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Morris Digi-Key Collegiate Computing Competition teams excel at 2011 event

Summary: Team Quantum Bogosort took first place, scoring 100 points more than the second place team.

(November 2, 2011)-University of Minnesota, Morris students excelled at the 2011 Digi-Key Collegiate Computing Competition. Team Quantum Bogosort took first place, scoring more than 265 points, 100 points more than the second place team. Team Ghost Ducks took first place and second place in the Blenders competitions that combine speed and trivia skills. Twenty-one teams participated in the invitational competition.

Team Quantum Bogosort members are Ashley Koch '13, Jeff Lindblom '12, Reed Simpson '13, and Tim Snyder '13. The four students each receive \$300 gift certificates. The Morris Computer Science Discipline will host the bronze traveling trophy for the next year and receive a \$5,000 award to support computer science activities such as student travel to conferences and special lab purchases.

Team Ghost Ducks members are Brandon Botzet '12, Phil Coler '12, Jay Lapham '12, and Matt Lauer '12.

Morris teams have taken first place at Digi-Key four times in the past six years, taking the lead for the most wins since Digi-Key started the competition in 2000. Quantum Bogosort is the ninth Morris team to place in the top three since the campus was first invited in 2002. A number of Morris computer science majors have completed internships at Digi-Key, and the company employs several alumni as well.

Nic McPhee, professor of computer science, and Kristin Lamberty, associate professor of computer science, who attended the 2011 competition with the students, serve as advisers for the Morris teams.

Digi-Key Collegiate Computing Competition participants are juniors and seniors majoring in computer science or information systems. Each university is allowed to bring two teams. In addition to Morris, other colleges invited are Bemidji State University, North Dakota State University, St. Cloud State, University of Minnesota, Duluth, University of North Dakota, Concordia College, Minot State University, Dickinson State University, St. John's University, and University of Wisconsin, Stout.

The event sponsor, Digi-Key, is an international distributor of electronic components serving a broad range of industries including automotive, communications, energy/renewable energy, industrial, medical equipment, transportation, military/aerospace, and research and development. The corporation is located in Thief River Falls.

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