

CSTA Fall Meeting Notes

Wednesday, January 21, 2008 – 5:30pm

Host: Niagara County Community College

Food provided by: TBD

Attendance: Carl Alphonse, Jim Caprio, Adrienne Decker, Dave Levine, Dave Murray, Deb Sorrentino

Agenda:

- Adoption of Minutes from last meeting
- Old Business
 - Action Items from last meeting
- New Business
 - Upcoming Events Planning Update
 - SIGCSE Workshops of Interest
 - National Girls Collaborative Project
 - State-Level Advocacy for Computing Education
 - Future Meetings
 - Membership Drive
 - Chapter Elections

Adoption of Minutes from Last Meeting

Changes to the minutes needed:

Make sure that Dave L versus Dave M clearly marked inside minutes and action items
Bank account not set up, but information collected about how to set up account when there is money to deposit in it.

Minutes unanimously adopted provided that these changes were made.

Minutes posted at:

<http://www.cse.buffalo.edu/faculty/adrienne/CSTA/November2008Meeting.pdf>

The draft of these minutes are posted at:

<http://www.cse.buffalo.edu/faculty/adrienne/CSTA/January2009Meeting.pdf>

Old Business: Action Items from last meeting

Action Items (Conversation about Computing)

- Letters to school districts showing that faculty attended this event. (Carl, template to come from Steve/Dave)
 - STATUS: Complete
- Gail to find list of Business Teachers and make available to group for future emailing.
 - STATUS: Unknown – Carl doesn't recall receiving list
- Post slides from event
 - STATUS: Carl still needs to do this.

Action Items (College Fair)

- Contact the local Academies of Information Technology at the local high schools for students.
 - STATUS: Dave M provided contact information to Carl for use next time
- Should we send a formal certificate of thanks to schools who participated (to chairs perhaps)?
 - STATUS: It was decided through informal vote over email discussion to not pursue this item further

Action Items (Chapter Administrative Details)

- Updates to Google group about recent events
 - STATUS: Carl needs to do this
- Chapter wiki
 - STATUS: Currently, the wiki is winning. Need to get more training on how to work with the wiki's interface.

General New Business

- SIGCSE workshops of interest:
 - Workshop 15: Computer Science Unplugged
 - Workshop 17: Roadshow Roadmap: Getting Started with K-12 Outreach
 - Carl will be attending this one
 - Workshop 30: Computer Science Inside... Capturing the Interest of Potential Computer Science Students
 - If you are attending SIGCSE, these might be of interest to our organization
- National Girls Collaborative Project (<http://www.ngcproject.org/>)
 - Something we should be mindful of in our efforts locally perhaps
- State-level advocacy for computing education
 - The CSTA website notes the need for someone to push computing education at the state level
 - Suggestion is that we try to find someone in our ranks that is keen on this, and suggest them to the CSTA

New Business: Upcoming Events Planning Update

St. Bonaventure's Student Programming Contest

NOTE: This is not a formal CSTA event, but Dave L and Steve A are the chairs of this event and have reported on it to the group.

Report:

Will be held on Friday, February 27th at St. Bonaventure.

See http://contest.cs.sbu.edu/Programming%20Contest.aspx?&sm=n_a for more information

Steve and Dave L plan to promote our CSTA chapter to teachers who bring teams and to campaign to get them to sign up for membership nationally and with our chapter.

Action Items:

- Can we ask national to put something on the national registration page for those signing up for membership nationally to commit to a local chapter or at least express interest so that the process of signing up is more stream-lined.
- Should we get a web-based membership form put up for our local chapter?
- Carl to give names of teachers and counselors for HS that were collected for previous two events for advertising for this event electronically.

New Business: Upcoming Events Planning Update

Spring College Computing Fair and Student Research Showcase

General Chair: Adrienne Decker

Content Chair: Dave Murray

Report on Progress: (Questions raised to the group for input)

Where should we hold this (geographically)?

A: Buffalo (or nearby suburb) is probably best geographically, too far north or south would cut attendance. There really is no good options half way between Buffalo and Rochester, and since organizers are in Buffalo, Buffalo would be easier than Rochester to find venue.

