

### DIGITAL FORENSICS INFORMATION INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH GROUP

Every Thursday

4:00—5:00 p.m.

Shelby Hall Rm 3104

### SYSTEMS PROTECTION AND EXPLOITATION RESEARCH GROUP (SPERG)

Every Friday 10 – 11 a.m.

@Shelby Hall Rm 2327

[www.soc.southalabama.edu/sperg/](http://www.soc.southalabama.edu/sperg/)

### PARTNER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Contact Keith Lynn at  
251-460-7643. For  
scheduling HOLLA click  
on the link below.

### Schedule HOLLA

### Quote of the Month

“There’s silly notion that failure’s not an option at NASA. Failure is an option here. If things are not failing ,you are not innovating enough..”

Elon Musk

CEO of Tesla Motors,  
CEO of SpaceX  
CEO of Neuralink

## CFITS LECTURE SERIES

Wednesday Lecture and Network Forum

Wednesday Apr 17th @ 2:30PM

Room-2121

Shelby Hall

### Alumni Profile

**Eric Dowdell II**

Scrum Master/Agile Project Manager  
Universal Orlando Resort  
[Ericd3230@gmail.com](mailto:Ericd3230@gmail.com)



Eric Dowdell graduated in December of 2016 with a degree in Information Technology. As a student, he was involved in on-campus organizations, such as NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers) and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Eric acknowledged Mr. Paul Overstreet, Dr. Jordan Shropshire, Ms. Rhonda Lucas, Mr. Jeff Holifield, Ms. Angela Clark, Dr. Debra Chapman, Ms. Maureen Van Devender and Dr. Bob Sweeney as professors who made all his IT classes meaningful and fun at the same time. He says, “They were always available when I needed help with anything. Senior Project was my favorite class because it taught me how to work together with others to deliver a working product at the end of the semester. I still use what I learned from that class to this day because I work with 3-4 teams each day.”

After first working as a student assistant with Mr. Overstreet, Eric landed an internship with AccuReg Software through the USA SoC internship program. After graduating, he was offered his first full-time job at Northrop Grumman as a Software and Systems Engineer after receiving the offer at the NSBE National Conference in Kansas City, MO. During Eric’s time at Northrop, he was selected as the Northrop Grumman’s Team Bravo award three times and had an opportunity to meet Kathy Warden (CEO of Northrop Grumman) at the NSBE conference.

Eric credits getting certifications in different areas in IT and dedicating his time learning new trends as the reasons he is in his current position today. Currently working in Orlando, Florida as an IT Agile Project Manager for Universal Orlando Resort, Eric’s favorite memories at USA were connecting with students and faculty at the home tailgates. Growing up as an only child, the connections and life-long friends that Eric made at the University of South Alabama are now considered his family.

## Faculty Profile

### **Dr. Tom Johnsten**

Associate Professor  
 University of South Alabama  
 Phone: (251) 461-1599  
[tjohnsten@southalabama.edu](mailto:tjohnsten@southalabama.edu)  
 Shelby Hall, Room 2310



Dr. Tom Johnsten is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science within the School of Computing at the University of South Alabama. His Primary research interests lies in the field of Data mining where he has been involved in numerous research projects. These projects include the development of new computational methods for discovering association rules, action rules, and contrast patterns. Two ongoing projects are the development of a machine learning-based tool to generate recommendations to eliminate conditions associated with anomalous events and the development of a new Data mining method to discover contrast patterns from high dimensional datasets.

## School of Computing Events

Thursday, April 4	Higher Education Day- Montgomery, AL, USA
Wednesday, April 10	Faculty deadline to report previous month's leave through PAWS
Friday, April 12	SoC Alumni Reception- Country club of Mobile
Wednesday, April 17	Employee Annual Picnic
Wednesday, April 17	CFITS Lecture Series
Wednesday, April 24	SoC Blood Drive
Friday, April 26	Last Day of Classes for Spring Semester
Monday, April 29	Final Exams