

## ACET ANNUAL CONFERENCE: INNOVATION IN COMPUTING EDUCATION

ACET welcomes the 49th Annual Conference of the Association for Computer Educators of Texas for workshops (CPE credit available), sessions, speakers, special events, and vendor exhibits that support our conference theme:

### INNOVATION IN COMPUTING EDUCATION

ACET's focus on offering education and training for high school, college and university faculty, staff, and administrators allows us to present an annual conference at an extremely low cost with professional development opportunities, training workshops, invited speakers, papers presenting current research, and other sessions that inform participants about cutting-edge technologies and current developments in the field. Our special focus for the 2013 conference will highlight the innovations that have allowed us in computing education to expand the offerings and the possibilities for our students!

So, mark your calendars for 11-12 October 2013 now! And, join us at our 49th Annual Conference where we will continue the tradition of providing cost-effective updates for our members--not to mention the great food, camaraderie, and door prizes or giveaways that participants always find at the ACET conferences.

Please see the call for conference proposal information on the insert to this newsletter.

## PRESIDENT-ELECT'S MESSAGE:

By Dr. Mary Myers

Innovation is expensive. Change takes time, effort and commitment. Our conference is designed to spark discussion among educators about innovation, help interested educators overcome the learning curve associated with curricular innovation and change, and help them adapt using successful practices. The conference will also provide an opportunity for educators in the audience to share their

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*2013 Annual Conference  
11-12 October  
Baylor University  
Waco, TX*

own curricular innovations, and improve our successful ACET Journal, which now has eight volumes published.

As computing evolves, so does Computer Education as a discipline. This puts continual pressure on computer educators to review, revise, and rewrite the courses and the curriculum. Educators have been rising up to the challenge, creating new courses, introducing innovative ideas and practices into existing courses. So please participate in ACET's 49th annual conference and share your experiences while gaining new ones.

## 2013 TECH JOBS OUTLOOK

by Dona DeZube, Monster Finance Careers Expert

If you've got the right combination of skills and experience putting those skills to work to solve mobile, interactive, big data or healthcare technology challenges, 2013 should be a very sweet year for your career.

If not, you could end up spending the year wondering why you're not being hired at a time when companies are complaining they can't find enough technology employees.

If you can't find a job in technology, or aren't being promoted, the problem is less likely to be that you don't have the right technology skills, but rather that you don't have experience applying them to an in-demand task or a particular industry.

"Java is making a big comeback, yet Java programmers can't find jobs," points out David Foote, CEO and chief research officer at Foote Partners LLC, an IT research firm in Vero Beach, Florida. "Employers are looking at more than skills. It's Java applied to mobile apps or big data or retail. It's knowing how to make people more likely to spend money [online] or how to build an online presence along with C++ and Python."

To take advantage of the trend toward mobile interaction and data mining, get creative in branding yourself. Focus your resume and social media profiles on how you've used process and analytical skills in applying your pure technology skills to mobile, interactive or data tasks, says Tammy Browning, senior vice president at Yoh Company, a Workforce Solutions Organization, in Philadelphia.

Healthcare is another hot area experiencing a shortage of technology professionals. "We're constantly trying to get people with Epic, Cerner or McKesson [experience] for government and nongovernment clients," Sylvester says. "We're trying to get people with healthcare backgrounds and putting them into education courses to help them understand those systems."

If you possess the right skill set, having knowledge of a particular practice setting in the healthcare industry is a bonus, but not required. If you know electronic medical records systems, experience and certifications will be enough to get you the job -- you won't need to have worked for a particular type of healthcare practice or organization, Sylvester says.

Regardless of where you end up as an individual, technology professionals as a whole should see their salaries rise in 2013.

