

Volume 30

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Campaign "OP CENTERS" Technology and Politics

BDPA Day On 'The Hill'

Dr. Juan Gilbert
Addresses Congress

IT's Thursday, March 6th, 2008 — in tomorrow's America every politician will require an integrated network of command centers emblematic of "virtual war rooms" to remain abreast of government news, track foreign and domestic econometric trends, leverage organizational tools, communicate with media and grass roots advocates, and report accomplishments to peers and constituents. Today, our information communications and technology (ICT) industry provides seamless connectivity for modeling tools, simulation, and data visualization designed for tactical operations centers (TOCs.) Many campaign TOCs are on par with police or first-responder facilities to mitigate incessant demands for real-time

data, and exit poll intelligence.

This month, Dr. Juan Gilbert of Auburn University will testify before the U.S. Congress on "*The Future of Voting*". Dr. Gilbert is a BDPA member and BDPA's Academic Advisor for the *BDPA IT Institute's* global distance learning programs.

Date: Thursday, March 6, 2008

Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Place: Room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

For more details on this and other exciting technology events, visit:

www.bdpatoday.org

From your BDPA menu bar, click: [Events](#)

bdpatoday

Washington, D.C. Edition

March 2008

Each year, BDPA Chapters throughout the United States host special events as co-sponsor of *National Black Family Technology Awareness Week*.

Thousands Attend Tech Expo
Baltimore, MD — BDPA's Baltimore Chapter co-hosted this year's BDPA National Black

included career building, how to leverage BDPA's network to gain access to scholarships, co-op and intern opportunities.



Family Technology Awareness Week (BFTAW) events at Baltimore's Convention Center. This year's workshops presented last month by BDPA

BDPA's National President, Denise Holland, and other BDPA Chapter members in attendance discussed future IT industry trends including supercomputing.

Families and students (in photo) used this opportunity to explore career opportunities and evaluate displays and simulators at the Tech Expo. This year's 10th annual Black

Family Technology Awareness Week Summit (www.blackfamilynet.net) at the Baltimore Convention Center was one of the many facets of Career Communications Group's (CCG) commitment to minorities in Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) and BDPA. The breadth of CCG's commitment was shown last month during their 22nd annual BEYA STEM Global Competitiveness Conference. Regional BDPA Chapters from New York through Northern Virginia attended.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- National Black Family Technology Awareness Week
- BDPA Day On The Hill
- BDPA Atlanta Hosts 2008 National Conference
- BDPA IT Showcase Parent/Student Handbook
- BDPA IT Careers | BDPA-DC Classifieds

[1]

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Contact: Dr. Jesse Bemley
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For more information call
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www.blackfamilynet.net

La Familia Network
www.lafamilianet.net

Native American Family Network
www.firstpeoplesnet.net



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CAREER
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A 2008 National BDPA Technology Conference

Professional workshop forums are presented this year during the conference days of Wednesday, August 6th through Friday, August 8th. IT professionals seeking to build IT skills, define career directions, and climb the IT corporate ladder attend the National BDPA Conference. The purpose of the adult workshop forum is to support these goals by providing IT specific workshops in leadership, professional and business development, research, project management, communications, certification, and a host of advanced technologies that will provide a challenging

learning experience for attendees.

The Audience

The primary conference audience consists of multiple levels of IT professionals, from entry level technologists to senior level managers and corporate executives. Entrepreneurs, educators, and college students also will be in attendance. Workshop content and instruction should be geared to a level that is appropriate for your target audience.

Focus Areas include...

LEADERSHIP

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

TECHNICAL SKILLS

IT ENTREPRENEURSHIP

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Criteria

Proposals were solicited for 90-minute presentations that are interactive, creative, dynamic, and feature best practices in IT. Each presentation will provide a challenging IT learning experience. Presentation submission deadlines apply.

Atlanta – National BDPA Technology Conference August 6-9, 2008



www.bdpa.org

BDPA ATLANTA – 2008 Host Chapter

National BDPA is reaching out to all experts and dynamic presenters to share their knowledge and expertise in technology through interactive workshops to be held at our 30th Annual BDPA Technology Conference in Atlanta, GA on August 6-9, 2008. Presentations can be made to either students (high school through college) or adults (IT professionals) during the conference. Presenters may submit multiple abstracts within a forum or one may submit for both forums. Important dates to remember:

- Submission Deadline Passed: **Abstracts Received**
- Acceptance/Regret Notification: **March 14, 2008**
- Full Presentations Due: **April 11, 2008**

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**HANDBOOK
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BDPA IT SHOWCASE 2008

At The

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IT Showcase Description

The BDPA IT Showcase evolved from a one-day event to an event that has activities spread across three days (Wednesday through Friday) at the BDPA National Conference. IT Showcase activities are now a part of the Youth Technology Camp (YTC) and Adult Forums on Wednesday and Friday, respectively.