What type of venue (hotel, Center for Tomorrow, other place)?

A: Hotels and Center for Tomorrow have associated cost for rental and food (if wanted) that is high for an organization with no funds. College campus would be ideal to bring prospective students to a real campus and it could keep costs down.

Should we charge schools for participating?

A: Yes – especially if our venue charges for things. Group felt that asking schools for a \$50 donation was reasonable and that an amount of that size would be fairly easy to secure for most departments who would like to participate. The money could come out of a recruiting budget for the department (or school) if one was available due to the nature of the event.

General Comments:

Rohini Srihari would be a good speaker for this event. **Rohini's company has sponsored the food for two of our CSTA meetings.**

Proposed schedule:

8:00 - setup for schools begins

9:00 - doors open to prospective students;

9:00 to 12:00 – Exhibits from colleges that can include a showcase of work from students at the schools (poster-like session with demos encouraged).

12:00 - Keynote by Rohini

1:00 - Awarding of doorprize(s)

Group should invest in doorprize (iPod?) and raffle it off at the end of keynote to encourage people to stay – must be present to win prize.

Action Items:

- Research venues (opportunities at UB with lower cost than Center for Tomorrow?).
- Set date (either April 25th or May 2nd)
- Begin advertising to schools for their participation
- Speak to Rohini when date finalized
- Think about advertising options

New Business: Upcoming Events Planning Update

Summer Workshop

General Chair: Dave Levine

Content Chair: Steve Andrianoff

Report on Progress:

Proposed schedule

3 hours workshop morning

1 hour lunch

3 hours workshop afternoon

Action Items:

- When should this be held?
- Dave L to email/talk to Don Slater at SIGCSE
- Where can we get materials?
- Can we get funding from Alice people for the workshop?
- Can we get funding from SIGCSE for the workshop?
- Contact publishers to get books to give away to participants
- How can we get this to count as a continuing education requirement for teachers, is that something we can do or is it dependent upon the whim of the school district?

New Business: Upcoming Events Planning Update

Fall Conference

General Chair: Gail Kaminski

Content Chair: Carl Alphonse

Report on Progress:

Use Nifty Assignments as a template for submissions

Keynote: What (who) would K-12 teachers want to hear?

- Possibility: People in the computer industry talking about their experience (“Everything I Wish I Learned in School”)
- Possibility: People from education department with interest in computing in education

Question: Would it help to get this approved for continuing education credit to have someone get it approved for that purpose so other K-12 faculty could use it as leverage?

Proposed Schedule: (Morning workshop)

Opening/Welcome/Light Breakfast (?)

Morning plenary session (x examples in three y- minute sessions)

Keynote

Action Items:

- Produce 1-2 modules in advance as a template for other ideas to show faculty what we are looking for.
- Set date (October)
- Submission deadline for submissions should be end of April to Mid-May (need call for submissions)

Scheduling of Future Meetings and Chapter Elections

Next scheduled meeting was:

- February 27 at St. Bonaventure after the Programming Contest (3pm)

But, Michael Kölling is coming to give a talk at Buffalo before he continues on to SIGCSE and Carl and Adrienne will be busy hosting Michael on his visit, so....

Meeting moved to March 25th at St. Bonaventure (5:30pm again?)

The following meeting will take place after the Spring Computing Fair – at this meeting Chapter Elections will be held. Nominations accepted previously or will accept nominations from the floor.

Since this meeting – Carl sent around a link to several movies with tips and techniques for K-12 outreach and suggested a movie night. We should try to plan this event as well.

Membership Drive

More members are needed for our local chapter.

How can we engage K-16 members of our community more effectively? How can we reach them?

Issues effecting us with CSTA national outlined in Action Items of St. Bonaventure Programming Contest.

Other action items regarding membership:

- Can we get a list of CSTA members in our area, or if national will not provide a list, can they send a mail to those people on our behalf?
- Will national put up information about our chapter on the national webpage?

Respectfully submitted,

Adrienne Decker
Secretary