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THE BEST CANDIDATE FOR THE JOB ISN’T ALWAYS THE TYPICAL CANDIDATE.

LEARN HOW TO FIND, TRAIN AND CULTIVATE A GREAT POOL OF UNTAPPED TALENT.

GRADS of LIFE .org
BDPA, formerly known as Black Data Processing Associates, was founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1975 to promote professional growth and technical development to those in or entering information and communications technology (ICT) career fields and related industries.

Now in its 43rd year (Volume XLIII) National BDPA (NBDPA) and participating local BDPA Chapters publish daily and weekly blogs with quarterly or monthly newsletters. For bdpatoday or web banner advertising rates, publication schedules, and online calendars with Industry events, contact regional offices or local BDPA Chapters by visiting bdpa.org or bdpatoday.com.
MILWAUKEE, WI — From the NVIDIA Blog, Bob Sherbin writes that an NVIDIA GPU-powered supercomputer named “Rosie” is at the heart of a new computational science facility at the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE). Unique to MSOE, the supercomputer will be available to undergraduate students, offering them the ability to apply their learning in a hands-on environment to prepare for their careers. Thanks to the university’s corporate partnerships, students will access this high performance computing to solve real-world problems in their course work.

Housed in a glass-walled area within the newly constructed four-story Diercks Hall, the new NVIDIA-powered AI supercomputer includes three NVIDIA DGX-1 pods, each with eight NVIDIA V100 Tensor Core GPUs, and 20 servers each with four NVIDIA T4 GPUs. The nodes are joined together by Mellanox networking fabric and share 200TB of network-attached storage. Rare among supercomputers in higher education, the system — which provides 8.2 petaflops of deep learning performance — will be used for teaching undergrad classes.

Since their introduction in the 1960’s, the United States has long been the leader in supercomputing career fields. Japan made major strides in this field in the 1980s and 1990s; however, China has become increasingly active in the field. As of November 2018, the fastest supercomputer in the world capable of 200 petaFLOPS is the Summit developed by IBM with the Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). bt

— Source: Inside HPC
12.09.19—The House and Senate are in session this week. With just 10 legislative days until the current funding stopgap measure expires on Dec. 20, the House and Senate negotiators met through the weekend to finalize all 12 FY 2020 appropriations bills, but Sunday ended with no announcement. Over the weekend, House and Senate negotiators reportedly ironed out the final differences in the FY2020 defense authorization bill, which contains a new policy providing 12 weeks of paid parental leave for federal workers and a mandate to create a new Space Force as the 6th branch of the armed forces as a separate division under the Air Force.

According to Politico, President Trump last week praised the Senate’s “great work” on the passage of a bipartisan deal to restore expired funding for historically black colleges and universities and minority serving institutions. He thanked Education Secretary DeVos and GOP Senators Lamar Alexander (R-TN), chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, and Tim Scott (R-SC) for their leadership. The GOP senators worked with Sens. Patty Murray (D-WA) the ranking member on the committee, Doug Jones (D-AL) and Chris Coons (D-DE), along with Richard Burr (R-NC), on the legislation, which includes a measure to simplify applying for student aid. However, there are reports that the amended version of the FUTURE Act, H.R. (2486) faces obstacles in the House.

CBC TECH 2020 reports from participating mission partners are expected shortly after year’s end. National BDPA and local BDPA Chapters have supported CBC’s inclusion plan by accomplishing the following since fiscal year 2015 (FY15).

Prior to the conclusion of this plan, National BDPA is working with Industry to establish and formalize partnerships with Silicon Valley technology firms to facilitate a pipeline of internships, as well as entry-level and experienced-hire talent. These partnerships may include any or all of the following: financial commitment, in-kind donations, recruitment opportunities, scholarships, internships, strategic and executive support National BDPA’s plan with CBC is available on the association’s CBC TECH 2020 landing page: https://www.bdpa.org/page/CBCTech2020.

During our next decade, trade associations and community tech organizations such as BDPA will continue their work with Industry, Academia, Congress, General Assembly, and City Councils to address and properly fund technical workforce development, cybersecurity, anti-trust, ethics, intellectual property, and data privacy initiatives.

