

Summary of Activities (2006)

Association for Computing Machinery

FIU Student Chapter

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ACM Southeast Regional Programming Competition

Our chapter sent two teams to the ACM programming competition, held in Statesboro, Georgia, in October 2006. The teams ranked 7th and 19th overall, out of 65 teams. The teams were coached by Kip Irvine, the club's faculty advisor.

Third Annual High-School Programming Competition

In March 2006, the ACM club hosted its Third Annual High School Programming Competition. A total of 99 students from 15 area high schools participated in the event. The event was sponsored by IBM, with Pete Martinez, the top IBM regional executive as the guest speaker. Adobe corporation has donated software. According to Lourdes Whittington, Educational Specialist for Dade-County Public Schools, the FIU competition has created a great amount of enthusiasm among Dade computer students.

Volunteer Tutoring Program

The ACM club organized a volunteer tutoring program in Fall 2006, which will continue into Spring 2007. In the Fall semester alone, ten tutors contributed over 70 hours in subjects such as Beginning/Intermediate Java, Data Structures, Unix, Computer Architecture, Software Engineering, and Visual Basic. One member, Ruben Balmaceda, was given the Outstanding Tutor Award in December 2006.

Guest Lecture: Greg Miller, Ultimate Software

Greg Miller, a software engineer from Ultimate Software, visited FIU on the invitation of the ACM club in November 2006. He and a colleague described Agile Software development methodologies and gave a brief demonstration. The lecture was attended by approximately 40 students and faculty. As a result of that visit, several FIU students were interviewed for full-time positions.

Student Picnic

ACM and the **Women in Computer Science** club held a very successful picnic for FIU students in Crandon Park in October 2006. Approximately 30 students attended.

LEGO Mindstorms Project

A team of ACM students has been working on software for the LEGO Mindstorms Robot during the Fall 2006 semester. This project was funded by a grant awarded to the Women

in Computer Science club. The project will be demonstrated in the Spring 2007 Engineering Gala, and at two local high schools.

Toy Drive with the Women in Computer Science Club

ACM and WICS students organized a toy drive in December 2006 for the Miami Childrens Hospital. Approximately \$400 in toys were delivered to the hospital by students and faculty from both clubs.

Graphics and Games Special Interest Group

The ACM Graphics and Games group had active participation throughout Fall 2006 semester. Dr. Prabhakaran generously donated his time, giving several guest lectures on graphics theory. Students in this group have been working on applications using Open-GL, Microsoft XNA Toolkit, and Perl.