The main IT Showcase occurs on Thursday. The activities include presentations, both paper and poster, of advanced computing topics. Participants are high school and undergraduate students. The focus is leading edge technologies, hardware and software methodologies, research proofs of concepts encompassing, but not limited to, intelligent technologies (i.e., smart toys, machine learning, genetic algorithms), wearable computing, web technologies, high performance computing (HPC), computing curricula, computational science, etc.

Demonstrations are incorporated in the presentations where applicable. Presentations/projects are judged in two categories, college (undergraduate) and high school. Three awards will be made in each category.

Wednesday activities are geared to HSCC and local high school students attending the Youth Technology Camp (YTC). Students presenting are a subset of the total IT Showcase participant population. Thursday Adult Forum activities are the same as Wednesday activities.

Presentations at previous showcases have answered questions such as the following:

- *What is a smart toy?*
- *Can machines actually learn?*
- *Is there a difference between virtual humans and avatars?*
- *How will high performance computing change IT as we know it?*
- *Will genetic algorithms put more programmers out of work?*
- *Can neural networks actually be trained?*
- *Why would anyone want to wear a computer?*
- *Should I get an Internet phone?*
- *Are those movie/video scenes actually computer-generated?*
- *Can I actually make maps on my computer?*

IT Showcase Requirements

These are requirements for students who have been recommended to participate in the IT Showcase. The IT Showcase is an event that is a part of the BDPA National Technology Conference. Participants are expected to complete the following by the dates indicated.

1. Research paper (10 page minimum)

See IT SHOWCASE Implementation and Writing Style Guidelines for the IT Showcase.

2. PowerPoint presentation from the paper (two versions 30min for Adult Forum, 20min. for IT Showcase)

Due 3 weeks before the National BDPA Technology Conference

3. Poster display (3ft by 4ft, i.e., science fair) graphically depicting research topic
Content due in May,

4. Photo (B&W)

Submitted with the paper

5. Trip Report

Due one (1) week after the National BDPA Technology Conference

The paper drives the presentation and poster. The PowerPoint presentation is given at the podium and poster presentations are given in the poster display area.

Suggested Technologies/Subject Areas

The example technologies/methodologies/subjects below are only to be used as a guide. If there is another leading edge topic that you would like to present, contact Dr. Jesse Bemley at jbemley@jef.org or jlbemley@yahoo.com to discuss.

Some examples are:

- Virtual Reality
- Computer Gaming
- Artificial Life
- Neural Networks
- Robotics
- Fuzzy Logic
- Linux
- Star Office
- Cluster Technology
- Grid Technology
- High Performance Computing (HPC)
- WEB Technologies (Perl, CGI, XML, VRML, Webcams, WEB Services)
- Storage technology (magnetic, optical, SANs, NAS, etc.)
- Printer Technologies (laser, inkjet, 2D, 3D, etc.)

A subject area of concern/interest is curricula (computer engineering, computer science, information technology). In this area possible topics are ACM-IEEE accreditation, examples of curricula across Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Majority Institutions, etc.

IT Showcase Delivery

Delivery Methods by students consist of:

- **Paper Presentations (PowerPoint)**
- **Poster Presentations**
- **Demonstrations**
- **Various combinations of the above**

Students via PowerPoint presentations present papers from a podium. The students are provided with a laser pointer to assist the audience in following the presentation. It is anticipated that the audience will be seated and standing if seating is not available (as in overflow). Papers are published in the IT Showcase proceedings.

Posters are preferably developed using HP DesignJet or comparable technology. If the student does not have access to the technology, arrangements are made to print the poster. Copy services such as Kinkos can provide the service. If that fails contact the IT Showcase Delivery Manager for assistance. Poster presentations are done for the judges and the audience. There are several arrangements that can be used for positioning the posters. (1) 3-panel poster boards can be used for securing the posters or (2) poster stands can be used to secure the posters. Poster boards cost approximately \$5.00 each whereas the poster stands are much more. The individuals in the audience will gather around the poster of interest while the student presents. Posters will be available throughout the IT Showcase for conference attendee walkthroughs.

Students will demonstrate project concepts at designated times during the IT Showcase.

The room/area will be setup in classroom style for approximately 100 people. The rear of the room will contain two six-foot tables. There will be 1-2 stand-alone conference workstations (computers) on each of the tables.