— Sources: CBCF and BDPA
Air Force Launches Space Pitch Day for Start-Ups

ARLINGTON, VA (AFNS) -- The United States Air Force has long been a leader in space and a catalyst for cutting-edge technology. But the Air Force doesn’t get there – or stay there – alone, which is why senior officers and officials, including Secretary of the Air Force Barbara Barrett, were in San Francisco Nov. 5-6 for Space Pitch Day, an event designed to find new partners, innovative technologies and products while fast-tracking development.

By the end of the two-day event, 30 pre-selected companies were awarded on-the-spot contracts with the Air Force worth a total of $22.5 million.

“We have to ‘flip the script’ on how we buy things in order to remain competitive with our adversaries and that’s what Air Force Space Pitch Day does,” said Lt. Gen. John F. Thompson, commander, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Space Command and program executive officer for space, the event’s host.

“Space Pitch Day allowed us to seed strategic investment in potentially game-changing capability,” Thompson said. “It demonstrated new ways to inform Air Force strategic investments, accelerate new technology and rapidly acquire capability for our warfighter.”

As in previous Pitch Day events, the Air Force came to San Francisco with a government credit card and a desire to sign on-the-spot contracts and provide same-day payments. The event featured a two-tier reward structure, with successful companies initially eligible for contracts up to $750,000.

This version of Pitch Day also had a new feature in which some of the companies were selected to compete for more lucrative contracts.

The San Francisco event focused on finding products and technologies connected to specific goals, including:

- Early missile detection and warning
- Space situational awareness
- Space communications
- Space visualization
- Multi-domain command and control
- Data mining
- Operations within electronically contested environments
- Artificial intelligence
- Responsive launch systems
- Space logistics
- Protection of critical space assets

The event marked another example of the Air Force’s new push for reforming the way products and services are identified and bought. Supporters insist the effort is reshaping the traditional and often hidebound defense industrial complex by bringing in new partners and innovations.
### Outlook* | Tech + Cyber Engagements

*In fiscal year 2019 (FY19), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported employment of computer and information technology (IT) occupations is projected to grow **12%** from **2018** to **2028**, more than the average for all other occupations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Career Summary</th>
<th>Entry-Level Requirements</th>
<th>Estimated Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer and Information Research Scientists</strong></td>
<td>Computer and information research scientists invent and design new approaches to computing technology and find innovative uses for existing technology.</td>
<td>Master’s Degree</td>
<td>$118,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Network Architects</strong></td>
<td>Computer network architects design and build data communication networks, including local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), and Intranets.</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$109,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Programmers</strong></td>
<td>Computer programmers write and test code that allows computer applications and software programs to function properly.</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$84,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Support Specialists</strong></td>
<td>Computer support specialists provide help and advice to computer users and organizations.</td>
<td>Associate’s Degree or Certificate</td>
<td>$53,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Systems Analysts</strong></td>
<td>Computer systems analysts study an organization’s current computer systems and find a solution that is more efficient and effective.</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$88,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Database Administrators</strong></td>
<td>Database administrators (DBAs) use specialized software to store and organize data.</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$90,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information Security Analysts</strong></td>
<td>Information security analysts plan and carry out security measures to protect an organization’s computer networks and systems.</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$98,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Network and Computer Systems Administrators</strong></td>
<td>Network and computer systems administrators are responsible for the day-to-day operation of computer networks.</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$82,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Software Developers</strong></td>
<td>Software developers create the applications or systems that run on a computer or another device.</td>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$105,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Web Developers</strong></td>
<td>Web and full-stack developers design and create websites, portals, and mobile apps</td>
<td>Associate’s Degree or Certificate</td>
<td>$69,430</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
#BDPAMemphis: 2019’s Computer Science Graduates Join Tech Industry

MEMPHIS, TN — BDPA Memphis Student Members graduated this month with Computer Science degrees from the University of Memphis. Other BDPA Student Members not only graduated with Computer Science degrees, some graduated from CodeCrew Code School and Tech901.

According to BDPA Memphis, for students considering a future in IT, or want to learn more about technology, BDPA can help develop technical skills, make introductions to role models, and open doors to new tech internships or that first IT career opportunity.

For start-ups and entrepreneurs who provide IT-related services and products, a BDPA membership is an invaluable asset. BDPA introduces businesses to individuals with purchasing power. Interact with potential business partners, investors, and certified employees.

In 2018, nine students from National BDPA’s Memphis Chapter qualified to attend #BDPACon18, the annual BDPA National Technology Conference and Career Expo in New Orleans, LA.

