News Release

For Immediate release: 02/07/12
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UTEP Engineering Hosts National Center for Women & Information Technology Award

The College of Engineering at The University of Texas at El Paso will host the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) award ceremony at the new Chemistry and Computer Science Building on Friday February 10, 2012 from 5:00 - 7:30pm.

The award ceremony recognizes El Paso-Las Cruces region girls who won the NCWIT "Award for Aspiration in Computing" competition.

The NCWIT "Award for Aspiration in Computing" honors young women who currently attend high school for their computing-related achievements and interests. Winners are selected for their computing and IT talent, leadership abilities, academic history, and their plans for post-secondary education. The award offers support and visibility for women's participation in communities nationwide.

The 2012 winners are Noor Muhyi, Janette Mendoza, Andrea Rivera, Chiann-Ling Yeh. Winners receive $500, a laptop computer provided by Bank of America, a trip to attend the Bank of America Technology Showcase and Awards Ceremony, and an engraved crystal award for both the student and their school. Runners up are Julia Vulcan, Jane Kim, Eryn Pynes, and Laura Guzman.

President Obama will recognize Noor Muhyi, the El Paso-Las Cruces winner, at the White House on Tuesday, February 7, 2012.

The National Center for Women & Information Technology is a coalition that works to increase diversity in information technology and computing. Through diversity NCWIT believes that there will be more competitive workforce, and encourage a design of technology that is innovative and creative. NCWIT focuses on improving K-12 through college education.

The Computer Science Department of The University of Texas at El Paso and New Mexico State University are members of the NCWIT Academic Alliance.

The Alliance consists of over 400 distinguished representatives from the computer science and IT departments of nearly 200 colleges and universities across the country, spanning research universities, community colleges, women's colleges, and minority-serving institutions.
Alliance members work to implement institutional change in higher education, provide feedback on NCWIT programs, contribute and adopt effective practices, and serve as a national agent of change. The Academic Alliance meets several times per year to compare approaches and provide guidance and mutual support. The membership benefits include access to the best practices for recruiting and retaining women, workshops, grants, and inclusion in NCWIT marketing and branding campaigns.

For more information about the NCWIT Awards Program contact:

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