FY19 The COMPASS Messaging

Celebrate the collaboration between the computer science department and corporate partners. Leverage International Women’s Day (March 8, 2019).

COMPASS stands for COMputing Professionals And Student Scholars. The premise behind the COMPASS is experiential learning. The COMPASS connects students with companies before graduation so that they can easily transition to the work force.

Facts & Statistics
- Boeing, Bosch, Booz Allen Hamilton, Mercedes-Benz Vans and Benefitfocus participate in the COMPASS.
- In spring 2018, students completed four projects for three of the participating companies. Details of the capstone project with Bosch can be found here: http://compsci.cofc.edu/#prettyPhoto/2/

Anecdotes & Examples
- Students get the opportunity to see real world applications of technology through the permanent presence of companies at the COMPASS space located at the College of Charleston Harbor Walk campus.
- Booz Allen Hamilton has plans to allow students to observe Scrum (software development) teams as they periodically work from the COMPASS site.
- During the spring 2018 semester computer science capstone students worked on projects inspired by the partner companies using the COMPASS space as their home base.

Quotes
- “The COMPASS offers a level of collaboration which will drive value for both students and local businesses. Through on-going co-location of businesses at the College of Charleston, we will see partnerships expand and new ideas emerge.”
  —Rob Papandrea, IT senior manager, Boeing
- “Being a desired employer and responsible neighbor as well as users, producers, and promoters of innovative technology are all part of our Bosch Charleston Vision. Participation in the COMPASS corresponds well with all three of these targets, and we look forward to further collaboration and expansion of our relationship with the College of Charleston computer science department.”
  —Meg Lanza, director, Bosch Production Systems
- “Building on the ingenuity of our partners, Booz Allen takes pride in being part of a community where we can contribute to the growth and development of the local tech ecosystem. In Charleston, we use our passion for innovation to connect with academia in ways that allows us to cultivate the next generation tech talent while also exploring and leveraging disruptive technologies for helping our clients execute against their missions. It’s through these partnerships where we’re able to create real opportunities for our future.”
  —Bob Williams, chief technologist, Booz Allen Hamilton
“The companies have complete freedom to use their space however they choose. The intent is that this effort will lead to more collaborative projects between our students, faculty and industry professionals.”
—Sebastian van Delden, interim chair of the School of Sciences and Mathematics and computer science department chair and professor

“Our project with Bosch in The COMPASS was the first time I personally had to translate the client's requests into reasonable system requirements. This was very different from classroom projects or even my experiences as a programming intern. As a new college graduate, these skills with greatly help me in my job as an implementation consultant with FAST Enterprises.”
—Samantha Word '18