The 2010 Visualization Career Award

Chris Johnson

The 2010 Visualization Career Award goes to Chris Johnson, University of Utah, in recognition of technical achievements and leadership in Scientific Visualization.

Dr. Johnson has made sustained technical contributions in scientific visualization, especially in the areas of biomedical and computational field visualization. His research in scientific visualization and scientific computing is important not only because it is innovative but also because it has important real-world applications in a number of areas, including scalar and vector field visualization, problem solving environments, and biomedical computing and visualization. His unselfish dedication to visualization has motivated many others to excel, and his efforts continue to have major national and international impact and also to bring positive exposure to the field.

The IEEE VGTC is pleased to award Chris Johnson the 2010 Visualization Career Award.

Chris Johnson

University of Utah

Award Recipient 2010

Biography

Dr. Johnson earned his Ph.D. from the University of Utah in 1989. He is a Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and holds faculty appointments in the Departments of Physics and Bioengineering. In addition, he Co-Directs the NIH Center for Integrative Biomedical Computing and the DOE Visualization and Analytics Center for Enabling Technology.

Dr. Johnson founded the Scientific Computing and Imaging (SCI) research group at the University of Utah in 1992, which has since grown to become the SCI Institute. SCI is recognized as an international research leader in the areas of visualization, image analysis, and scientific computing, employing over 170 faculty, staff and students.

Dr. Johnson is internationally regarded as one of the foremost researchers and leaders in scientific visualization and scientific computing. He has focused on solving important problems in biomedicine, science and engineering using computation. In pursuing his research, Dr Johnson's has been Principle Investigator on more than $50M of research grants, has written over 100 papers and book chapters, and has given more than 60 keynote or plenary presentations and more than 125 invited talks at national and international conferences and workshops.

For his distinguished contributions to scientific visualization and scientific computing, he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics in 2009 and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2005. For his research and leadership in biomedical computing, he was elected a Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering in 2004. Professor Johnson has received numerous awards including a Young Investigator's Award from the NIH in 1992, the NSF NYI Award in 1994, and the NSF Presidential Faculty Fellow award from President Clinton in 1995. In 1996, he received a DOE Computational Science Award, and in 1997 he received both the Par Excellence Award and the Presidential Teaching Scholar Award from the University of Utah. In 1999, Professor Johnson was awarded the Governor's Medal for Science and Technology. In 2003 he received the Distinguished Professor Award from the University of Utah, and in 2009 he received the Utah Cyberpioneer Award. In 2010, Professor Johnson received the Rosenblatt Prize for Excellence, the University of Utah's most prestigious award.

Dr. Johnson has also had tremendous impact on the field through his professional service leadership roles. He has co-authored a number of national reports including the PITAC Report on Computational Science, the NSF Blue Ribbon Panel on Simulation-Based Engineering Science, the NIH Biomedical Information Science and Technology Report, NIH/NSF Visualization Research Challenges Report, the DOE Visualization and Knowledge Discovery Report, and the NIH-CRA Computing Research Challenges in Biomedicine Report.

Dr. Johnson serves or has served on 13 journal or book series editorial boards and more than 30 national or international external advisory boards. He has co-chaired 12 national or international conferences or workshops, including the IEEE Visualization Conference in 2000 with Professor Charles Hansen, and has served on more than 100 conference, organizing, program, and paper committees.

Most importantly, Professor Johnson wants to make everyone aware that this award honors work that arises not only from his own efforts but also from the skills and dedication of the many faculty, students, staff, and administrators who have worked together to create an environment where interdisciplinary research thrives.

Award Information

The IEEE VGTC Visualization Career Award was established in 2004. It is given every year to an individual to honor that person's lifetime contribution to visualization. VGTC members may nominate individuals for the Visualization Career Award by contacting the awards chair, Bill Lorensen, at vgtc-vis-awards@vgtc.org.