CS Student Organization Annual Sponsorship ($1000/organization)

There are six student organizations closely affiliated with the department: Association for Women in Computing, Association for Computing Machinery, CS Grad Council, CS Mentoring Group, Mobile and Web Development Group, and VT Gaming Project. Sponsorships support expenses for an academic year. Some examples of expenses include food and supplies for meetings and seminars, equipment, and marketing items. In return, company representatives are invited to speak and/or present at two student organization meetings. The company has the opportunity to collaborate on an event co-hosted by the student organization and company.

CS Student Organization Outreach Activities

In addition to sponsoring ongoing activities of our student groups, there are two special outreach activities organized by our students that offer sponsorship opportunities.

Association for Women in Computing (AWC) Women in Computing Day (primary sponsor $2000, secondary sponsor $1000). The Association for Women in Computing (AWC) has organized this annual event for over twenty years. Held each spring, Women in Computing Day is an outreach activity for local middle school girls. The participants are put into small groups and rotated through four exciting interactive activities that expose them to computing and computational thinking from different perspectives. CS faculty and company representatives offer their time to lead demonstrations. Undergraduate and graduate students in the CS department organize the event. Your sponsorship of this initiative covers supplies and materials to set up the workshops, give-away items for the participants such as t-shirts, and food for the event. In return, your company would have the opportunity to provide a speaker or session leader for the event. Your company can also meet with the members of AWC one-on-one at a general body or executive board meeting. Finally, company representatives will have the opportunity to interact with 80 to 100 middle school participants.

CS² – Elementary School Outreach ($100). Computer Science Community Service (CS² for short) is a student-run, volunteer organization dedicated to teaching computer skills in the community, often focusing on bridging the ever-widening digital divide. CS² provides a great opportunity for students of all majors to use their knowledge of computers and belief in the university’s motto Ut Prosim (that I may serve) to improve
their local communities. The organization does everything from building and administering computer labs for youth and technology centers to creating computer clubs in local elementary schools to teaching children computer skills. Sponsorships are used to purchase computer hardware used in remote sites and to cover travel to conduct site visits. CS Squared visits multiple sites each week, some of which are not in Blacksburg. Your company can send representatives to participate in the service projects with students. Company representatives will also be invited to a kick-off event with the students.

**Programming Team Competitions (High School competition $1000, Regional ICPC competition $2000, International ICPC competition $5000)**

The Virginia Tech ACM Programming Team regularly sends several teams to the regional International Collegiate Programming Competition (ICPC), has qualified for the International competition for four straight years, and hosts an annual Virginia Tech High School competition. The ACM Programming Team is open to all undergraduate and graduate students who have not completed more than 5 years of post-K12 education. Sponsorships provide funding for up to five teams to attend the regional competition and refreshments for team practices throughout the year. Company representatives have the opportunity to attend the team’s practice sessions and meet with the participants.

**CS Capstone Project Sponsorship ($4,000/project)**

Senior Design, or “capstone” as it is also known, is a culminating experience for undergraduate students during which they have the opportunity to combine all the technical, communication and teamwork skills that they have learned in one exciting and meaningful project. Whether a student’s career interests lie in working for industry, continuing on for an advanced degree, or pursuing a job in a national lab, the capstone experience is an opportunity to define how they will impact the technical community or society in general. The projects challenge students to solve open-ended technical problems defined by industry partners and guided by faculty subject matter experts. The scope of the project is discussed and agreed upon by the faculty member and company representative. Projects last one semester. (Note: companies who are not members of the CSRC may propose capstone project sponsorship for $5000/project.)

**Student Sponsorship for Grace Hopper or Tapia Conferences ($1,000/student)**

Graduate and undergraduate computer science students are encouraged to attend conferences and other professional development opportunities throughout their academic career. Regional and national conferences are aimed at increasing diversity in CS and helping to expose students to new learning opportunities outside the classroom. Some examples of the conferences that we send our students to include the Grace Hopper
Celebration of Women in Computing and the Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing. Sponsorship covers conference registration and student travel including transportation, lodging, and meals. Corporate sponsors have the opportunity to attend a post-conference presentation session and meet with the students who benefited from the sponsorships in a one-on-one setting.

**Aspirations Scholarships ($3,000)**

These are awarded annually to a student who has won a regional or national NCWIT Aspirations Award and who is majoring in Computer Science at Virginia Tech. Awards are targeted at rising sophomores, and are renewable for up to two years as long as the student continues to make satisfactory progress toward completion of a degree in computer science. Donations in support of this opportunity, like all scholarships, are considered “restricted” and can be used only for the purpose of the scholarship. For academic year 2017/18 seven students are eligible for this scholarship.

**Student Recruitment & Outreach Initiatives ($1,000-$10,000)**

The Department of Computer Science has a long history of commitment to recruitment and retention activities aimed at students from populations underrepresented in computing. Activities include:

- **CS Student Ambassadors** visit high schools across Virginia, often returning to their high school alma mater. This student to student outreach provides a picture of the path that students can take toward a computing degree. We engage students in high school classes and clubs in computing and mathematics, in pre-engineering classes (especially those aimed at encouraging female students in magnet schools), and at weekend engineering expos for high school students and their parents. The CS Ambassadors program is a co-ed group of computer science majors.

- **Visit community colleges and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).** The Virginia community college system and HBCUs can provide a pipeline of diverse students from which to recruit. CS Ambassadors and faculty visit to make presentations and meet with prospective students.

- **High school teacher workshops.** CS faculty members have conducted six workshops for high school teachers since 2009, some in Northern Virginia and some in Blacksburg. These workshops introduce tools, languages, and technologies that can be incorporated into the high school computing curricula.

Sponsorship covers travel, workshop materials, and meals. Corporate sponsors have the opportunity to attend the outreach activities with students and staff from the department.
Student ambassadors can also visit company offices/headquarters in the applicable geographical areas.

All sponsorships opportunities come with branding recognition. Companies are welcome to provide give-away items with company logos.

All 'sponsorship' donations are considered completely unrestricted. (This includes everything on the DSL with the exception of the Aspirations Scholarships.) The department and the Virginia Tech Foundation reserve the right to use unrestricted funding in any manner necessary to accomplish the desired objectives and intent of the sponsored event, program, and/or initiative, and the right to use excess funding as required in carrying out the vision and mission of the department.