



# BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

## CS Department Colloquium Series



## Dan Ventura

Computer Science Assistant Professor  
Brigham Young University

**Thursday October 21, 2004**

1170 TMCB, 11:00 AM

## Why Graduate School?

If you have ever considered graduate school, you probably have some questions: Why would I want to go through MORE schooling? How is it different than my undergraduate education? What does it cost? If you have not considered graduate school, you should (this is not to say that you should get a graduate education, but you should think about it). This colloquium is targeted specifically to students that are:

1. Thinking about going to graduate school
2. Not thinking about going to graduate school

I will try to give you some ideas on what I consider some of the important issues involved (and my biased opinions on them) when considering an advanced degree, including lifestyle, opportunity, family, economics, etc. I will try to make the argument that graduate school may not be for everyone, but it is definitely for everyone to consider. I will conclude with a high-level overview of some of the interesting graduate opportunities available in our CS department.

## Biography

Dan Ventura is an Assistant Professor in the Computer Science Department at Brigham Young University. Prior to joining the faculty at BYU, he was a member of the Information Sciences and Technology division of the Applied Research Laboratory and a member of the Graduate Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering at Penn State University. Dan has also spent time in industry as a Research Scientist with Fonix Corporation, working on the development of state-of-the-art technology for large vocabulary continuous speech recognition.

**Donuts will be provided**