

COMMUNITY COLLEGE CORNER

Elizabeth K.
Hawthorne

The Strategic Summit on the Computing Education Challenges for Community Colleges:

A Tremendous Success!

THE STRATEGIC SUMMIT on the *Computing Education Challenges for Community Colleges* was a tremendous success—beyond expectations!

The ACM Two-Year College Education Committee (TYCEC) received an Advanced Technological Education (ATE) award from the National Science Foundation to conduct this significant endeavor. The *Strategic Summit* assembled from across the nation a diverse group of professionals from two-year colleges, four-year colleges, high schools, industry, and government. During 28-30 April 2010, thirty-one experts gathered in Philadelphia and engaged in focused discussions addressing just one question:

What are the major challenges facing computing programs at community colleges into the foreseeable future?

Suggesting solutions was not part of the charge, which in itself was a challenge.

These discussions were organized around three different themes

- Perceptions, Preparation, and Environments
- and from three different perspectives
- Employer, Faculty, and Student.

Brief thought-provoking presentations from each perspective introduced a given theme before participants divided into three separate groups for a period of intense, facilitated deliberations.

Afterward the breakout groups reconvened to share the challenges they had identified. All presentations and breakout discussions were digitally recorded and the many hours of captured conversation along with the interactive blog postings served as the foundation for producing the Summit proceedings that describe the major challenges. Awareness of these challenges will indeed foster opportunities; thus, these challenges are currently being broadly disseminated through conference presentations as well as print, electronic and social media channels with the intent of seeding initiatives and grant proposals for two-year colleges. The proceedings from this Strategic Summit are available at www.capspace.org.

Many people beyond the members of the TYCEC contributed so much to ensure the success of this *Strategic Summit*. We owe a debt of gratitude to the members of the advisory committee who provided

WELCOME!

Strategic Summit on the Computing Education Challenges for Community Colleges

Sponsored by:
the ACM Two-Year College Education Committee
&
The National Science Foundation



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wise counsel to us before and after the *Summit*. These individuals include Robb Cutler of the CSTA Board, Ellen Hause of the American Association of Community Colleges, Professor Timothy Klingler of Delta College, Dr. Jane Prey of Microsoft Research, President John Walstrum of Clover Park Technical College, and Dr. Vera Zdravkovich of CyberWatch at Prince George's Community College. A special note of appreciation goes to Lillian "Boots" Cassel from the ACM Education Board for her contributions at the *Summit*. We are very grateful to Steve Cooper, Scott Grissom and all the ATE program officers at the National Science Foundation for their vision and support of this project.

Most importantly, the ultimate success of the *Summit* rested with the extraordinary collection of talented participants, all individual leaders in their respective sphere of influence, all committed to coming together in service to a goal greater than their own individual pursuits. Their energy, enthusiasm and passion were contagious throughout the entire *Summit*. The members of TYCEC extend their deep appreciation to the following people. Andrew Bird, Clover Park Technical College; Risa Blair, Miami Dade College; Dennis Bush, Inspired Synergy; Becky Grasser (panelist), Lakeland Community College; Daniel Green (panelist), Oracle/Sun Microsystems, Alka Harriger (panelist), Purdue University; Rose Hopkins, Naperville North High School; Diane Irwin, Ballston Spa Central School District; Barbara Leitherer, The Community College of Balti-

more County; Donald McCoy, IBM; Shirley Miranda (panelist), Morse High School; Keith Morneau (panelist), Capella University; Brenda Oldfield, Department of Homeland Security National Cyber Security Division; Michael Panitz, Cascadia Community College; Myra Pelz, Rochester Institute of Technology; Craig Persiko; City College of San Francisco; Amelia Phillips, Highline Community College; Savitha Pinnepalli, River Parishes Community College; Michael Qaissaunee (panelist), Brookdale Community College; John Sands, Moraine Valley Community College; Judith Scheeren, Westmoreland County Community College; Cheryl Seals, Auburn University; Margaret Semmer (panelist), Dean at Joliet Junior College; Karen Stout, President of Montgomery County Community College; Jody A. Strausser, Tidewater Community College; Keith Swarner, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Tanana Valley Campus; Joseph Trujillo Jr., Santa Fe Indian School; Anita Verno, Bergen Community College; Jessie Walker; University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; Kai Wang, Wake Technical Community College; and Kim Yohannan (panelist), EMC² Corporation. **ir**



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