Base compensation for all technology professionals will rise by an average of 5.3 percent in 2013, according to Robert Half Technology's *2013 Technology Salary Guide*. They predict the highest salary bumps (7 percent and up) will go to:

- Mobile applications developers: 9 percent
- Wireless network engineers: 7.9 percent
- Network engineers: 7.8 percent
- Data modelers: 7.6 percent
- Portal administrators: 7.5 percent
- Data warehouse managers: 7.4 percent
- Business intelligence analysts: 7.3 percent
- Senior Web developers: 7.3 percent
- Web developers: 7.3
- Network architects: 7 percent
- Network managers: 7 percent

## 2013 CONFERENCE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Association for Computer Educators in Texas (ACET) is celebrating its 49th annual conference at Baylor University. The ACET Board of Directors invites you to submit a 100–250–word abstract of your session proposal for presentations, workshops or roundtable discussion on:

**Current and/or Next Generation Technology**

**Web Development**

**IT Pedagogy/Teaching**

**Other**

Watch our website for information updates in 2013. Please complete the "Proposal Form" available at <http://acetweb.org> and email it to [call-for-presentations@acetweb.org](mailto:call-for-presentations@acetweb.org) by 31 August 2013. Please keep in mind that all individual submissions will be double-blind reviewed and proposals that are scheduled for presentation will be published in the Conference Proceedings. Furthermore, accepted completed papers can be accepted for publication in the ACET Journal of Computer Education and Research; our online, peer-reviewed journal. All presenters are required to register for the conference by 15 September in order for the paper or presentation to be scheduled for delivery at the conference and included in the Proceedings.

## LOOKING FORWARD

As we look back on how we have been able to make a difference we find ourselves most proud of our accomplishments back in 1981 convincing the Texas state legislature to fund computer literacy in Texas schools. Below you will find a small excerpt from that position paper. We ask that you join us in finding ways to make such a difference for Texas school children over the years still to come.

**“RESOLVED**, by the Texas Association for Educational Data Systems, that the 67th Legislature of the State of Texas be encouraged to require all school districts to offer a well– balanced curriculum that includes English language arts, mathematics, science, health, physical education, fine arts, social studies, economics, business education, other languages, vocational education, and computer literacy; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the 67th Legislature of the State of Texas be encouraged to direct the State Board of Education to designate the most essential parts of each of the above subjects in a well–balanced curriculum, thus delineating elements that all students should be expected to master; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the State Board of Education be encouraged to prescribe that computer literacy be included as a unit in the “essential living skills” required as a part of accreditation standards for Grades 7 and 8; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the State Board of Education be encouraged to include a course in computer literacy on the “List of Approved Subjects and Courses” to be offered as electives in Grades 9–12; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that colleges and universities be encouraged to design and offer teacher preparation programs which include the kinds of courses and experiences that are necessary for teaching computer literacy as well as other types of computer–related education.”

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## BAYLOR UNIVERSITY

This year’s conference will be held at Baylor University’s Rogers Engineering and Computer Science Building.

Baylor University has been very gracious in allowing ACET to conduct our 49<sup>th</sup> conference on their campus. This allow us to control the costs of the conference and, as you may have noticed, LOWER the conference fee for this year’s conference.

Our conference is a time to not only learn from each other, but touch base with many of our publication vendors, network with other college or university colleagues, and hear what innovations are upcoming in computing education.

As you can see, the ACET annual conference is probably the most cost effective conference of the year.

Please join us this year in Waco for two days of sharing, education, and networking.



[REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.ACETWEB.ORG](http://WWW.ACETWEB.ORG)

**ACET Mailing Address**

31 Serene Creek Pl.  
Spring, TX 77382

**Website:**

[www.acetweb.org](http://www.acetweb.org)

Our conference this year will be held on Friday and Saturday October 11 - 12. The schedule will be as follows:

Friday, October 11: Conference 9:00 - 5:00  
Dinner & Business Meeting 6:00 - 8:00  
Saturday, October 12: Conference 8:00 - noon

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.acetweb.org](http://www.acetweb.org)

Find conference and  
registration information

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**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**October 11 -12**

**Baylor University**

**Waco, TX**

**For registration and hotel information, visit our  
website at [www.acetweb.org](http://www.acetweb.org)**

ACET - Association of Computer Educators in Texas  
31 Serene Creek Pl.  
Spring, TX 77382



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**REGISTER TODAY!**