



Student Organizations Grow

The AITP (Association of IT Professionals) group has been very active in the last year. They hosted a Career Day, a visit by SAIC, and toured the Summit East IT Park (Mainline Information Systems, eLayaway, Focus Learning). The Group also held social events in the Fall and Spring, including a senior picnic. AITP hosted educational programs for members such as an entrepreneurship seminar as well as a seminar on how to start your own business. Membership, which was at 15 in 06-07, 32 for the 07-08 year, has grown to 75 CI students for the 08-09 year. (<http://aitp.fsu.edu>)

The STARS (Students and Technology in Academia, Research & Service) group grew from 11 members in the Summer of 2007 to 21 members this past Summer. STARS performed outreach at FSU and in the local community specifically targeting middle and high schools as well as attending a conference. The goal of STARS is to increase the participation of women, under-represented minorities, and persons with disabilities in computing disciplines through programs from middle school to college. STARS students completed 7 major projects in the last year. (<http://starsalliance.fsu.edu>)

Cedric Nabe wins "Student of the Year Award"

Winning awards and being recognized are no strange occurrences for Cedric Nabe.

Most recently he added "2008 FCPA Student of the Year" to his growing list of accolades. The Florida Career Professionals Association will formally recognize Cedric in June at its annual conference in Naples by presenting him with a plaque and cash award.

The student of the year award is presented annually to a "single exceptional student enrolled in a 2 or 4 year higher education institution in the state of Florida."

To be considered, the student must complete at least 10 weeks of employment in an internship, co-op, or work experience related to their major and demonstrate achievement of professional, personal and/or academic skills in a learning environment.

In a statement, Cedric said the following: "I feel honored to have been nominated for the FCPA Student of the Year Award. It always means a lot to be recognized for my hard work and determination."



Cedric is a past president of AITP and a member of the FSU Track Team. Cedric graduated in Spring 2008 and is currently working for Deloitte in Miami, FL

Brian Dolan wins Humanitarian Award



Brian Dolan being congratulated by Dean Larry Dennis

College of Information graduating senior Brian Dolan has been awarded a 2008 FSU President's Undergraduate Humanitarian of the Year Award. The award recognizes students who exhibit a "tremendous commitment to service."

For the last ten months Brian has been voluntarily refurbishing computers for the needy through a College of Information service learning project partnered with Lutheran Social Services of North Florida.

The "Computer Refurbishing Technology Assistance Program" gives students in Melissa Raulston's Information Technology Projects course the opportunity to experience hands-on learning while serving our community. "Through my experience in the project I learned about practical areas that aren't covered in textbooks," said Brian.

Brian was honored at an awards luncheon hosted by FSU President T.K. Wetherell. A \$200 check is being donated in his name to Lutheran Social Services of North Florida.

We congratulate Brian on being chosen to receive this prestigious honor and on his recent receipt of a full NSA scholarship to Carnegie Mellon University.

College Holds First IT Career Day

The College of Information, AITP, and the STARS Alliance hosted Career day for IT Students on 10/10 in the Goldstein Library. 14 local companies attended (list below) the event. The two-hour event attracted seventy-five undergraduates and was attended by the CI Faculty. College of Information professors spoke to employers regarding current and future business needs and discussed how our students can participate in the local IT job market.

In follow-up calls since 10/10, twenty students have had interviews for employment and another ten are in the process of securing internships. Employers were very excited by the event.

“We really enjoyed it and gathered quite a few good resumes. I thought the event was great.” – Jon Taylor, President, Infinity Software

“The entire event was well organized, starting from the very helpful reception committee in the parking lot, table setup, and introductions to student organizers and members of the event sponsor groups. I found students to be very professional, focused, and engaging with direct questions.” – Tom DiTanna, SAIC

“Excellent event; lots of great students with skills. We definitely want to bring CI students into our company starting this Spring. We would also like to continue bringing in students every semester.” – Hector Holguin, Digital Developer, The Zimmerman Agency

The student groups will be hosting a similar event in the Spring, with the goal of inviting twenty local IT employers. AITP and STARS would like to acknowledge the support of Dean Larry Dennis in making this a successful event. The groups would like to thank Pam Doffek for providing the use of the Goldstein Library and for her continual support of student organizations.



Clint Morrow and Denny Windgassen find out about SAIC from Tom DiTanna

Companies That Attended:

- Brandt Info Services
- City of Tallahassee
- Comcast
- Diverse Computing
- eLayaway
- Epyon Technologies, Inc.
- ERS
- Infinity Software
- IT Florida
- Mainline Information Systems
- Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PWC-Tampa)
- SAIC
- The Zimmerman Agency

Get Involved!

