



P-12 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

WOMEN IN IT IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

Starting in the fall of 2013, the IT Immersion Experience will create an opportunity for young women to gain an invaluable look into the IT career landscape and UNO college life. Over the course of four days and five nights, the College of IS&T will host students and teacher mentors, offering a variety of hands-on educational activities, corporate visits, and meetings with potential IT role models and mentors. Evenings will be filled with a glimpse into campus life, including a picnic with UNO students, UNO sporting events, a visit to the Henry Doorly Zoo and other activities.

For more information on this and other women in IT initiative, please visit www.ist.unomaha.edu/women-in-it.

IT HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

This summer, 14 high school students gained an unparalleled experience as the College of IS&T hosted its inaugural High School IT Internship Program. Over eight intensive weeks, these high school students worked side-by-side with IS&T professors, staff and graduate students in research areas and labs such as robotics, bioinformatics, software engineering, information assurance, public health informatics, database-driven web development, IT innovation, open community participation, iOS/Droid app development, Unity game development, and others. Attracting 30 applicants from across the metro area in its first year, this highly successful summer program is expected to expand in the coming years.

More information about the program will be available at intern.ist.unomaha.edu.

IT INNOVATION CUP

Bringing together the thrill of competition with hands-on educational activities, the annual IT Innovation Cup engages Nebraska schools to create the most innovative, creative and best IT-based solution to today's most pressing problems. Established in 2012, the IT Innovation Cup presents a yearly challenge to high school teams in which teams must bring together a wide range of skills and expertise in order to solve. From creating "Serious Games" to innovative answers for "Technological Assistance for People with Disabilities", the IT Innovation Cup pairs high school teams with IS&T mentors, campus resources, and networking opportunities with area IT companies and sponsors.

More information for this year's challenge can be found at: www.ist.unomaha.edu/?p=it-innovation-cup.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

UNO's Dual Enrollment program allows talented students to earn college credit while still in high school. College-bound students can get a jump on their degree and maximize their time in advanced high school classes. Dual enrollment can also provide enhanced curriculum opportunities that help students remain engaged in their junior and senior years of high school and help prepare for college-level work. The College of IS&T currently offers its dual enrollment program in 18 different schools across Nebraska. In 2012-2013, a total of 180 students were enrolled in courses that ranged from CIST 1300, 1400, 2500 and CSCI 2980. Courses that are currently offered by IS&T for dual enrollment include: CSCI 1200 - Computer Science Principles, BIOI 1000 - Introduction to Bioinformatics, IASC 1100 - Introduction to Information Security, CIST 2100 - Introduction to Management Information Systems, CIST 1100 - Introduction to Computing, CIST 1300 - Introduction to Web Development, CIST 1400 - Introduction to Computer Programming, CIST 1404 - Introduction to Computer Programming laboratory (1 credit), CIST 2500 - Introduction to Applied Statistics for IS&T, CSCI 1000 - Computer Literacy with Applications, CSCI 1620 - Introduction to Computer Science II, and CSCI 2510 - Introduction to Game Programming.

For more information about UNO's dual enrollment program and processes please visit dualenroll.unomaha.edu.

SHADOW AN IS&T STUDENT

High school students can learn even more about what it means to be a college student and study information technology by shadowing a current student. From working in our labs to attending class, IS&T is a unique experience that allows students to pursue their passions in IT. Through shadowing a current student, high school students can get a jump start on their college experience.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR TEACHERS

Every summer, high school teachers and undergraduate students have the opportunity to attend two research experiences at IS&T: Research Experience for Teachers (RET) and Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) in Engineering and Computer Science. These projects focus on “Infusing Mobile Platform Applied Research into Teaching” with funding from the National Science Foundation. Five computer science faculty members serve as mentors for the teachers and students.

For more information visit ret.ist.unomaha.edu.

EARLY ENTRY PROGRAM

Currently enrolled high school students may apply to take undergraduate courses at IS&T concurrently with their high school program by enrolling through the UNO Early Entry Program. Enrollment requires the recommendation of their high school counselor and demonstration high academic achievement.

To apply for the early entry program, please visit admissions.unomaha.edu/early_entry.php.

TEACHER TRAINING IN EMERGING IT DISCIPLINES

For teachers interested in infusing emerging IT disciplines into their P-12 curriculum, IS&T faculty and staff will work collaboratively with them, designing custom training programs in traditional computing (Computer Science and Information Systems) and Interdisciplinary Informatics (Bioinformatics, Information Assurance and IT Innovation).

Please contact the IS&T Dean’s office at (402) 554-4150 and set up a time to visit the college.

GRACE HOPPER COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK

National Computer Education Week kicks off a series of events and celebrations at IS&T, commemorating Grace Hopper. Events include the annual High School Computer Science Quiz Bowl, student research presentations, a panel discussion on “Beyond Grace Hopper: Women in Computing Careers” and culminating in a IT career fair.

For information on the various activities please visit: www.cs.unomaha.edu/~hsij/CSedweek.

WOMEN IN IT MENTORING

IT mentors are volunteers from a wide variety of businesses in the Omaha area, matched with undergraduate and graduate students based on career goals and expertise. In the coming academic year, this program will grow with additional mentors to support the high demand of students and mentors wishing to participate.

NEBRASKA AFFILIATE NCWIT ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING AWARD

The Nebraska Award for Aspirations in Computing is an annual award, which recognizes high school women with an interest in computing. The award celebrates their current leadership in IT and encourages these students to continue the pursuit of their goals in IT. In the past two years, fourteen winners and seven runners up have been recognized from the state of Nebraska. All applicants are entered into a national award competition, and in 2012 and 2013, girls from Nebraska were recognized as national runners up for the award (an honor given to approximately 10% of applicants). We continue to reach out to more high schools across the state to encourage more young women to apply for the award.

WOMEN & IT ENGAGEMENT LINK

This link consists of a group of faculty, staff, students, and community members who actively promote the need for more women in the IT workforce. The IT Engagement Link organizes many activities at IS&T to recruit, retain and encourage women interested in IT, including the mentoring program and the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award. The IT Engagement Link also organizes panels and presentations that showcase the diversity of careers and people in IT. Speakers from NASA and Lockheed Martin have been profiled as exciting career paths and opportunities in IT.

IS&T STUDENT SPEAKERS

Interested in having your class learn more about information technology and the programs offered at IS&T? Current students can speak to your class about their experiences and future goals. From Robotics, IT Innovation to Computer Science, our students are passionate about IT and excited to help others find their career paths.

Please contact the IS&T Dean’s office at (402) 554-4150 to arrange for an IS&T student to visit your classroom.

