



IUPUI

iDEW Connect

INFORMATICS DIVERSITY-ENHANCED WORKFORCE ■ IU SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS AND COMPUTING

SUMMER EDITION 2017



INDUSTRY PARTNERS MAKING AN IMPACT

An Arsenal Technical High School student gets tips from Amy King, Senior UI/UX Developer and Designer from Allegient, a business and IT consultation firm.

When iDEW industry partners share their expertise with iDEW students, they make an enormous impact on how students view technology—broadening their perspectives and increasing their interest in IT.

Our iDEW industry partners have shown great interest in visiting the iDEW high school sites, and in teaching and learning from iDEW students first-hand. Last year, guest speakers from industry partners Cummins, Allegient, pi lab, Interactive Intelligence, CountryMark, Plow Digital, Google, Eli Lilly, The Basement, Angie's

List, and Expedient visited schools to share with iDEW students their personal experiences in industry.

Each guest speaker shared with the students the route they took to get to their area of expertise. In addition to speaking to the

students, many of the speakers created activities that involved interaction—challenging students to think innovatively. Some worked with the students on their semester-end projects.

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—Amy King, Senior UI/UX Developer and Designer, Allegient

Industry Impact

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After meeting with Pike High School students, Matt McBeth, CEO and co-founder of pi lab, said, “I had a blast! Speaking to and working with the students was a great learning experience for me and a great way to see how much the prevalence of technology has permeated all of our lives.”

Amy King of Allegient and several of her colleagues visited three consecutive weeks to work with students on their semester-end projects. Each speaker engaged the students regarding the steps needed for their projects. The speakers used an approach that allowed the students to define and recover, using information architecture and wireframing. This approach improved the code writing and styling.

“There were several students who really grasped what was needed to move forward in their projects. I was really impressed and am looking forward to doing this again, on a larger scale,” said King. “While our goal was to expose the students to different ways of learning, we found that, during the process, we were also learning from the students,” she laughed.

The students also enjoyed learning from the industry partners. “I appreciated when the guest speakers spoke about things we were working on. I liked it because sometimes it was exactly what I needed to hear to figure out a problem my team was having,” said Jashay Hoyle, Providence Cristo Rey 2017 graduate.

iDEW Recap and Projected Growth

The iDEW program has grown significantly since its inception two years ago. The inaugural program began with three classes at three schools. The 2017–2018 school year will boast 14 classes across four schools, with the addition of Northwest High School. More than 260 students have completed iDEW classes, and the program continues to grow.

iDEW STUDENTS 2015–2017

Female: 32%
Male: 68%

Black/African American: 46%
Hispanic/Latino: 22%

Caucasian: 13%

More than one ethnic identity: 11%

Asian American: 4%

American Indian/Native Alaskan: 2%

Not disclosed: 2%



Pike High School students Rebecca Holcomb and Malcolm Shirley discuss their semester-end project with iDEW project judge Renee Becker-Blau from IndianaFIRST.

Faculty from the Indiana University School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI assist students with the project-based curriculum. The curriculum covers subjects such as data visualization, the Internet of Things, video games, and mobile trivia apps. Robotics and chat bots will be added to the 2017–2018 curriculum. This year, student teams completed 110 semester-end projects, bringing the iDEW program’s total projects to 150.

In addition to exposing students to STEM-related fields, the program is helping to build a direct pipeline to post-secondary IT education and IT careers—focusing on opportunities for women and underrepresented minority students. The exposure to IT careers is not limited to high school classroom projects. This summer, many iDEW students are participating in Summer Workshops at the IU School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI, going on industry visits, and receiving IT certification training at Ivy Tech Community College. A few have been selected for summer internships at Eli Lilly and Cummins.

“We need technology in every classroom and in every student’s and teacher’s hand, because it is the pen and paper of the time and it is the lens through which we experience much of the world.”

—David Warlick, Author and Teacher

iDEW Program Collaborates with Ivy Tech Community College



The iDEW program has ventured into new territory, collaborating with the Ivy Tech Community College Computing and Informatics department to offer IT certifications for program participants. Ten iDEW students are participating in two eight-week courses this summer at Ivy Tech to earn certifications in CompTIA A+ and CompTIA Security+.

“I never imagined that I would be given the opportunity to earn IT certifications before starting my freshman year of college,” said Damaris Martinez, Arsenal Technical High School 2017 graduate.

Martinez, who was also selected as a Cummins Inc. intern, is set to begin her freshman year at the IU School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI this spring.

Martinez and other iDEW students are thriving in the certification classes, which give them skills to secure a network and prevent or deter hackers. The certifications provide direct pathways to IT careers—one of the key objectives of the iDEW program.

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—Damaris Martinez, Arsenal Technical High School Graduate

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Graduating iDEW Students Pursue STEM Degrees

The Class of 2017 iDEW students are pursuing STEM degrees at an impressive rate—18 of the 22 graduates are planning to go into STEM-related fields.

iDEW graduates are going to top universities that include Notre Dame, Purdue, and IUPUI.

“The iDEW program had a huge impact on why I want to learn more about technology,” said Arsenal Technical High School graduate Jacob Green, who plans to study computer science at Purdue University. “I am sure if I had not gotten the opportunity to participate in the iDEW program, I would not have the interest I have now in technology,” Green said. “The iDEW program is the reason I want to work in technology. The program helped me to recognize how much I really enjoy it.”

CLASS OF 2017

Arsenal Technical High School

Tyler Bowling: Purdue University, Computer Science

Darrian Brown: Indiana State University, Computer Science

Jacob Green: Purdue University, Computer Science

Austin Johnson: Purdue University, Human-Centered Design

Daniel Korrie: Taylor University, Computer Science

Patience Korrie: Taylor University, Engineering

Damaris Martinez: Ivy Tech/IUPUI, Informatics

Davion Stewart: Ivy Tech/IUPUI, Informatics

Rolando Olvera-Vanzini: Purdue University, Game Studies

Michael Williams: Ivy Tech, Sports Journalism

Pike High School

Tyler Bell: Ball State University, Computer Science

Joseph Nderitu: Ivy Tech

Sevante' Packett: Ivy Tech/IUPUI

Providence Cristo Rey High School

Kazdin Banks: University of Indianapolis, Mechanical Engineering

Cheick Diallo: University of Notre Dame, Neuroscience and Business

Alvaro Gomez: IUPUI, Informatics

Kyra Grider: University of Indianapolis, Nursing

Aaliyah House: University of Indianapolis, Nursing

Jashay Hoyle: University of Indianapolis, Nursing

Asijah Montgomery: University of Indianapolis, Psychology

Ty'von Smith: Purdue University, Human-Centered Design

Amareca Williams-Bradley: Manchester University, Neuroscience

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—Jacob Green, Arsenal Technical High School Graduate

iDEW STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: CHEICK DIALLO, PROVIDENCE CRISTO REY



How do your iDEW classes differ from your other classes?

iDEW allowed me to be innovative—and to provide and create solutions that could actually be implemented

in today's world. The program changed my attitude toward technology and allowed me to see how much it impacts our lives.

iDEW pushed me out of my comfort zone. After going through the courses, I noticed how much I had grown. The iDEW classes also showed me that I am more creative and driven than I thought. I benefited in ways that were beyond the technical skills. I was challenged to have an innovative mindset and to plan and execute solutions to problems.

What was your favorite iDEW experience?

My favorite iDEW experience was creating the financial literacy app with my team.

What advice do you have for new iDEW students?

I would encourage new iDEW students to take advantage of the experience and have fun with it!

What are your future plans?

I plan to attend the University of Notre Dame to study neuroscience and business.