Another IT Career Day is being planned for the Spring semester. For more info contact Ebe Randeree (eranderee@ci.fsu.edu).



Brandi Horn speaks to Sabrina Holloman about opportunities with the City of Tallahassee

“I had a great time meeting-greeting students on Friday. Looks like we’ll have a few spots open for the Spring semester.”

Tom Carluccio, Director of Merchant Relations, eLayaway



Dan Gayler learns more about Mainline from Diane Jacobson

Gaming @ the Library

The College of Information, AITP, and STARS hosted their 2nd Game Day event on August 23rd (the first was held on 4/5) at the Goldstein Library. The event is designed to attract students to computing majors; this event was held to show that students in computing majors can also have fun and learn at the same time.

We focused on GAMING, the technology behind gaming, game machines, design games, designing graphic layouts, as well as introducing new game releases. The purpose was also to attract non-computing students to come to an IT school and mingle/socialize with computing students. This event consisted of games, prizes, food and fun.

We setup various stations consisting of 2 Nintendo Wiis, 2 Xbox 360s, and two Playstation 3s. The games consisted of Guitar Hero III, Super Smash Brothers Brawl, Rockband and Madden. Hourly drawings were held where students won prizes while learning more about computing majors.

STARS and AITP students had a booth setup in the center of the area so that they could talk to attendees about what each group had to offer. We invited the computing department, the computer store, the MIS association from the business school as well as the Career Center (they brought specific information on computing career, IT careers, etc).

The 4/5 event saw seventy-five attendees with twenty non-IT students coming to the college. The 8/23 event attracted over one-hundred participants and was held despite the heavy winds and downpours in the middle of Hurricane Fay. \$2000 in prizes were sponsored by local vendors and the College of Information.



Larry Dennis: Dean, Nuclear Physicist, GAMER!!



Get Involved!

Game Day is currently being planned for the Spring semester (contact Heather Franklin, STARS Alliance; or Adam Harte, AITP).



STARS Alliance Goes to Auburn



Sabrina Fontaine, Mike Falcon, Randy Flood (CS), Matthew Small (CS), Kristen Norena, April Johnson, Emily Rosenthal, Twanisha Gordon, Delano Townsend (not pictured)

Seven College of Information students and two CS students joined Dean Dennis and Assistant Professor Ebe Randeree in attending the STARS Alliance Celebration in Auburn, AL held August 10 - 13 (See <http://starsalliance.fsu.edu/> for information on recent projects). Professor Randeree presented a session on "Using Web 2.0 to reach College and High School audiences". The Stars students presented posters at the conference that represented some of their work over the last year. There were 45 posters from 20 schools at the conference session competing in the following categories:

- High School Outreach
- Middle School Outreach
- Student Retention & Recruitment
- Research
- Service Learning



Peer Mentoring
Krisita Nelson, April Johnson, Mikela Achary, Twanisha Gordon, Delano Townsend, Sabrina Fontaine, Randy Flood, Emily Rosenthal

Introduction

- Did you know that 20% of IT professionals are women?
- Research shows that 75% of IT professionals are women.
- Did you know that 75% of tomorrow's jobs will require the use of computers?
- Did you know that 33% of participants in computer courses and related activities are girls?
- Mentoring offers young girls a support structure, experienced role models, and trusted advice.

Initiative

- We will create a peer mentoring program that will provide positive role models.
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FSU STARS beat out the competition to win 2 of the 5 awards presented at the conference.

Mapping Your Knowledge
Emily Rosenthal, Kristina Nelson, April Johnson, Mikela Achary, Twanisha Gordon, Delano Townsend, Sabrina Fontaine, Randy Flood, Emily Rosenthal

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Community Comes Together to Create Peer Mentoring Program

Research shows that 20% of IT professionals are women; 75% of tomorrow's jobs will require the use of computers, while fewer than 33% of participants in computer courses and related activities are girls. Mentoring offers young girls a support structure, experienced role models, and trusted advice.

STARS, in a partnership between Girls Get IT, TalTech Alliance, AITP, and the College of Information, created a peer mentoring program that will provide positive role models. The program is designed to link female high school students, female College of Information IT students, and local female IT business leaders to provide educational shadowing, peer mentoring and leadership, social interaction, career counseling, and networking opportunities.

