March 17 – March 23, 2013

LSU Students Take First Place at Programming Competition

Nine Louisiana State University students, making up three teams total, participated in the 2013 Deloitte Consulting's Hattiesburg Invitational Programming Competition held on February 29 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The nine students, who were divided into three teams for the competition, are all computer science majors. Kathy Traxler, education training specialist of the LSU Center for Computation & Technology (CCT), and Isaac Traxler, IT manager of LSU's High Performance Computing, coached the LSU teams.

"Deloitte hosts this contest as a way to recruit students into their work program," said Kathy Traxler. "Many contestants show an increased interest in applying for employment with Deloitte after participating in this contest and seeing first hand what an excellent opportunity Deloitte offers."

With nine problems to solve, one computer per team, three team members, and four hours to compete, the contest was a tough one. Problems included graph theory, geometry, and string manipulation; most of the problems were modeled a business or technical perspective.

LSU was on the board first with a team of two sophomores and one junior: Morgan Hargrove, Alex Duchene, and Tyler Longwell, respectively. This team stayed in first place throughout the contest and won first place overall.

The second LSU team came in sixth place. Team members were: Mathew Gavin, Michael LeSane, and Adam Dunmars. LSU's third team ranked eleventh with team members Randall Head, Andrew Pinion, and Mitchell Mason.

The competition hosted 20 teams total, including teams from Mississippi State University, University of South Alabama, University of Southern Mississippi, Southeastern Louisiana University, and University of Southern Mississippi-Gulfpark.

Lectures this Week:
THURSDAY –

There will be a lecture on "Chemistry at Interfaces: From the Air-Water to the Electrode-Electrolyte Interface" by Revati Kumar, University of Chicago. The lecture will take place on Thursday, March 21st at 3:00 PM in 338 Johnston Hall.

Please Note:

- There will be an All CCT Meeting on Monday, March 25th at 10:00 AM in 338 Johnston Hall to discuss the impending move to the new building

- The university will be closed on Friday, March 29th in observance of Easter.

- The Beowulf Bootcamp is open for registration. CCT will host the sixth Beowulf Boot Camp July 8-12 on the LSU campus. This exciting course offers students and teachers a unique opportunity to work with advanced research technology not usually available in a typical classroom setting. During Beowulf Boot Camp 2013, students will work hands-on with a number of LSU professors as they learn how to build and use supercomputers.
  - **WHO:** Louisiana High School Students, Baton Rouge Community College Students, and Louisiana Teachers
  - Students will engage in the following activities:

- building a computer cluster from scratch
- installing the Linux operating system on the computer they've built
- connecting computers put together by their peers to make a mini-supercomputer
- learning how to program a mini-supercomputer in parallel with Python
- interactive activities to help understand how Parallel computing works in Supercomputing
- running performance benchmarks to determine how your cluster ranks in comparison with the fastest and largest supercomputers in the world
  - This camp is introductory so students do not need a strong computational science background to participate. Some knowledge of programming a plus.
  - For more information and to register, visit http://www.cct.lsu.edu/beowulfcamp2013

- Prior approval is required for Special Meal Requests. Employees who make meal purchases without prior approvals may find that they must cover the cost of any monies spent for an unapproved event out of pocket. Dine-in restaurant meals are not allowed on LaCarte credit cards. Please contact Susie McGlone (susie@cct.lsu.edu) prior to any special meal with visitor(s) to file the appropriate request for approval. Prior approval could take up to two weeks, so please plan accordingly.

- Please remember to send your news concerning grants, awards, conferences, or other pertinent information to CCT Event Coordinator Jennifer Fontenot at jennifer@cct.lsu.edu

- Follow CCT with social media to access photos and see news, events or updated information. These pages are public; you do not need an account to view the information.
  - Facebook group : LSU Center for Computation & Technology
  - Twitter : LSUCCT
  - YouTube channel : LSUCCT

Interest groups:
- **MAG (Mobile App-Art-Action Group)**: Everyone interested in the potential for Mobile Apps is invited to come and add their vision for these revolutionary devices.
  - Spring 2013 semester MAG meeting schedule; 4:30- 6:00 pm, 338 Johnston Hall:
    - March 28
    - April 18
  - For more information visit: http://www.cct.lsu.edu/MAG
  - Contact: Jesse Allison (jtallison@lsu.edu)

- **GPU**: meets weekly (Thursdays @ 12:30 pm in 338 Johnston) and encourages participation from anyone who would like to join in the discussions. Join the mailing list: lasigma-gpu@loni.org
  - Contact: Zhifeng Yun (zyun@cct.lsu.edu)

Upcoming events:

March 20: HPC Training: Make and Software Installation
March 21: Windows 8 Install Mixer Workshop by Microsoft
March 22: Game Development Workshop for Windows 8
March 23: Microsoft DEVCAMP: Learn how to Build Window 8 Apps
March 27: Overview of Numerical Libraries
April 3: Introduction to GNU Octave
April 11: CCT Crawfish Boil
April 17: HPC Training: Introduction to GnuPlot
June 10- 14: Alice in Computation Land Summer Camp 2013
July 8-12: Beowulf Boot Camp