Two mobile apps were presented at the conference: Microball Gaming (by Bryce Ellis), a three-in-one video game with augmented reality and real time multiplayer, and Edesia (by Kareem Dasilva), an app that finds nearby food trucks in real time. Bryce won second place in the app competition, receiving a $2500 scholarship.

Three BDPA students won other scholarships (Jada Thomas, Monsanto Scholarship, $2500; Brandon Ellis, Oracle Scholarship, $2500; Cody Seymour, Oracle Scholarship, $2500), and three students participated in judging the High School Computer Coding Competition. High school participant Milton Turner placed second in the Information Technology Showcase for his presentation on the risks of having a “smart city.”

BDPA Memphis’ advisor, CodeCrew Executive Director Meka Egwuekwe, was awarded the Individual Pace Setter Award for his leadership in developing STEM education in Memphis.

“...For start-ups and entrepreneurs who provide IT-related services and products, a BDPA Membership is an invaluable asset. Local BDPA Chapters introduce businesses to individuals with purchasing power...”

— Source and photos: BDPA Memphis

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Internships in Tech: Next Steps for 2020

WASHINGTON — According to Forbes.com, one does NOT have to work with multi-billion dollar corporations to gain valuable and powerful experiences with tomorrow’s technology, today.

When it comes to things such as work-life balance, there is more to employment than just a paycheck because biggest is not necessarily the same as best. Agility and being nimble may open new pathways to avenues of success.

In a 2019 chart prepared by OneClass (right), some of the highest paying internships are with technology firms, two of whom are encroaching trillion-dollar market capitalizations. Consider the following options and next steps when considering internships for next fiscal year.

- **Bolster weak resumes** — Join and actively volunteer with local technology trade associations in your industry (AFCEA, BDPA, CompTIA, CTA, ITSA, et. al.) by leading successful projects, developing budgets, and meeting other people trading within our industry you could work with later in business.

- **Convert side-hustles directly into internships, apprenticeships, or a Start-Up** — Companies and BDPA mission-partners always need new products, efficient services, better solutions and human resources.

- **Figure out how to quickly solve problems** — Always add value to your Industry with a new project or an established program with a team, with a new or established Student Chapter, or with a Local BDPA Chapter. Do not go IT alone.

BDPA Students and Members (verified via BDPA.org) are invited to email their latest resumes or request additional information directly from National BDPA or local BDPA Chapters at: info@bdpa.org using subject line: “Internships.”
WASHINGTON — The National Science Foundation (NSF) Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program addresses the need for a high quality STEM workforce in STEM disciplines supported by the program and for the increased success of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need who are pursuing associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

The NSF S-STEM program particularly encourages proposals from 2-year institutions, Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), tribal colleges and universities, and urban and rural public institutions.

Full proposals are due from schools before: March 25, 2020

S-STEM Eligible Degree Programs

- Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Applied Science; Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science; Bachelor of Applied Science; Bachelor of Arts; Master of Science; and Doctoral

S-STEM Eligible Disciplines

- Biological sciences (except medicine and other clinical fields); Physical sciences (including physics, chemistry, astronomy, and materials science); Mathematical sciences; Computer and information sciences; Geosciences; Engineering; and technology fields associated with above listed disciplines (e.g. biotechnology, chemical technology, engineering technology, information technology). Programs in business schools that lead to Bachelor of Arts or Science in Business Administration degrees (BABA/BSBA) are not eligible for S-STEM funding. Proposers, schools, and BDPA Student Chapters are strongly encouraged to contact NSF Program Officers before submitting proposals if they have questions concerning requirements or degree eligibility.

— National Science Foundation
National BDPA bids farewell to **IT Institute Provost and Naval War College Professor**

**BRISTOL, RI**—Dr. William F. Bundy, who proudly served as an executive leader and mentor to the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) and National Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) died Sunday morning, December 15, 2019 at the age of 73. Dr. Bundy was born in Baltimore, Maryland on August 12, 1946. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 1963, was commissioned a Navy officer in 1975, and became one of the original seven African American Submarine Captains (“Centennial Seven”) in the U.S. Navy.

As an executive with FleetBoston Financial, Dr. Bundy successfully negotiated on behalf of FleetBoston the first “FINtech” Platinum-level corporate sponsorship north of $100,000 in National BDPA’s history. This single impact investment led other major financial institutions to increase their support of National BDPA and Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) community development investments with local BDPA Chapter Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (SITES) programs, technology investments, software engineering (SWE) and coding initiatives.

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