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Volume 3, Issue 14 - July 7, 1999

Calendar - Search - Archives

Ed Center Holds First Scientific Workshop for CSU Faculty

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY -- On June 28-30, 1999, the Education Center on Computational Science and Engineering (EC/CSE) offered its first scientific workshop for California State University (CSU) faculty who are interested in learning about recent advances in computational science technologies and the available resources for use in curriculum development. The more than 20 participants were involved in a 2-day visit to San Diego State University (SDSU) and one day session at the San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC). SDSC featured various presentations including computer security and network analysis tools , computer graphics and a series of hands-on-sessions in the SGI and NT Labs. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), CSU and SDSU, the workshop also focused on building a community of CSU faculty who actively use computational science tools.

CSU faculty attend a hands-on session held in the SDSC computer training room.

Jacob Varkey, Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences Humboldt State University, found the workshop to be invaluable. " I am faculty member in a rural CSU campus with limited resources," explained Varkey. "My objective [at the workshop] was to learn more about remote access and seek training so that I may be able to train some of our students in the use of modern technology and effective use of resources by remote access.Thanks to the staff at SDSU, I came away with a tremendous amount of information."

Tulin Margir, Professor at CSU Long Beach, says she came to the workshop because it provided a unique opportunity to work with the computational science community, "I lead a taskforce for Technology Mediated

Instruction at CSULB," said Mangir, "and I wanted to find out what was available, so I could transfer the information to my colleagues, in different disciplines. In addition, I wanted to find out what were the resources available for network simulation and on-line collaborative environments for my own work, and development of curriculum and courses for adult learners: Most of our students are non-traditional students."

Jay Boisseau, manager of the SDSC Scientific Computing group, discusses supercomputing during a tour of the machine-room floor at SDSC. Kris Stewart, Ed Center founder and director, stands second from the right.

According to Kris Stewart, SDSU Professor, NPACI partner, and Ed Center Founding Director, faculty from this workshop will be invited back for the CSU Faculty Fellow program, a follow-up event scheduled for Spring 2000.

The EC/CSE is part of NPACI's collaborative education, outreach, and training (EOT) activities with the National Computational Science Alliance (the Alliance), offering students and faculty access to state-of-the art programs and technologies being developed throughout NPACI and the Alliance.

Workshop notes and presentation slides are available at the Ed Center site at http://www.edcenter.sdsu.edu/training/CSU_calendar.html, or by calling the Ed Center office at (619) 594 0491.

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