

# AAUW NC Mini-Grant Report

**Project Title:** “IT is For Girls”

**Project Category:** Community Action Grant

**Amount Awarded:** \$500

**Branch Name:** AAUW Greensboro Branch

**Name/Phone/e-mail for Branch President:**

Everlena Diggs; 336-315-9880; diggwatk@aol.com

**Name/Phone/e-mail for Project Leader (if different)**

Lakshmi Iyer, Associate Professor, Information Systems and Operations Management, Bryan School of Business and Economics, UNC-Greensboro, 336-334-4984; [Lsiyer@uncg.edu](mailto:Lsiyer@uncg.edu)

## 1. Summary of how the funds were used

The award amount of \$500 was used towards meals for participants. The overall cost of the project was about \$1600. The rest of the funds were either supported by The Information Systems and Operations Management (ISOM) Department, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro or donations from ISOM Department’s business advisory board members.

## 2. Evaluation of progress toward the long term goal

Feedback obtained from the participants showed that the girls who participated in the workshop did indicate that they found the workshop useful and it helped them understand new technology concepts introduced to them. They also appreciated the interaction with working professional who shared their views on new opportunities that exists in the work-place and what they have done to be successful. A video from the National Center of Women in IT that showcased high-school girl’s accomplishments in computing was shown during the lunch session. A website has been created ([wiit.uncg.edu](http://wiit.uncg.edu)) to showcase the workshop and slides used during lunch session.

## 3. Any specific benefits that the project brought to the branch or AAUW NC.

A proposal was submitted to the AAUW National level for a two-year community action grant. The purpose was to do an extended workshop for two summers (2011 and 2012)

for high-school girls. The proposal was funded and the branch has received the initial payment of \$5000 for the first summer workshop. AAUW NC state and Greensboro branch were recognized as sponsors at the workshop. Marlene Pratto and Susan Winstead attended the workshop and had a chance to speak to the girls.

#### **4. Links to web articles about the project or other external documentation**

1. A new sub-domain with UNCG was established for the workshop and the broad initiatives – [wiit.uncg.edu](http://wiit.uncg.edu).
2. The information about the workshop was shared by the National Center for Women in IT – please see email below:

A shout to AA member Dr. Lakshmi Iyer at UNC Greensboro for its upcoming workshop on June 5, “IT is for Girls”! The workshop is designed to reach out to young women at local high schools and use hands-on activities and mentorship to introduce them to information technology. “A New York Times story identified the 20 most important innovations in the past 30 years. Computer scientists played a primary role in a majority of the items and touched on all of them,” [Computer Science Department Chair, Dr. Stephen] Tate said. “As high school girls consider the path to take in life, we want them to know that if they want to change the world, a career in computer science empowers them to do that.”

<http://www.uncg.edu/ure/news/stories/2010/jun/ITgirls060310.htm>

#### **Kim Kalahar**

National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT)  
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3. UNCG also publishes a news story about the item as indicated above:  
<http://www.uncg.edu/ure/news/stories/2010/jun/ITgirls060310.htm>
4. Dr. Iyer was interviewed by the National Public Radio Chapel Hill station prior to the workshop. The interview brief was aired the day before and the morning of the workshop.