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STARS Computing Corps Spring eNews

Issue 9, April 2014

STARS Celebration 2014



**August 14-16, 2014
Hyatt Regency Crystal City
Arlington, Virginia**

Plans are underway for an exciting program as STARS Computing Corps convenes in our nation's capital this August 14-16. The conference opens late afternoon on August 14 and ends the evening of August 16. Join us for sessions and hands-on workshops that explore areas such as cutting-edge technology, leadership, pedagogy, K-12 and peer outreach, faculty advancement, and sustainability. Gain fresh ideas from research and service posters of STARS students. Renew old friendships and develop new ones as we celebrate the accomplishments of STARS Computing Corps. Take advantage of the opportunity to visit sites in Washington, DC before or after the Celebration as the conference hotel is a short Metro ride into the District.

Join us for a fun and enriching Celebration!

Dates to Remember:

Poster abstract submissions - deadline extended to April 28

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Opps and Events

[NCWIT Summit](#)

May 19-21, 2014
Newport Beach, California

[STARS Celebration](#)

August 14-16, 2014
Arlington, Virginia
Registration opens May 1

[Grace Hopper Celebration](#)

October 8-10, 2014
Phoenix, Arizona
ABIE Award nominations
Deadline May 15, 2014

Kudos and Awards



Cheryl Swanner, left above and STARS Academic Liaison at Fort Valley State College, received a Girls, Inc. Advocacy Award on March 20 for their outreach with Girls, Inc. **Paulana Hall**, right above, wrote the NCWIT AspireIT grant proposal and received \$3000 in funding in collaboration with Girls, Inc.

Ashley Conard, a Senior at DePauw, won both the poster and the talk competition at the Indiana Celebration of Women in Computing. Her prize was an all-expenses-paid trip to the Grace Hopper Celebration next fall in Phoenix. In the photo below, Ashley, left, is congratulated by Dr. Maureen Biggers, Director of Indiana University's Center of Excellence for Women in Technology.



Mendy Xu and Carson White, Students at DePauw, won the DePauw Case Competition that West Monroe Partners held on their campus this winter. From DePauw, the pair moved on to regional competition, where they came in second behind the large research institution, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and where they each won an Apple television. Carson and Mendy flank Matthew Rager in the photograph below. Matt, a DePauw Computer Science graduate, co-founded West Monroe Partners in 2002. In a dozen short years, the company has won numerous awards.

Connecting to STARS

We know you love to keep up with your STARS peers and colleagues and we enjoy sharing news and info outside of our quarterly newsletter, so we're introducing a few more ways you can connect to STARS! Follow us on Twitter, YouTube, or Flickr and share your videos, photographs and activities with us! Got an announcement? Be sure and send us the info to be featured in the next eNews or on STARS Online!



Community Partners make a difference

Our mission of expanding participation in computing among K-12 and College students would not be possible without our community partners working to improve STEM initiatives around the country. Reach out to them and see how you can help connect your students to regional partnerships in your area.

About Us



Scott Heggen and Carla Bendezu, Students at UNC Charlotte, were recognized April 2 for their outstanding work with Citizen Schools. STARS has led apprenticeships, such as video game design and mobile application design, with Citizen Schools students for over ten semesters. Scott and Carla, two terrific Citizen Schools teachers, are shown below with the STARS certificate.



STARS Computing Corps is a non-profit dedicated to building and preparing a larger, more diverse national computing workforce for the 21st Century. We support and implement programs designed to attract and retain the brightest minds in the technology, computing and informatics disciplines. To date, over 40 Colleges and Universities have implemented our innovative STARS Leadership Corps program, a co-curricular service-learning program for college students. Students in the Corps collaborate with regional K-12 schools and industry and community partners to inform, engage, and prepare upcoming students for entry and success in college computing programs. Through peer mentoring, team projects, and research experiences, STARS Computing Corps college students are emerging as the future innovators of tomorrow.



Highlights from Around the Corps

DePauw University – Seven DePauw STARS students presented talks and/or posters at the Indiana Celebration of Women in Computing on February 7-8. Front row (l-r) Ashley Conard, Noemi Benitez, Radhika Dayal, Taoxi Li; back row (l-r) Miranda Neville, Gloria Townsend, Taryn Hampton, Mandy Xu.

Contact Us

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STARS Computing Corps is proudly funded by:



Posters: Ashley Conard, *Creation and Implementation of D4M Algorithm for Protein Analysis*; Radhika Dayal, *Dynamic Website for the RESOLVE Web IDE*; Radhika Dayal and Miranda Neville, *Demystifying Computer Science*; Taryn Hampton, *Using Student Data to Evaluate Problem Difficulty within an Intelligent Tutoring System*.

Talks: Taoxi Li, *Making Artwork and Games with Open Source Projects*; Ashley Conard, *Essential Residues within Fyn SH3 Protein Domain using Game Theory*; Noemi Benitez, *Computer Science Develops Dual Degrees*; Miranda Neville, *Having Your Cake and Eating It Too: A Look at How to Get Things to Work in Your Favor*.

Florida State University STARS recently organized a Women in Leadership conference (paid for by NetApp). Check out the [video](#)!

Technology Leaders Visit Morehouse College and Georgia Institute of Technology

Secretary of Homeland Security, Jeh Johnson, and National Protection and Programs Directorate Deputy Under Secretary for Cybersecurity, Dr. Phyllis Schneck, visited the Georgia Tech Information Security Center and Morehouse College on February 14 to participate in roundtable discussions with students on developing the next generation of cybersecurity leaders.



Dr. Scheck (3rd from left) and Secretary Johnson (4th from left) with Kinnis Gosha's Culturally Relevant Computing Lab and STARS Corps students.

Morehouse College – West Newton Elementary School Quest and High Achiever students from Covington, Georgia had the opportunity to

experience the world of computer science at Morehouse College on January 21. Dr. Kinnis Gosha, Academic Liaison for Morehouse, gave the students a presentation which included some of the latest technology research and inventions, including Morehouse's own "virtual mentoring agents." After the presentation, West Newton students had the chance to make their own computerized agents. [Read more.](#)



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