"Peer mentoring helps everyone. It helps younger students build friendships, learn about the IT profession and visualize their future. At the same time it helps senior students become an important part of the profession and focus their own values and beliefs as they advise younger students." (Dean Larry Dennis)

Students from Godby High School will shadow CI students at FSU and meet with successful local women to create a pathway for mentorship. Most importantly we hope to train high school students to replicate mentoring roles with middle schools.



CI Students Assist in Digital Harmony Project Rollout



College of Information and Computer Science students spent Saturday (10/11) working with the 2nd annual "Digital Harmony" Project Rollout at R. Frank Nims Middle School. Students (Mike Falcon, Heather Franklin, Twanisha Gordon, Yaniv Levy, Emily Rosenthal, Monika Achury (CS), and Kirk Yoder) and Faculty (Ebe Randeree) assisted the school with processing and delivering computers to families. The CI Students worked with parents to teach them basic computing skills.

Digital Harmony is a three-year pilot program designed to bring desktop computers complete with Internet access, learning software and ongoing training and support for every incoming sixth grader and, this year, new seventh graders at R. Frank Nims Middle School. More than 90 households in underserved areas in the Southside of Tallahassee received access to technology through the Digital Harmony program during its first year. Having the computers in the home enabled family members to tap into community-wide resources. Additionally, equipment was provided to the school's computer labs. This increase in students' access to computer technology helped the overall population to realize scholastic gains and benchmark mastery in both reading and mathematics. It also helped raise the school's grade from an "F" to a "C."

"I feel so proud to type on my own computer, just to have one, and not go other places," said Nims Student, Andrew Butler.

"We believe that all children should have access to the tools they need to become high achieving, successful young people by supporting children and families with technology" said City Commissioner Andrew Gillum, who spearheaded the initiative.

Gillum brought together a variety of partners from the Tallahassee business and technology community. This collaborative group of partners helped to implement the project, gain funding for equipment and software and develop programs to ensure ongoing training and support.



All 6th grade students, and their parents, came prepared to take home more than 130 free, brand new personal computers. In addition, each student will receive free Internet access. FSU's STARS Alliance helped parents load up, as kids watched in excitement. College of Information students, Cherie Sanders, Denis Burns, David Paul Lyons and April Johnson were instrumental in supporting the project through the CI HELP DESK and were cited as being one of the reasons that the project has been able to succeed.

Ebe Randeree, Twanisha Gordon, Tallahassee City Commissioner Andrew Gillum, Emily Rosenthal, Heather Franklin, Mike Falcon, Kirk Yoder, Yaniv Levy (not pictured), Monika Achury (not pictured)



Event Photo Album



Yaniv Levy recruiting CI students at BOYS STATE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Florida State University
STARS & THARS

- Computing Careers Night
- Peer Mentoring/Girls Get IT
- Computing in the Dorms
- Pathways to IT Careers
- Game Day-Spring 2009
- 3/3 @ 3 (IT Career Day)



April Johnson marketing CI at GIRLS STATE



Melissa Stalnaker jamming at Game Day

UPCOMING EVENTS

AITP FSU

- Tour of Infinity Software
- Tour of Summit East Tech Park
- End-of-the-Semester Celebration
- Education Seminars
- Game Day-Spring 2009
- 3/3 @ 3 (IT Career Day)



Emily Rosenthal and Shawn Reiss at IT Career Day



Dean Dennis, Matt St. Amant, and Julia Johnston at the Picnic

Get Involved!

Contact Twanisha Gordon and Ryan Egleston for information about AITP

Contact Mike Falcon and Alex Peto for information about STARS



Walt Bower (AITP President) recruiting LEA to join CI

Message from the IT Staff

Hi Everyone,

The IT staff work hard to bring you the best tools possible. Check out MSDNAA (free Microsoft software) or iSpace webhosting. As a CI student, you have priority access to the brand-new CI Computing Lab (also known as the HELP DESK) located in the Goldstein Library in the Shores Building. If you are going to be around for a few semesters, keep your eyes peeled for IT Internships in the CI Server Room, and for new iSpace features. If you want to keep up with the very latest, feel free to check me, Casey McLaughlin (mclaughlin@ci.fsu.edu) out on twitter; you can also find links to other CI folks on Twitter: twitter.com/caseyamcl



Casey McLaughlin, IT Coordinator, CI Graduate

Check it all out at: ci.fsu.edu/user_services/

AITP - Building Community at CI



Shawn Reiss, Jachima Taino, and Ian Anthony at the Picnic

One of the primary goals of AITP is to build a sense of community at the College. With students attending classes in the new HCB building and across campus, there is very little interaction between classes and between students and faculty. With the completed renovation of Shores 006 classroom, students are back in the College.



