



INSPIRED

Lamar University's INcreasing Student Participation In REsearch Development Program seeks to broaden participation in computing by increasing the number of women and minorities receiving computer science degrees. The program engages and develops students through an enriched undergraduate research experience that includes mentoring, tutoring, and other support, and activities that are designed to dispel some of the misconceptions that make computer science unpopular for women and minorities. INSPIRED students are paid to perform research and participate in mentoring and outreach functions for an average of fifteen hours per week. The INSPIRED project improves the infrastructure available to students by creating a dedicated INSPIRED lab.



Expanding Minds

INSPIRED Conferences, Research Seminars and Careers Forums expose students to the richness, breadth, and many beneficial applications of Computer Science and dispel the misconception that computer science is by nature a narrow, non-inclusive endeavor. Career Counseling and Graduate Study Seminars help bridge graduating INSPIRED students to professions or advanced study in computing.

Sponsors

INSPIRED is funded by an NSF Broadening Participation in Computing grant

Engaging Students Through Research

INSPIRED students experience the thrill of discovery as they work in teams with graduate computer science students and faculty who serve as mentors and role models. The teams include students from all levels, freshmen through seniors. The upper-level students help lead the lower-level students and inspire them to reach the next level. INSPIRED students get experience in teamwork, leadership, writing papers and making professional presentations.



Reaching Out to INSPIRE Others

INSPIRED students reach out to middle and high school students and entering freshmen. Outreach activities include one- and five-day summer academies in robotics and Web design, visiting road shows, and on-campus presentations.



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