

# MSCS Mess

Access the MSCS Mess online at <http://wp.stolaf.edu/mscs/mscs-mess/>. E-mail the editor, Zach Greimann, ([greimann@stolaf.edu](mailto:greimann@stolaf.edu)) if you wish to receive a digital copy every Friday.

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## The MSCS Mess Needs YOU!

Have you found yourself wishing for some way to contribute to your favorite MSCS newsletter? Well now you can! Unfortunately our Editor-in-Chief, Zach Greimann, will be graduating this May, which means that we need somebody to take the wheel, and that somebody could be *you*.

Editing the Mess is a rewarding way to connect with and contribute to the MSCS community here at St. Olaf. It requires some skill with writing as well as some familiarity—and some patience—with LaTeX. If you think you're up to the task, please contact Zach Greimann ([greimann@stolaf.edu](mailto:greimann@stolaf.edu)) for more information.

## Epic Board Game Night Versus Carleton

Come join us **Wednesday, April 29** for our once-a-semester board game night! The MSCS Dept. owns dozens of awesome games to come and try. This semester, we challenged the Carleton Math Dept. to come over to our side of the river and play some games with us. They gladly accepted our challenge and now we get to be the gracious hosts who unfortunately must defeat them. Bring your friends for games, snacks, PIZZA, and fun!! The event will be held in the 6th floor lounge of RMS, 7-10PM.

## Attention Senior MSCS Majors

It's almost graduation time, way to go! The MSCS department would like to honor your accomplishments with a showcase. In order to do so, we need some help from you. Please send Zach Greimann, ([greimann@stolaf.edu](mailto:greimann@stolaf.edu)) a digital photo of yourself along with any other information you would like to share, such as:

- Your name
- Your major(s)
- Your plans for after graduation (this can include grad school, jobs, traveling, future goals, etc.)

Thanks!

## April is Math Awareness Month!

As more and more industries become increasingly complex, Math has become an even more important part of our world and a valuable asset for any employee. But how does one figure out where they can apply their knowledge of Mathematics in the real world? In order to increase awareness of the myriad ways to use math in your career, the American Mathematical Society has declared April the Math Awareness Month, and has created profiles of professionals who use math outside of the world of academia. Check out this resource at [www.mathaware.org/mam/2015/](http://www.mathaware.org/mam/2015/) to see where your Mathematics major could take you!

## Do you want to teach mathematics?

Are you interested in becoming a math teacher? Have you thought about it, but are unsure if it's the right career path for you? Or are you looking for a fun class to take and satisfy a GE at the same time? If you've answered "yes" to any of these questions, consider taking EDUC 290: Educational Psychology. It offers a nice introduction to our Education Department and to the world of education in general. You'll also get some "field experience," where you'll spend some time in actual schools. And you'll come out of each course with a GE credit (HBS) – so you really can't go wrong. In fact, convince a couple of friends

(or more) into taking these courses with you! If you have any questions, contact Prof. Matsuura (matsuura@stolaf.edu).

Education 290: Educational Psychology (Fall semester, satisfies HBS, sophomores and above only):

Students study theories of and research into human behavior, growth, and development. Through lectures, discussions, case studies and field experiences, students analyze the impact of applied psychology upon schools, teachers, and students. Students also examine the interaction between individual characteristics and needs and political, economic and philosophical issues confronting contemporary American students. Required 20-hour field experience.

## and for Your Reading Pleasure...

### some CS Jokes

To understand what recursion is, you must first understand recursion.

A man is standing outside smoking one cigarette after another. A woman walking by notices and says "Hey, don't you know that those things can kill you? I mean, they even print a giant warning on the box."

"I'm a computer programmer," replies the man, puffing away.

"So?" says the woman, "What's that got to do with anything?"

"We don't care about warnings. We only care about errors."

What's the difference between a novice programmer and an experienced programmer?

When their code works on the first try, the novice is overjoyed; the experienced programmer is suspicious.

### and some Riddles

What kind of coat is always wet when you put it on?

I have a head but no body,  
a heart but no blood.  
Just leaves and no branches,  
I grow without wood.  
What am I?

*(find the answers in next week's Mess!)*

Editor-in-Chief:	Zach Greimann
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*If you would like to submit an article or event to be published in the MSCS Mess, e-mail greimann@stolaf.edu*