Erica Cartee and Summer Rae at the Bowling Social



Andrew Bertino, Dustin Smith, Mike Murray, Shawn Reiss at the Picnic

Get Involved!
Contact Walt Bower for more information about AITP

To build community, AITP has chosen social activities to reach out to students. We have had 3 bowling events in the past 12 months at Crenshaw that has attracted over 100 students per event. We have had dinners in small groups and hosted a graduation picnic at Tom Brown Park this Summer (with 45 students attending). AITP will continue its efforts; if YOU have an idea for a social event that will bring students together, please contact Walt Bower.



Yaniv Levy, Lugol Metayer, and Adam Harte at the Bowling Social



Carolyn Shore, Jonathan Kight, Jeffrey Barkiewicz at the Bowling Social



Adam Harte, David Alexander, April Johnson, Robert Ubieta, and Jarrett Clark



Mike Wabiszewski on his way to another 200+ game—who knew he could bowl!

STARS OUTREACH— Bringing People into Computing



April Johnson, Emily Meyer, and Sabrina Fontaine distribute information on computing & IT to students at Godby High School.

STARS Alliance hosted a "Computing Careers Night" at Godby High School. The students from FSU also visited Maclay school and spoke to middle and high school students about computing careers, educational options (such as IT, CS, MIS), and courses offered at FSU.

The event at Godby High included various speakers from both the academe (e.g., FSU Admissions Office, FAMU Admissions Office, College of Business, College of Information, Department of Computer Science, and the Career Center) and industry (e.g., BearingPoint, TalTech Alliance). The evening was well attended with many presenters pleased with the contacts they made, and participants picking up university admissions and specific computing information from the departments.

Another "Computing Careers" Night is planned. Contact Chris Landbeck for more information.

Students helping students with “Jobs Across Florida”

The College of Information student groups will be launching a new COLLABORATIVE initiative to help IT undergrads "get jobs". The program will use former MLS grads and current Masters students who are across the state of Florida to help students identify job opportunities in their home markets. Students in the CI program travel back to their home cities/towns for internships and employment.

“It is very difficult to help students locate opportunities outside of Tallahassee. Our MLS graduates are information professionals who would love to help all CI students” (Prof. Randeree)

The librarians/information professionals are experts in their home markets with information on local companies, jobs, and information resources. The program will match IT undergraduate students with graduate LIS students (AITP/STARS with ALA). In the process, the ALA chapter will be able to grow its alumni network and also provide the College with better access to its graduates.

“We are very excited to work with AITP and STARS. I think that this is a great opportunity for our student chapter to be effective across all levels in the school” (Amelia Anderson, ALA Student Chapter President)

For more information, contact Amelia Anderson (ama07c@fsu.edu) or Ebe Randeree (eranderee@ci.fsu.edu).

More About Your CI Student Organizations: STARS and AITP



Florida State University
STARS Alliance

The mission of the STARS (Students & Technology in Academia, Research & Service) Alliance is to increase the participation of women, under-represented minorities, and persons with disabilities in computing disciplines through multi-faceted interventions focused on the influx and progression of students from middle school through graduate school in programs that lead to computing careers.

The Alliance is organized as a national constellation of regional stars that include research universities, minority and women’s universities & colleges, K-12 educators, industry, professional organizations, and community groups. The original NSF grant included 11 schools (including FSU, FAMU, and USF Polytechnic) and has now grown to 20 schools.

FIND OUT MORE: <http://starsalliance.fsu.edu/>

AITP
FSU



AITP is a professional association comprised of career minded individuals who seek to expand their potential through events, networking, mentoring, and socialization. The organization follows a strict code of ethics instills professionalism and defines obligations to management, fellow members, society, the College and University, employers, and the country.

The AITP: FSU Chapter was launched in the Fall of 2005 by students at the College of Information. The 2005-2007 period was a building time under the leadership of Willie Jackson. Since its inception, the organization has grown from under 15 members to over 75 and has become the primary student organization at the College of Information. In that time, the organization has also become a Registered Student Organization (RSO) with the university.

FIND OUT MORE: <http://aitp.fsu.edu>

Message
from the
ADVISORS

Registration for Spring 2009 courses is now underway!

All IT students should meet with an advisor (one of the 2 cool guys to the right) in room 110 LSB as soon as possible. Students may call (850) 644-5771 to schedule an advising appointment. Advisors may also be available to see students on a walk-in basis between 9am and 4pm Monday thru Friday.

Registration will close on December 5, 2009.



William Leparulo



Scott Thorp