

Instructionally Related Activities Report Form

SPONSOR Anna Bieszczad

PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT: Computer Science

ACTIVITY TITLE: “Attend Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Conference”

DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: October 18 – October 21 2016

Please submit via email to the IRA Coordinator along with any supporting documentation at david.daniels@csuci.edu within 30 days after the activity. Thank you for your commitment to engaging our students!

A. ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- (1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY;
 - (2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?
 - (3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?
 - (4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY’S WEAKNESSES?
 - (5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?
 - (6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?
 - (7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)
 - 8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY.
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B. ATTENDEE LIST- SUPPORTING DOCUMENT:

In addition to the report form, *in a separate document*, attach to your email a list of attendees complete with each student major and grade level. This for IRA Committee reference only and will not be published on the IRA website. Include your name and the title of your IRA activity on the document.

C. IMAGES FROM ACTIVITY:

Finally, attach to your email up to 6 images demonstrating student participation (under 2 MB total) with captions/titles. Please attach these photos in .JPEG format directly to email. Thank you!

(1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

The Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing is the world's largest gathering of women technologists, the best minds in computing, and increases visibility for the contributions of women in computing. The three-day conference combines technical sessions with career sessions, and includes a poster session and a career fair. It is produced by the Anita Borg Institute and presented in partnership with ACM (Association of Computing Machinery) - the world's largest education and scientific computing society that delivers resources that advance computing as a science and a profession. The conference has many sponsors that are recognized as leaders in technology and show commitment to increasing the impact of women in technology. Some of the sponsors this year are: Apple, Google, Facebook, Microsoft, Cisco, CapitalOne.

The conference results in collaborative proposals, networking and mentoring for the attendees. Conference presenters are leaders in their respective fields, representing industry, academia and government. The conference also offers professional development through a variety of activities. The conference hosted 15,000 attendees from 65 countries and over 800 companies presented. Our students came back inspired and ready for the challenge that the tech industry presents.

(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?

Students got to network with attendees from around the world, they got the real live experience of networking, on spot interviews, mingling with high tech companies that gave them a glimpse on how is it going to be to work at high tech after graduation.

(3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?

Students came back full of energy, self-confidence and enthusiasm about their perspective of being successful professional women in high tech industry. The conference offers access to companies, face-to-face interactions with engineers, workshops, and on-spot interviews otherwise not possible for many students.

(4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?

The conference was extremely well organized, the students were well taken care off, I cannot think of any weaknesses to report.

(5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?



I think that we will follow this year's process, however we will be able to shorten the "logistical" aspect of pre-conference preparation now that we know what type of data gathering is needed.

(6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?

I learned that every student, no matter how experienced, will greatly benefit from the conference. The conference offers multiple paths to accommodate all levels of participants.

(7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)

"I found attending the Grace Hopper Conference to be a very beneficial experience. I got a lot out of attending. Because I attended, I learned about a lot of companies and was able to meet with and talk to representatives I otherwise would not have. I got to learn of a lot of companies that actually care about gender diversity, and I was able to apply and be noticed, where I feel I would not have had the same opportunity if I had just applied online. I was able to get some interviews as a direct result from attending the conference.

It was a great opportunity to network. I got to talk to a variety of people, to hear and be encouraged by their different stories. It reignited my desire to strive for a job at a company that will support and encourage me, that celebrates diversity, and that is a welcoming work space. Little has it crossed my mind that I'm allowed to consider these things when looking for a job, so attending this conference has given me a new outlook on job prospects.

I also learned of new opportunities I want to share with other students, such as Leadership Programs. Many companies are offering a kind of leadership, residency program aimed towards recent graduates which gives them extra training while they start working. This was something I wish I had learned about sooner, and would have been beneficial to know about while I was still in class, since it is aimed for right after graduation.

The Grace Hopper Conference was something I really enjoyed, and I am so very lucky and appreciative that I was able to attend. I am still feeling it's affects to this day, and will continue to feel it when I celebrate that which makes me different.

Thank you again for the life changing opportunity. :-)"

"The Grace Hopper Celebration was not only very fun, but an absolute success. More than 15 companies reached out to me and I was able to land coding challenges and interviews with [...] through the event alone.

I met so many amazing recruiters and was able to connect with some of them through LinkedIn. GHC gave me the opportunity to put myself out there. The amount of companies there outnumbers the career fair at CI. Many of the companies that go to this



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conference are hard to reach, especially when the only way to contact them is through an online application on their careers page.

I have received one full-time offer and moved forward with 3 companies to their onsite interviews through the Grace Hopper event.”

“GHC was an awesome experience. I met so many amazing recruiters and was able to network with some pretty cool engineers. Going into the conference I had already applied to about 20 companies and never received a single response. But, the very first day I was at GHC, I landed three interviews and within the next two days I received two internship offers. The majority of the companies who go to GHC seem unreachable from the outside, especially when your only form of contact is an online application. Actually getting to talk to these companies in person was a priceless experience and it truly launched my career. I had so much fun, gained a lot of experience, and am really excited for my internship this coming summer!”

(8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY.

Please see the attached spreadsheet [GHC2016_SummaryOfExpenses.xlsx](#)

**B. ON SEPARATE DOCUMENT, PLEASE ATTACH ATTENDEE LIST
(PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFO REMOVED)**

**C. PLEASE INCLUDE UP TO 6 IMAGES AS ATTACHMENTS TO YOUR
SUBMISSION**

IRA#729 "Attend Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing" Conference
Sponsor: Anna Bieszczad, Full-time Lecturer in Computer Science Program

List of attendees:

Winter Smith, Computer Science
Heather Bradfield, Computer Science
Kristen Godinez, Computer Science
Jessica Perez, Computer Science
GloAdelyn Mercado, Computer Science