BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING GROUP

Deborah Gage, Administrative Assistant to Professor Alan Oppenheim in RLE's Digital Signal Processing Group (DSPG), believes the purpose of the DSPG office is to provide a positive environment for their students. This supportive atmosphere reflects Professor Oppenheim's high standards and friendly outlook. DSPG is a close-knit group of approximately 25 people. DSPG alumni keep in touch by writing to Deborah and sending photographs of their activities, marriages, and children, all of which are proudly displayed on the group's bulletin board in 36-615.

The DSPG area on the sixth floor of Building 36 includes a PC room equipped with a Macintosh Plus, IBM PC/AT, Apple LaserWriter printer and IBM Quietwriter printer. The DSPG library is a congenial place where students can check a word in Webster's, study textbooks, scan journals, examine theses of former students, or relax with one of the many paperback novels (or, as Deborah calls them, "thesis diversions").

Deborah Gage earned her bachelor's degree in English literature, cum laude, from Emerson College in 1973. Since then, she has taught high school in Somerville, served as an administrative assistant for the Women's Technical Institute, and as administrative assistant for the Joint Action in Community Services program of the U.S. Department of Labor. Before coming to RLE in May 1986, she worked in MIT's Technology Licensing office. Deborah enjoys taking the computer workshops offered at MIT, and has learned many different software packages.

Part-time Senior Secretary Cindy LeBlanc works with Professor Jae S. Lim in DSPG. During the past year, she has edited portions of Professor Lim's new textbook, Two-Dimensional Signal and Image Processing, which will be published this spring. Cindy, a Saugus resident, enjoys skiing, ice skating, and caring for her two-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Jillian. She holds an associate's degree from Marion Court Junior College, and worked at the Social Security Administration for ten years before coming to RLE in 1988.

Systems Engineer Giovanni Alberti manages the DSPG computer facility, which consists of several SUN workstations, VAXs, personal computers, and highly specialized speech and video hardware. Before coming to MIT in 1985, he was employed at the Digital Equipment Corporation as a group leader in an advanced development team that designed the largest VAX ever built by DEC. Giovanni, a native of Milici, Italy, holds both undergraduate and graduate electrical engineering degrees from Northeastern University.

Giovanni explains that a major objective of digital signal processing is the development of new algorithms for image and speech processing. Ten years ago, it would have taken more than a year to prove these algorithms, but today, high-speed computers have cut the time required to a matter of days. As part of his job, Giovanni must keep up-to-date on the market for new computer equipment and software. He also deals with vendors to buy the best equipment available, installs new equipment and software, and helps DSPG users become familiar with the equipment. These responsibilities require a thorough understanding of the group's computer needs.

Once a week, Computer Operator Hassan Gharavy backs up the DSPG computer systems. Every month, he transfers the information (approximately one million pages) to tape. He also teaches computer electronics as a full-time assistant professor at Mass Bay Community College, and is a part-time instructor at Northeastern University. An Italian native, Hassan holds an M.S. degree in electrical engineering from Tufts University.

Dr. Ehud Weinstein has spent the past academic year at RLE as a Visiting Scientist studying theoretical aspects of array and signal processing and their application to radar, sonar, and communications systems. Ehud is a member of the Faculty.

CONGRATULATIONS RLE GRADUATES!

Photos by John F. Cook

Volume 2, Number 2 • June 1989

A Newsletter for the RLE Community at MIT
A WARM WELCOME TO...

On February 1, 1989, Ming-yu Wei Lin began work as Professor Jiao Au Kong’s part-time Senior Secretary in RLE’s Electromagnetics Group. A Taiwan native, Wei Lin holds the B.S. in Business Administration from National Taiwan University. Prior to coming to the U.S., Wei Lin worked for the Customs Service of the Republic of China.

Administrative Assistant Kathleen Rogness has worked with Professor Jiao Au Kong in RLE’s Electromagnetics Group since March 1989. Kathleen, a Minnesota native, earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of Minnesota. Before coming to RLE, she was a publications specialist at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory for six years.

Research Specialist Jeffrey Saeger joined RLE’s Sensor Communication Group in March 1989. Previously, he worked for the Army’s Acoustics Laboratory and at various technical and engineering positions in the Boston area. Jeffrey holds a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Northeastern University.

(Sent by John F. Cook)