

DIVERSE FACULTY AND STUDENTS FOR LSU DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Diversity of students and faculty representing a broad range of demographics and ethnicities is an important component of the quality of educational environment at Louisiana State University. No part of LSU is this more important than in the Department of Computer Science leading the way in disciplines and capabilities that will drive the societal and economic direction of the US and international in the 21st Century. The Department of Computer Science is committed to retaining and expanding the diversity of its graduate and undergraduate student body as well as its faculty. In its ongoing searches to fill new faculty positions including those enabled by related multidisciplinary hiring initiatives, CS actively pursues and encourages application by underrepresented minorities including but not limited to women, African-Americans, and candidates of Latin-American descent. The department has involved cross-institute academic positions in partnership with Southern University to advance these goals. With respect to en-richening the cultural make-up of the undergraduate student body, the department is supporting summer high school "boot camps" in the separate fields of cyber infrastructure and high performance computing with outreach to those schools with strong minority group representation. Past experience with this has proven very successful in exposing broad and underrepresented communities to the potential life opportunities of advanced education and pursuit of technical professions. The CS department is constantly seeking innovative approaches to extending its impact on minority communities in recruitment and retention. Dr. Katrice Albert from Office of Academic Affairs is also helping in this mission to recruit a diverse faculty for LSU.