

State of Montana

2010 Computer Science Summer Summit

Overview

Historically, the post-secondary computer science educational units in Montana have largely operated in isolation. These units consist of tribal colleges, community colleges, four year colleges and universities. As a grassroots initiative (one that is being driven by computer science instructors, not by any outside political agendas), we would like to learn from each other's successes, challenges and vision for progress. The outlook is bright for computing in the 21st century and we hope to explore innovative ways to teach this material so that we can graduate more and better-prepared students who desire to pursue computing careers.

To this end, there will be a one day summit in Bozeman on Thursday, June 10th (details below) for all interested parties. Lunch will be provided, but your institute is responsible for any additional expenses. If you are able to come, please RSVP to John Paxton (Paxton@cs.montana.edu) no later than Friday, June 4th for planning purposes. We also ask that all attendees consider the agenda items below and bring slides that address them for your particular institution. This should help facilitate discussion on the day of the summit.

We plan to hold a follow-up summer summit in 2011 at The University of Montana in Missoula.

Thanks!

Agenda

Each attendee will be asked to prepare about 20 minutes worth of slides regarding his or her program. Items that lead to discussion are especially encouraged. Here are some possibilities, but feel free to address anything that is of interest:

- An overview of your department and program – history, faculty, students, degrees, etc.
- What are the strengths of your program? What innovations have you done that other attendees might benefit by learning?
- What are the challenges your program is facing? How are you currently trying to solve these challenges?
- Do students transfer into or out of your program smoothly? Why or why not?
- How do you currently use distance education?
- What future ideas do you have to improve your program?

Outcomes

- To meet and make connections with other computer science educators in Montana.

- To learn about the current state of post-secondary computer science education in Montana.
- To gather new ideas.
- To lay the groundwork for possible future collaboration. For example, after meeting twice during academic year 2009-2010, UM and MSU will be sharing two courses with one another during 2010-2011.
- To get a sense of what topics are of interest for the 2011 summit.
- To identify action items.

When and Where

- Thursday, June 10th from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (lunch provided)
- Montana State University, Bozeman
- EPS 347 (Computer Science Conference Room)
- EPS is Building 16 on this map: <http://www.montana.edu/campusmap/>
- Parking costs \$5 at location 58 on this map: <http://www.montana.edu/campusmap/>

Organizers

- John Paxton, Montana State University, Paxton@cs.montana.edu
- Joel Henry, University of Montana, joel.henry@mso.umt.edu
- Nick Thiel, Flathead Valley Community College, nthiel@fvcc.edu

Invitees

The order of the schools is taken directly from the Montana University Website – <http://mus.edu/campuses.asp>

If you are not the proper person to contact, please let us know. Also, if you are not able to attend, please feel free to send this information to a representative who can attend in your place.

Bold entries indicate people who have RSVP'd with intentions of attending.

- 1. MSU – Bozeman (John Paxton, Paxton@cs.montana.edu)**
2. MSU – Billings and Billings COT (Bruce Brumley, bbrumley@msubillings.edu)
3. MSU – Northern (Mary Verploegen, verploegen@msun.edu)
4. MSU – Great Falls COT (Bruce Gottwig, bgottwig@msugf.edu)
- 5. UM – Missoula and Missoula COT (Joel Henry, joel.henry@mso.umt.edu)**
- 6. UM – Helena COT (Bryon Steinwand, steinwandb@umhelena.edu, Shaun Scott, shaun.scott@umhelena.edu)**
- 7. Montana Tech and Montana Tech COT of UM (Michele Van Dyne, mvandyne@mtech.edu)**
8. UM – Western (Denise Holland, d_holland@umwestern.edu)
9. Dawson Community College (Joe Drivdahl, drivdahl@dawson.edu)
10. Flathead Valley Community College (Nick Thiel, nthiel@fvcc.edu)

- 11. Miles City Community College (Nancy Swope, swopen@milescc.edu)**
12. Blackfeet Community College (Sam Thornton, sam_thornton@bfcc.org)
13. Chief Dull Knife College (R. Peppers, e-mail unknown)
14. Fort Belknap College (Taylor Dotson, tdotson@mail.fbcc.edu)
15. Fort Peck Community College (Anthony Shields, e-mail unknown)
16. Little Big Horn College (Linda Brown, brownle@lbhc.cc.mt.us)
17. Salish Kootenai College (Al Anderson, al_anderson@skc.edu)
18. Stone Child College (Gerard Vandenberg, gerardnv@yahoo.com)
19. *Carroll College (Dave Marshall, dmarshall@carroll.edu) – not able to attend*
20. University of Great Falls (Jim Croft, jcroft@ugf.edu)
21. Rocky Mountain College (Aaron Benner, bennera@rocky.edu)