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September 2019 Newsletter



#### Welcome Cal State Fullerton!

This Fall, we are thrilled to extend our program to STEM students attending California State University ("Cal State") Fullerton. Like other CSU campuses we serve, CSUF has a focus on workforce and economic development and upward mobility. Faculty and staff are committed to supporting student success through innovative high-impact educational and co-curricular experiences, such as the Women in Computer Science and Engineering (WiCSE) Learning Community.

We were honored to meet with students in WiCSE (photo above) to discuss the STEM Advantage program. We're partnering with the College of Engineering and Computer Science and WiCSE faculty coordinator Beth Harnick-Shapiro, to help talented women and other STEM students succeed in pursuing engineering and computer science degrees.



### Mei-Ying @ Activision Blizzard

Mei-Ying is a Computer Science major at Cal Poly Pomona. She is especially interested in game development and a member of the school's Game Design and Development Club. She likes to play games and make them. To nurture her talent, this summer we helped Mei-Ying find a paid internship as a back end web developer intern at Activision Blizzard. Plus, she received an offer to return next year for another internship.

"I have had an amazing experience with Activision this summer. I've gotten to learn hands on with my day to day tasks and work with great people. One week, the interns did community service work at a local Fisher house. I had the chance to experience the values of the company firsthand."

In the photo above, Mei-Ying (3rd woman from left) is shown with interns touring the Activision Motion Capture studio. We appreciate Activision Blizzard inspiring talented students interested in game development.



## Career workshops help students succeed

In September we offered two career workshops to help students get their resume noticed and prepare for interviews.

Thomas Phelps, VP of Corporate Strategy and CIO of Laserfiche, invited our Scholars to participate in ISACA-LA's Annual Career Night, where executives shared their stories about how they achieved career success and provided valuable insights on what they look for in hiring top talent.

Thanks to the generosity of Arjen Mackaaij, SVP of People at FabFitFun, and his family's foundation "Jalmar", we offered a Career Workshop providing one-on-one and small group support to current STEM Advantage Scholars and new students applying for our program. Recruiters and hiring managers generously gave their time and expertise to review resumes and help students practice their interviewing skills, learn what makes an effective elevator pitch, learn why networking is critical, and build a LinkedIn profile. Special thanks to Jon Gaunt, Payal Rastogi, Christina Shareef, Carole Schlocker, Lu Ann Talley, Danielle Yamane, and Dionna Walker for helping students learn how to showcase their talent.

#### How can you get involved?

To provide a paid internship, be a mentor, fund a scholarship, and/or hire recent graduates, please contact Lee Ann at <a href="mailto:leeann@stemadvantage.org">leeann@stemadvantage.org</a>

We offer the STEM Advantage program to talented STEM students at Cal State Dominguez Hills, Cal State Fullerton, Cal State LA, Cal State Long Beach, Cal State Northridge and Cal Poly Pomona. The majority of these women and underserved communities are low income, first generation college students. Your support helps them realize their dreams.

To invest in STEM Advantage Scholars and help students graduate with less college debt...



STEM Advantage is a proven pipeline for vetted diverse STEM talent. For more information,

please contact leeann@stemadvantage.org

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