Dartmouth Women Attend Grace Hopper Conference for Women in Computing

During the week of September 27th, 2009, the Dartmouth Computer Science Department sent five undergraduate and graduate women to the Grace Hopper Conference for Women in Computing. More than 1,600 women who study or work in Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Information Technology attended the conference.

For the Dartmouth women who attended, Katelin Bailey ‘10, Kate Schnippering ‘10, and Linden Vongsathorn ‘10, along with graduate students Rebecca Shapiro and Scout Sinclair, it was a chance to learn about the opportunities and challenges in academia and industry, to provide opportunities to network meet women from many companies in the industry, and to give them a new perspective on their own experiences within the Dartmouth Computer Science department. Computer Science Professor Tanzeem Choudhury also attended, participating in “The Impostor Panel” and sharing some of her difficult experiences as a woman in Computer Science.

The conference, which was founded in 1994 is “is designed to bring the research and career interests of women in computing to the forefront” (GHC website [http://gracehopper.org/2009/about/history-of-the-conference/]). This year, its theme was “Creating Technology for Social Good” and included workshops and panels on such topics as “How to Become a Person of Influence,” “The Impostor Panel,” “The F word: The Uneasy Relationship Between Feminism and Technology,” and “Inspiring Girls in Technology: Making Every Outreach a Success,” along with a wide range of technical talks. For information about the conference, as well as notes on each presentation, visit the Grace Hopper website (http://gracehopper.org/2009/) or the Anita Borg Institute wiki (http://community.anitaborg.org/wiki/index.php/Ghc2009). Please email any of the Dartmouth students with questions – they would love to hear from you.