Indiana University
School of Informatics

Summer Camp Overview

IU School of Informatics

- 2 degree programs
- Computer Science BS
  - Focus on fundamental concepts of computing
    - Programming languages, networking, high performance computing, …
- Informatics BS
  - Focus on computing applied to different problem domains
    - Business, sciences, fine arts, …
Summer Camp

- Started in 2004 with 10 students
- Now around 40 students
- Week-long, residential experience
  - Starts Sunday afternoon, ends Thursday
- Audience:
  - Underrepresented students in IT
  - Aim for 50/50 split, based on gender and ethnicity
- Fee - $300, but scholarships available

Activities

- Web Design
- Computer art
- Pervasive computing
- Programming
- Visualization
- Animation
- Social implications
- Security

- Module design:
  - Short lecture - 30 minutes
  - Short lecture, followed by hands on experience - 120 minutes
- Guided by faculty, assisted by counselors
- Fun stuff:
  - Bowling, swimming, movies, internet, WII
Counselors

- 2 graduate students for daytime guidance
- 4 overnight counselors
  - + cost of security and nurse
- ~4 counselors in training (returning campers)
  - Paid to lead a camp session

Partnerships

- other camps to split costs of security and nurse
- other units for camp experiences
- other units for recruitment

Recruiting

- Direct calls to schools
  - Principals, counselors, teachers
- Word of mouth
  - Campers, students
- Press releases
**Costs and Funding (approximate)**

- $7000 counselors
- $7000 room and board
- $1000 incidentals (snacks, pizza, shirts)
- $1000 other things

**Funding:**
- Internal school commitment - 10k
- Donations - 7k
- Matching funds - 1k
- Camp fees - 3k

**Outcomes**

- **Recruitment**
  - 3-4 students per year come to IU and study Informatics or CS (2 girls)

- **Diversity**
  - Repeat campers (girls and boys)
What Works at Camp

- Relax
- Partner with other programs for logistical support
- Schedule free time, or have a philosophy that encourages exploration of interests
- Try not to lose anybody
- Be firm and respectful, and help the kids learn how to act appropriately
- Cell phones off during lectures/activities
  - Have an activity that leads them to discuss appropriate use of technology
- Focus on an overall good experience
- Have excellent counselors from your own programs
  - pay them well (competing with internships, etc.)

What Works

- A network of activities
  - Awareness programs
    - Just-Be (IU Women in Computing group)
    - Summer camp demonstrations and labs
      - ~250 per year
  - Summer camp
- Bridging programs
  - IU Groups Program (underrepresented)