Student Success

Hannah Boulet    Thom Dickson
Today’s presentation

● Student Success
● Computer Science Clubs
● Internships
● Academic Support
● Questions
Student Success

- The academic research indicates that students are more likely to succeed in a STEM major if they feel socially and intellectually integrated into their academic programs and campus environments
  - Translation
    - Get involved
    - Get help when you need it
Women in Computer Science

The purpose of the Women in Computer Science organization is to support and encourage women and nonbinary folks who are in technical majors, give them opportunities to learn outside the classroom, and build a solid supportive community.
Appalachian Game Development

The goal of our club is to provide a space for both CS majors and non-majors alike to have a setting to work on creating their own games, both digital (like Minecraft) and physical (like Monopoly). People will have the opportunity to form groups and create whatever game they come up with, and the opportunity to present their progress at the end of each semester to the whole club if they wish.
Appalachian Society for Computing, Informatics, and Innovation (ASCII)

ASCII is a Computer Science club dedicated to creating a community for new and experienced CS majors, or anyone interested in CS. We like lots of social activities but also work to expand the CS skill set of its members.
Those are just a handful of the clubs and activities

- Computer Science students are interested in many things at App State
  - Hiking
  - Skiing
  - Gaming
  - Music
  - Japanese
  - Theater
  - “Geek Guild” (hosts annual NerdCon event)

- Come find your people in CS at App State
Internships

- Internships provide real-life experiences at partner colleges or industries
  - Often an internship will lead to a job offer upon completion of a degree
- Spring 2023 graduates
  - 66% of graduates sought an internship
  - 62% of those seeking an internship were able to obtain one
- CS 4900 Internship course is an approved Computer Science elective!
  - 18 interns in CS 4900 last summer, 10 last academic year
- Lots of variety
  - Big company, small company
  - On-site experience, remote experience
  - Local company, regional company, “West Coast” company (San Francisco, Seattle)
Summer 2023 Internship Locations

- 3 remote to San Jose
- 3 in Charlotte
- 3 in RTP/Cary
- 2 in “High Country”
How to find an internship?

- Take advantage of the networking opportunities on campus: Club meetings, AppHack, Job and internship fair
- Pay attention to department emails
- Opt-in to flyers/notices postings in GoogleDrive folder
- Off campus events: NC state job fair, hackathons
- Build an impressive online presence: LinkedIn, Indeed.com
- And remember you can get CS 4900 elective credit for an internship!

https://cs.appstate.edu/internships/
Research

● Faculty in the CS department are working on various projects and generally welcome student involvement
  ○ Bee Colony Collapse Disorder, Program Analysis, Programming language theory, Mobile applications, Computer Science education, Data Visualization, ….

● Benefits of engaging in research
  ○ Studies show that students who engage in research will earn better grades and are more likely to graduate
  ○ Helps define one’s own interest
  ○ Good preparation for graduate study
  ○ Provides a deeper connection with a faculty member
Academic Support

● It’s a hard major, but you are not alone …
  ○ Disco Support Learning Center at D.D. Dougherty
    ■ Drop-in tutoring
    ■ One-on-one or group based
    ■ Academic success coaching
    ■ Located in building right next to CS
  ○ Major advisor within the CS department
  ○ University Writing Center
  ○ And many more services …

● More importantly, you will have a CS community of faculty and students who care about your success
Department Fast Facts

- **Academic Programs**
  - Bachelor’s of Science, ABET accredited, 600 students, 110 graduates/yr
  - Master’s of Science, 25 students, 10 graduates/yr
  - Data Science Certificate, 30 students

- **Engaged Faculty**
  - 19 funded grants, > $5 million over last 7 years
  - 20 faculty members

- **Program began in mid 1970s, became department in 1998**
Questions?

- Also don’t forget to visit these rooms:
  - **Beyond the Bachelor’s in room 318**
    - Earn a Master’s degree with just one extra year of study!
  - **Undergraduate Program in room 310**
    - Learn why you should get your Bachelor’s degree in CS here at App State
  - **Reaching Higher in room 325**
    - Earn an extra, highly marketable, credential
    - Take graduate courses that can count toward the Master’s degree and graduating with honors
  - **Student Research Lab in room 312-W**
    - See what research some of our students are working on!