The University of Utah School of Computing
Strategic Industry Partners Program (SIPP)

Program Description

Developing and sustaining strategic and highly productive and mutually beneficial partnerships with industry and STEM organizations is central to the mission of the School of Computing (SoC).

Utah's growing innovation economy is relying on the further development of a highly skilled and highly educated workforce. The School of Computing is deeply committed to contributing to a thriving technology ecosystem in the state of Utah for decades to come.

Executives, technologists, researchers and scientists are encouraged to visit campus, collaborate with SoC faculty and to engage students. Companies and organizations engaging with SoC faculty and students make significant contributions to the intellectual and multidisciplinary environment at the school and inform curriculum development and implementation plans.

SoC delivers partnerships that are responsive to the individual research and technology challenges facing individual companies and STEM organizations. While a general framework is in place to guide relationships, it is expected that customized programs will be developed as partnership opportunities emerge.

SoC provides opportunities for organizations to engage in impactful ways through its Strategic Industry Partners Program (SIPP). Corporations and STEM organizations joining the program are invited to serve on the Advisory Board. Participation on the Advisory Board does not require a partnership fee or annual contract. In this document "industry" means any company or STEM organization.

SoC has designed the SIPP program to be multidisciplinary, flexible and nimble allowing corporations to engage faculty and students in technology areas that companies deem critical to their long-term strategy.

When appropriate, collaborative research interactions between partners and SoC will include a mutually acceptable agreement between the company and The University of Utah Board of Trustees, on behalf of SoC, that addresses the specific collaboration.

A non-disclosure agreement is required prior to disclosure or exchange of partner and/or University confidential or proprietary information or trade secrets.

A Sponsored Research Agreement is required prior to performing a directed research project. A statement of work, budget, terms and conditions (including publishing rights and IP) will be jointly developed. If changes are required both parties agree to negotiate in good faith.

Key Objectives
- Collaborate with companies and STEM organizations to solve novel and complex challenges in computing and data science.
- Provide direct connections and synergistic collaboration opportunities among faculty at SoC and between industry counterparts.
- Help attract FORTUNE/Global 1000 firms to Utah
- Engage and support Utah start-up companies.
- Develop and sustain a robust curriculum and a technology ecosystem that is responsive to industries workforce development expectations and long-term plans.
- Engage with industry to develop and implement successful diversity programs to increase the number of women enrolled in the SoC, provide scholarships for female students and support for the student-led Women in Computing organization.

Advisory Board Benefits
The benefits of becoming a SIPP Advisory Board member include the following:

1. Ability to sponsor directed research projects for basic and applied research.
2. Early access to SoC developed technologies and techniques.
3. Membership on the SIPP Advisory Board, scheduled to meet twice annually to provide input to the SoC director on strategy and direction.
4. Access to corporate counterparts facing similar challenges
5. Opportunity to design capstone projects and engage senior and master level students.
6. Access to computer science student interns and new graduates.
7. Priority access to computer science students the annual PIPLELINE Career Expo.
8. On-site workforce development training.
9. Priority given in commercialization of prototype technologies.
10. Opportunity to develop custom programs to achieve your research and pipeline goals.

For more information, please contact John R. Melchi, Director of Business Development at 217-202-5647 or melchi@cs.utah.edu.