than technical expertise; they learn how to connect people with technologies that can enhance their lives, their businesses, and society.

Marek Druzdzel, associate professor
Recipient of 2007 Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award

On the cover:

Matthew Kelly, MSIS 2006
Decision Analyst, Westinghouse Corp.

Degree Programs

Whether you seek professional specialization or high-caliber research opportunities, our graduate program has something to offer you.

Our **Master of Science** offers a rigorous, yet flexible, program with a variety of specializations to help you carefully target your studies. Our advisors are available to help you design a course of study that meets your individual needs.

James Joshi, associate professor, NSF CAREER* Award recipient

Our **Certificate of Advanced Study** offers a customized program of study for students who have earned master's degrees but want to pursue a special field of interest or update their skills. Students can opt to take a range of courses and work closely with research faculty in a particular field.

Our **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** prepares students for advanced work in teaching and in conducting significant research with world-class resources befitting a top-tier research university. Some of the topics being explored by our research groups include geoinformatics, decision systems, spatial information, information security, usability engineering, and personalized adaptive systems.

National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program

Program Options

The course of study at the *i*School is designed to give you the theoretical foundation, research skills, and technical proficiency necessary to design, build, and manage information systems. We offer an array of courses and research programs in cognitive science, cognitive systems, systems design and implementation, human-centered systems, networks and security, database management, and policy.

Specializations/Areas of Interest

You also may choose to focus your studies and research interests in one of our specializations. The courses of study in each specialization have been developed in consultation with industry leaders to ensure that you will gain the critical expertise in:

- Human-centered computing
- Database and Web systems
- Information assurance and security
- Geoinformatics
- Telecommunications and distributed systems
- Cognitive systems

These specializations are designed to meet industry needs and they could transform as technology evolves. Visit our Web site to discover any new areas of focus.
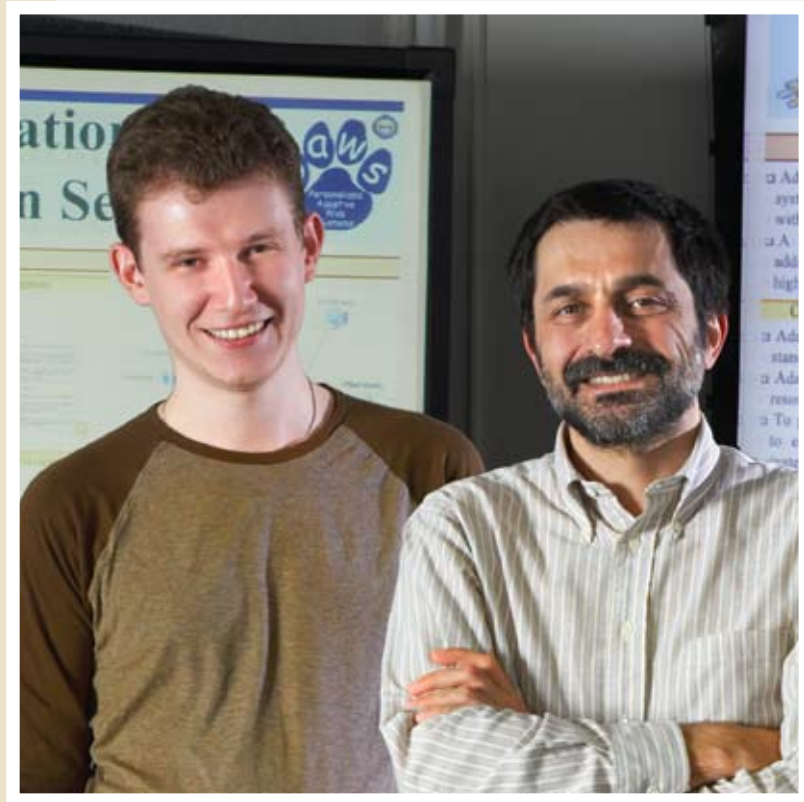
Admission Requirements

To apply online or learn more about specific admission requirements, visit our Web site at www.ischool.pitt.edu/ist.

The application deadlines for prospective master's students are July 15 for the fall term, November 1 for the spring term, and March 15 for the summer term. The deadline for prospective PhD candidates is January 15 for the fall term.

There are different deadlines for international students and for financial aid applications. For the most current information, please visit our Web site at **www.ischool.pitt.edu**.

The *i*School at Pitt

The University of Pittsburgh School of Information Sciences is a member of the *i*Schools Caucus, a consortium of 19 institutions of higher education that offer degrees in the information sciences and are interested in the relationship among information, technology, and people. Visit **www.ischools.org** for more information.

Michael Yudelson, PhD student, and **Peter Brusilovsky**, associate professor, NSF CAREER* Award recipient

*National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program

Contact Us

We invite you to contact us for more information about what the Graduate Information Science and Technology program can offer you.

To schedule a visit, please contact our student recruitment coordinator at **isinq@sis.pitt.edu**, **412-624-3988**, or **1-800-672-9435**.

University of Pittsburgh

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