

UPRM Awards at Great Minds in Stem/HENAAC Conference 2016

October 9, 2016. Anaheim, California by Nayda Santiago

Sixty three students represented UPRM at the Great Minds in STEM/HENAAC Conference at the Hilton Anaheim hotel and Anaheim Convention Center. The HENAAC conference was held in conjunction with the Computing Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institutions (CAHSI) annual conference. Twenty five of UPRM participants were CAHSI students. During the last night of the conference, as student awards were called, the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez was mentioned over and over.

The first place for Graduate Research Poster went to **Pardeep Kumar**, for his poster entitled “Integrating ARM Devices into Cloud Infrastructure” while the third place for Graduate Research Poster went to **Danilo Rojas**, for his poster entitled “A modular Design Approach to Outcome-Based Embedded System Design Education”. Both Pardeep and Danilo are graduate students of the Computer and Electrical Engineering programs, respectively.



Figure 1: Pardeep and Danilo receiving their Graduate Poster Presentation award, first and third place, respectively.

In the Undergraduate Research Poster Competition two UPRM students from the Computer Engineering program presented their research work. **Esther D Rios** obtained second place with her poster “How effective are different ECG classification methods under the presence of signal noise?” and **Diva Mockford**, won third place with her poster showcasing her collaborative research work for the CREST Nanotechnology Center for Biomedical, Environmental and Sustainability Applications. The poster was entitled: “Nanotechnology Video Game for Middle School Students”.



Figure 2: Diva Mockford receiving her award; third place in poster competition.

At the Annual CAHSI Cybersecurity Hackathon, the team composed of **Tahiri Fuentes, Israel Figueroa, and Alexander Guzman** competed as “The Cowboys” team, obtaining first place in the Beginners level competition. **Tahiri** and **Israel** are undergraduate students in Computer Engineering, while **Alexander** is an undergraduate student in Computer Science (Math).



Figure 3: Israel, Tahiri and Alexander with their award



Figure 4: Israel, Tahiri, and Alexander, first place in CAHSI cybersecurity hackathon, beginner’s level.

Shariemar Lopez and **Esther Rios** were awarded a HENAAC scholarship by EMC² Corporation. **Larissa del Rosario** was Booz Allen Hamilton HENAAC scholar and **Katya Borgos** was selected HENAAC scholar by Lockheed Martin. **Shariemar** is a Computer Science (Math) student while **Esther** and **Katya** are Computer Engineering Student while **Larissa** is studying Electrical Engineering. Tahiri, Israel, Diva, Katya and Esther are all CAHSI students, participating in the ARG and Femprof programs.



Figure 5: Esther Rios, Second place in poster presentation and HENAAC scholar



Figure 6: Larissa del Rosario, HENAAC Scholar

Congratulations to all!!