



Remembering a Trojan

Ask Jay Kuo, USC Viterbi Distinguished Professor of Electrical Engineering Systems and Computer Science, about the most cited research to come from his team, and he'll point to a thesis proposal from more than 25 years ago. Written by his doctoral student Tianhorng Chang in 1992, it remains an important contribution to signal and image processing research. Unfortunately, Chang never had the chance to see his work's impact: He died in 1994 after a two-year battle with cancer. But last year, Kuo and the Ming Hsieh Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering successfully petitioned the university to grant Chang his doctoral degree. Kuo traveled to Taiwan in November to present the degree to Chang's family and friends. Proud to celebrate Chang's achievements, the department shared his story publicly. Read more about him on the web at bit.ly/TianhorngChang.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN

USC's newest varsity sport has built a buzz nationwide, thanks to its unconventional playing field: electronic games.

The USC Esports Union kicked off last fall to support the university's games community. Run under the auspices of USC Games—USC's top-ranked game design and development program—the USC Esports Union includes varsity teams, clubs and programs for casual players. USC's first elite team debuted during Conquest week, playing UCLA in the game *League of Legends* in McCarthy Quad. (Score: 1-1.)

Media including Variety, the Los Angeles Times and KTLA spotlighted the effort. Industry insiders have chimed in, too. The co-founders of Riot Games—which makes *League of Legends*—posted a Facebook video voicing their thrill about USC's initiative. And where did Riot Games founders Marc Merrill '02 and Brandon Beck '04 first meet? Their alma mater, USC.



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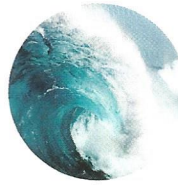
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MAKING WAVES

The surfing world was stunned when video surfaced online several years ago of legendary surfer Kelly Slater riding on flawless, artificially generated waves. What was this mysterious wave machine?

The machine made headlines again after its first public surfing event was held in September. It's the result of more than a decade of research led by Adam Fincham, USC Viterbi research associate professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering. Last fall, Fincham spoke to *Wired* to shed light on how the feat of science and engineering could change the sport forever. Read more at bit.ly/WiredFincham.



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