SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

powering SILICON VALLEY

Dept. of Computer Science
Admitted Spartan Day
How to Succeed and Have Fun!

Melody Moh, Chair
Ben Reed, Assist. Professor
Rula Khayrallah, UG Coordinator
Wendy Lee, Assist. Professor
Teng Moh, Assoc. Chair

Agenda

- **Introduction of Panelists**

- Brief Introduction of the Dept. of Computer Science and Clubs

- FAQ

- Open Q&A

- Conclusion

Faculty Panelists

- Ben Reed

- Rula Khayrallah

- Wendy Lee

- Teng Moh

Faculty Panelists

- **Prof. Ben Reed** came to our department to fulfill his dream of being a professor after a couple of decades in industry.

- He got his PhD from UC, Santa Cruz. This is his 3rd year here so he is a "Junior" faculty member.

- Ben's son is currently attending SJSU in CS.

- Zoom into his office hours his faculty website if you have more questions.

- He's always looking for students for the programming team and research projects! You are invited to the 5/1 local contest: https://www.sjsu.edu/people/ben.reed/contest/)

Faculty Panelists

- **Prof. Rula Khayrallah** is our UG Coordinator.

- She is probably the most important, most helpful person for you throughout your UG grad. study.

- She is also one of the most popular instructors in the Dept. She teaches courses in AI, Python Programming, Prog. Languages.

- She is passionate about encouraging and supporting women in computing.

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Faculty Panelists

- **Prof. Wendy Lee** received her PhD in Bioinformatics from UC Santa Cruz, MS in Microbiology and Molecular Biology from SJSU, and BMath in Computer Science from the University of Waterloo, Canada.

- She loves applying computational methods in solving biological and other real-world problems.

- She is the advisor for the MS Bioinformatics program and is involved in the curriculum development of the bioinformatics and data science programs at SJSU.

- She is passionate about encouraging and supporting women in computing, in both CS and bioinformatics.

- **Prof. Teng Moh** has been the Assoc. Chair for over 8 years, so he is very familiar with the SJSU and Dept policies. Teach mainly grad courses.

Student Panelists

- Diljot Singh
- Jobelle Abellera
- Prerana Sunilkumar
- Ryan Tran
- XinRu Lin

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Dept. of Computer Science

Student Panelist: Diljot Singh

- Hi everyone! I'm the President of the Computer Science Club. I'm currently a third year student in CS.

- I love getting involved in our community and learning new things; in past summers I've interned in programs with Google and IBM, and have also worked as a research assistant for our CS department faculty.

- So far, my experience at SJSU has been super awesome and everyone has been really warm and welcoming.

- I'm looking forward to the future and hope to continue building cool projects as a software engineer & creating a positive impact through the power of technology.

Student Panelists: Jobelle Abellera

- I am an undergraduate CS student that started in Fall 2018 and plan to graduate next semester.

- I have never coded until coming to SJSU as a first year, the introductory course (CS 46A) helped me get a grasp of the basics of CS. Since then I have come to realize that the technical and logical aspects of CS is the type of academic challenge that I value and enjoy.

- Currently, I am the head tutor of the Computer Science Study Lab (CSSL) which provides free tutoring to CS undergrads.

- Since I am a commuter student, I do not spend much time on campus and am not as engrossed in campus life as some fellow students may be.

Student Panelists: Prerana Sunilkumar

- I am a junior CS major graduating in December.
- I did not have prior coding experience before coming to SJSU as a first year, the introductory course (CS 46A) helped me get a grasp of the basics of CS.
- I have been involved in competitive programming. My team placed at position 11 out of 86 teams in the 2019 regional round of the ICPC.
- I am also the Tech-Lead of the Hoplite Club which is a student organization that focuses on technical interview prep. I love being able to lead these sessions and help other students excel at interviewing.
- I interned at Quotient Technology last summer and will be interning at Facebook this summer. :)
- I am also a grader for the CS 46B (Intro to Data Structures) class.

Student Panelists: Ryan Tran

- I am a graduating senior but will return to SJSU this Fall to continue for my master's.
- I am currently a Software Developer Student Employee on the nuclear team at EPRI.
- My area of interest is AI, mainly machine learning.
- In my free time I like to play sports, mainly tennis, and watch shows with my little brother.

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Brief Intro to CS Dept and Clubs

- Refer to the Dept website
  - BSCS Program
  - Advising Page
  - Roadmap to complete the program in 4 years
  - FAQ Page
- Clubs
  - CS Club, Girls Who Code, HopLite Club, Machine-Learning Club, Cybersecurity Club, etc.

CS Club (Diljot Singh)

- Purpose: To create a space for students to connect and grow their technical skills outside of the classroom:
    - Providing personal and professional development workshops
    - Giving students opportunities to put impressive projects on their résumés
    - Conducting mock interviews
    - Hosting company tours, and connecting students with more professionals in the industry.

- Whether you just want to know what coding is, or need help getting an internship, everyone is welcome in the CS Club!

- https://linktr.ee/SJSUCSClub

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Girls Who Code College Loop (XinRu Lin)

- Next slide to be presented by Club Founder XinRu Lin.

Our goal is to create a safe space where everyone can learn, create, get to know one another, and build lasting connections.

ALL MAJORS WELCOME. ALL PEOPLE WELCOME. WE ARE A SAFE SPACE FOR EVERYONE :)

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Looking for a safe space to network with others, learn about programming, and participate in panels on a wide range of topics — not just tech? Then check out the

SJSU GIRLS WHO CODE COLLEGE LOOP

HopLite Club (Prerana Sunilkumar)

- Purpose: To help students master the foundational data structures and algorithms in order to excel in technical interviews and land competitive offers. We also strive to foster a sense of community and help students build a strong network with motivated peers.

- What we do:
  - Host 90 minute meetings every week where we go over the kinds of problems that are asked in technical interviews
  - Host panels and workshops to help members connect with alumni and get insight on landing a job at their dream company

- Our members and alumni have gotten offers from: Microsoft, Amazon, Google, Facebook, Salesforce, VMWare, Adobe, HPE, Cisco, Twitch, JP Morgan, and many others!

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- Introduction of Panelists

- Brief Introduction of the Dept. of Computer Science

- **FAQ (with Student Panelists)**
  - **FAQ on Courses, Academic Resources**
  - **FAQ on Campus Lives, Clubs, Interviews, Internships**

- Open Q&A

- Conclusion

FAQ (Courses)

- Is it possible to graduate in 4 years? (Ryan)
- How do I know what classes I should take? (Diljot)
- Getting into the classes I need? (Jobelle)
- What are the most important classes? (Prerana)
- How challenging is the coursework? (Ryan)
- What resources are available for support in any of the CS classes TAs, Peer connections, CS Study Lab, Cosac tutors? (Prerana)
- Class sizes? (Ryan)
- Modality of classes? (Melody Moh)
- How was your experience with online/distance learning? (Jobelle)
- How can I explore sub-categories of CS (such as bioinformatics, AI, etc.)?

FAQ (Campus Life, Clubs, Internships)

- What sets apart SJSU's CS Department from other universities? (Ben)
- How is campus life? (Prerana)
- What are your most memorable experiences at SJSU? (Wendy & Prerana)
- What are the best ways to meet other students with similar interests? (Diljot)
- What clubs should I join? (Diljot and Prerana)
- What resources are available on campus in order to help students get an internship? (Prerana)
- How has your experience at SJSU prepared you for your future career? (Jobelle)
- What are your plans after graduation? (Jobelle)

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