

STEM CORE

at San José City College

September/October 2017

Welcome to the 2017-2018 academic year! As part of the Silicon Valley Engineering Tech Pathways (SVETP) Grant, San Jose City College recruited its second STEM Core cohort. This newsletter is designed to keep program partners informed of program progress and successes. Please read and share!



STEM Core Cohort 2 Attends Program Orientation. An orientation was held for Cohort 2 on Wednesday, August 30 at the Technology Center. The orientation provided students with an opportunity to meet other students, revisit program expectations and get their major questions answered. Gabe Hanzel-Sello of Growth Sector discussed Growth Sector's mission and efforts towards securing high-quality internships. Gabe also led the Spaghetti Marshmallow Challenge, where teams of 4-5 students had 18 minutes to construct the tallest freestanding structure using the following materials: 20 spaghetti sticks, 1 yard of string, 1 yard of tape and a single marshmallow (required to be on top). The winning structure reached a height of 22 inches!



A special thanks to STEM Core graduates, Willie Santos, Christian Silva, Richie Sayre and Chris Nguyen, for attending the orientation, sharing their stories and internships, and representing STEM Core. Further appreciation goes out to Professor Jack Ho, Professor Lucas Randall, Dean Mark Newton, and Gabe Hanzel-Sello for attending this important event!



SJCC Fall Semester Begins. Students began classes on Tuesday, September 5. Students are taking the following courses this semester:

- ❖ **Math 14** (Geometry) with Professor Lucas Randall
- ❖ **Math 13** (Intermediate Algebra) with Dr. Kevin McCandless
- ❖ **CIS 24C** (Python Programming) with Professor Jack Ho
- ❖ **Algebra Boot Camp** led by Tam Nguyen

In partnership with the Metas Program, STEM Core students also benefit from **Supplemental Instruction**. Workshops are led by SI Leader, Anh Hoang.



Cohort Numbers & Demographics. We have a great group of new students! Here are some of the stats:

- 26 students enrolled**
- 17 first generation college students
- 9 women
- 1 Military Veteran
- Average age: 25.5 years old



Tesla Factory Tour. The STEM Core program visited the Tesla Factory in Fremont, CA on Friday, September 15th.

It was an extremely exciting time to visit the facility since the unveiling of the Tesla Model 3 back in July. Students were transported around the entire 5.3 million sq. ft. facility via a tram and watched Tesla vehicles in production. Every single Tesla vehicle in the world is built right there in the facility!

Students also got to check out the Model X thanks to Tesla Sales Rep, Chris Vu. Chris demonstrated all the neat features of the Model X and thoughtfully answered students' questions about the Tesla. He even showed how Tesla vehicles can utilize the [Summon app](#) to have the car drive itself to its owner!

Students left with a greater understanding and appreciation for Tesla as an energy company and its vision for the world's transition to sustainable energy.

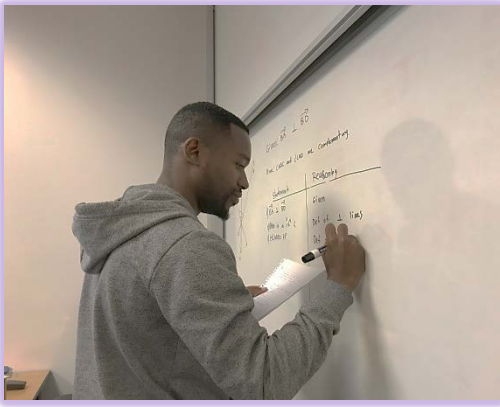


Top 50 Women in Tech Event. STEM Core program attended the 2017 Top 50 Most Powerful Women in Technology Awards Dinner on Tuesday, October 17. Hosted by the National Diversity Council, this special event honors and recognizes the achievements of the most prominent leaders in industry. These women have broken barriers and continue to "drive change, innovate, and inspire others to succeed."

This year's theme - "Cracking the Code to Success" - was a perfect fit for our cohort that is now learning how to code in Python for the first time this semester. Not only did students enjoy a delicious dinner with some of the most powerful women in industry, but they also had the opportunity to meet, mingle, and connect with many leaders, including those representing Symantec, Applied Materials, NetApp, and many more. These leaders shared their stories about their paths as well as their struggles that led them to success. Each awardee also shared at least one piece of advice for others pursuing their dreams in technology. Students went home that evening with feelings of hope, motivation, and inspiration.

We are honored to have been a part of this special event and send a heartfelt thank you to the National Diversity Council and its Founder/Chairman Dennis Kennedy for providing STEM Core with this amazing opportunity!

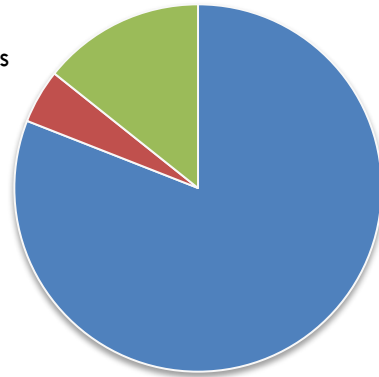




Math 14 Results. Students took their Math 14 (Geometry) Final Exam on October 19. While a handful of students withdrew and/or did not pass for various reasons, we are proud to share a pass rate of **94.4%**! Below is a snapshot of results.

Total Enrolled: 21 Students

- Pass
- No Pass
- Withdraw



A Message from Professor Randall.

“I want you to continue to think, work hard, and work professionally. Act like you’ve been there before, not like a rookie. Continue to get help when you need it as soon as possible, and I hope only the best for such a wonderful cohort. “



Congrats to STEM Core for making it halfway through the Fall semester! Keep it up!



Questions? Comments? Please Contact:

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