2008 IT Showcase Activities

First Call for Papers	January 18, 2008
Second Call for Papers	February 23, 2008
Final Call for Papers	March 28, 2008
Demonstrations Development Completion	April 15, 2008
PowerPoint Presentations/Posters Development Completion	May 2, 2008
Students Arrival	August 6, 2008 AM
Youth Technology Camp Presentations	August 6, 2008 PM
Practice Session	August 6, 2008 PM
Poster Setup	August 6, 2008 PM
IT Showcase Poster Judging	August 7, 2008 AM
IT Showcase	August 7, 2008 AM-PM
Awards Presentation	August 7, 2008 PM
IT Showcase Presentations Adult Forum	August 8, 2008
Awards Banquet	August 9, 2008
Students Departure	August 10, 2008

WRITING STYLE GUIDELINES FOR THE 2008 BDPA IT SHOWCASE

Author Name
School Name
City, State

INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the style for the papers required for the BDPA IT Showcase. These guidelines are being provided to make sure that all the papers are in the same format so that our conference *Proceedings* publication can professionally be produced.

GUIDELINES

Please follow these guidelines as closely as possible.

File type:	Microsoft Word Document
Margins:	1 inch top/bottom, left/right
Font:	Times Roman, 12pt, Proportional Font
Justification:	Left and Right
Title:	CAPITAL LETTERS and BOLD, Centered on the 1st line.
Author Name/School Name:	Centered.
City, State:	Centered. Do <u>not</u> include a ZIP Code.
Headings:	CAPITAL LETTERS and BOLD, 2 blank lines before, 1 after.
Paragraphs:	One blank line between each, no indentations.
Page Numbers:	<u>NO</u> page numbers. Hand-write the number and your name on the back of each page in pencil.
Printing:	Single Spaced, Single Sided, and Laser Printer.
Reference, Endnotes, and Footnotes:	On the last page of the paper.
Size:	10 pages, maximum.

This document serves as an example of the suggested format of the document one should submit to Dr. Jesse L. Bemley at Joint Educational Facilities (JEF) email address:

jbemley@jef.org

SUBMITTING THE PAPER

Please send a copy of the paper in MSWORD or PDF format to the email address above. Please remember to spell check your documents before you submit them.

BDPA IT SHOWCASE

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - August 6-8, 2008

The BDPA IT Showcase is an advanced technology forum where High School and College students from across the nation demonstrate their research and theories in the fields of information technology. Papers will be published in the IT Show Proceedings.

The projects will focus on various “advanced thought” topics including; intelligent technologies (i.e., smart toys, machine learning, genetic algorithms, etc.), wearable computing, web technologies, high performance computing (HPC), grid technologies, computing curricula, etc.

“Attendees will be amazed at the thoroughness of the research and the advanced topics presented at the IT Showcase. The IT Showcase treats the audience to challenging ‘outside-the-box’ thought.”

The Showcase presentations will consist of demonstrations where applicable. Three awards (First, Second and Third Prize) will be made in each of two categories:

- High School
- College (undergraduate)

IT Showcase Schedule

Wednesday

Morning	Students arrive
Afternoon	YTC Presentations
Evening	Dress Rehearsal
Evening	Poster Setup

Thursday

8:00 am – 10:00 am	4th Annual BDPA IT Showcase
10:00am – 4:00 pm	Poster Presentations (Judging; Closed)
	Presentations (Student/Adult Audience)

Friday

8:00 am – 12:00 noon	Adult IT Forum Presentations
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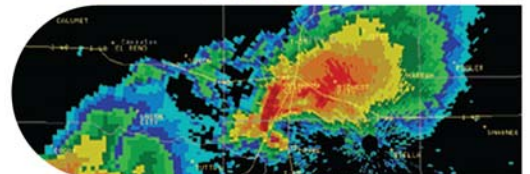
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The career center has support services from career coaches that will assist users in getting careers back on track or reaching the next levels of advancement. These support services also extend to salary surveys thus allowing users to see how competitive a salary is in relation to other parts of the country and to other IT positions. These services allow users to view the fastest growing positions in the [IT] industry and connect with resources for a full job outlook.

The career center also supports IT college students with a Student Internship Program to include resources to assist first-time workforce entrants in securing desired college internships over the summer or any time during the course of a school year. BDPA should be one of the first stops in fulfilling all of your career goals and meeting IT professionals in every industry sector.

Your next opportunity to network and interface with business leaders and hiring managers supporting BDPA is in Washington, D.C., **March 6, 2008** on Capitol Hill or **March 27, 2008** at the ASAE Conference Center before and after the General Membership Meeting. Information is available by visiting "**Events**" online: www.bdpa-dc.org.



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- 2008 Conference Preview
- Expanded "IT" Careers Section

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