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News

30 September, 2019

# SWOSU Students Win Two Firsts at High Performance Computing Competition



(Photo 1)

SWOSU students (from left) Braden Box of Blair and Mohammed Nasser of Qatif, Saudi Arabia won first place in the undergraduate track competition of a Determinant programming problem at the 2019 High Performance Computing (HPC) event in Tulsa. Making the presentation is Peter Hawrylak of Tulsa. (Photo 2) SWOSU students Anthony Parchman of Jenks and SWOSU student Quentin Reynolds of Weatherford won first place in the undergraduate track competition of the Traveling Salesman programming problem. Not pictured is Joshua McGuire. Making the presentation was Hawrylak.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University students in Weatherford won first place in two categories at the 2019 statewide High Performance Computing (HPC) competition held in Tulsa.

SWOSU students included Braden Box of Blair and Mohammed Nasser of Qatif, Saudi Arabia won a competition to find the determinant of a 5,000 by 5,000 matrix as quickly as possible. Anthony Parchman of Jenks, Joshua McGuire of Grove and Quentin Reynolds of Weatherford won by finding the shortest path through a map of 600 cities.

SWOSU Computer Science Department Assistant Professor and Coach Dr. Jeremy Evert said the event was an outstanding opportunity for SWOSU students and allowed for hands on experience for many of the concepts and principles in computer science. He said the students were happy to add a useful skill set to their resumes and benefited from the challenges presented in the competition—such as communication, problem-solving and teamwork—which are similar to problems faced by leading researchers around the world.

Braden and McGuire were selected for the National Science Foundation funded XSEDE EMPOWER program. The Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (XSEDE) is a powerful collection of digital resources and services to help researchers from around the world. The EMPOWER (Expert Mentoring Producing Opportunities for Work, Education, and Research) program is focused on developing talent to take advantage of the research capabilities of the world's supercomputers.

The SWOSU faculty and students also mentored two high school teams from Moore Norman Technology Center (MNTC). SWOSU Instructor and Coach Devin Smoot provided instructions to the MNTC team on how to assemble and configure a cluster.

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