

2007 AITP National Collegiate Conference
March 29-31, 2007 Detroit Rock City, Michigan
Central Michigan University AITP Student Chapter Invitation

TO ALL IT STUDENTS: I just wanted to let you know that I am very excited for the 12th Annual AITP National Collegiate Conference! Not only is it being held in Detroit, one of the coolest cities in Michigan, it's also in a beautiful building centered in the heart of the city, called the Renaissance Center. This will be by far an awesome conference!

Are you good at solving problems? Are you the next Sherlock Holmes? Well, test your skills at the exciting Thursday night event: **The Detroit Code: Can You Break It?** It's a 4 person team scavenger hunt race, which entails traveling by the PeopleMover to solve clues. Don't forget your digital camera (including your hookups to transfer pictures to computers) and your cell phone; both play an important role in the race. Afterwards there will be an exciting party somewhere (which will be disclosed at a later time), at which you can hangout with your friends, dance the night away and share a few drinks in the meantime (if you're of age, of course).

Being from Michigan, I've never really wanted to buy a ticket for the PeopleMover but with our registration we get a 3-day pass! I am already making my location hotspot list. Starting off with Bricktown Station, where it has many different shops and restaurants! I also plan on stopping at the Broadway stop, where I'm going to visit the beautiful Detroit Opera House. There are many other spots but I'd rather not ruin the surprise! You just have to come and experience it yourself! For more information regarding the PeopleMover, [click here](#).

Detroit offers so many Hotspots to hit up while you're in town that you could be busy throughout the weekend. If your style is more comedy than dancing, Detroit has some incredible comedy clubs; there is One Mic's Stand or Coco's House of Comedy, which are both close to the Renaissance Center. If you're the kind that likes to get down and breakdance or *get jiggy wit it*, we have some sweet places such as: Marilyn's On Monroe and X/S. For more information regarding other hotspots in Detroit, visit CMU's AITP NCC Website, [click here](#)!

While you're enjoying your time in the Renaissance Center, don't forget to stop by the Internet Café, sponsored by Dell. There will be computers and refreshments available for you to use. If you are not busy and miss your gaming back at your home state, Dell will provide a few computers to play some games on, but it will be only open certain hours.

This is such a great opportunity to network with many nationwide businesses that will have exhibits for jobs, internships and freebies! As of now, the businesses that have already signed up to be there are: AT&T, Automation Alley, AutoOwners Insurance Co., BDO Siedman, Booz Allen Hamilton, Compuware, Dell, EDS, Ernst and Young, General Motors, Microsoft, Robert Half Technology, State Farm Insurance, Wal-Mart and the list keeps growing!

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As I mentioned earlier, we have many important people attending the conference, which gives me and all the other students attending a great opportunity to have some interaction with big names and companies! For example, Teri Takai, the CIO for the State of Michigan, is going to be speaking during the luncheon on Friday. I cannot express how excited I am, I've heard that she is a wonderful speaker!

The enticing schedule for the conference is overwhelming with well-known companies and interesting topics. I cannot forget to mention how thrilled I am to listen to Colleen McCreary from EA Games. I've already heard her speak before but this time her topic is "Living the Dream: Getting a Job in the Games Industry", I will definitely be attending her presentation.

Another great breakout session that I plan to go to is the Recent IT Graduate Panel, which is full of successful graduates with helpful hints and ideas for those graduating and entering into the "Real World". They will share their "how I did it" stories and answer all questions asked. It will be very helpful for those, like me, that are graduating in May.

Saturday is going to be an awesome day as well, let me tell you, since every breakout session has a Microsoft speaker. The topics are: Microsoft Vista/Office 2007, Microsoft Group Events, and Microsoft Robotics Events. Rumor has it they are going to have their hands full of freebies and amazing prizes!

There are many different ways to prove your skills against other students nationwide, the competitions range from PC Troubleshooting to Graduate Project Presentations. This year there have been many new competitions created. Visual Communications is one of those where you will be expected to portray a business concept in a business ad. There is also MS Office Solutions is where you can solve a business problem by the many different MS Office Suite applications. Application Development contest, another new contest this year, is where you combined your talent in COBOL, Java, Visual Studio.Net, and Web Design, and the purpose is to produce an IT-solution for a business problem.

And how could I forget about the exciting new competition, Business Intelligence! It's a great program that helps businesses collect and analyze their data in an easy graphic program. I don't know what the competition requires, but I have experienced the program, and it's very interesting and easy to understand.

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Making this a great conference was not an easy job; there have been many participants who have been actively involved in the production of this year's conference. Central Michigan University (CMU) is the first single student chapter to host the conference. Our own AITP Chapter's Technical Website team made an awesome website for you to visit. [Click here for the website](#). We cannot forget Kevin Jetton, the AITP National Collegiate Conference Director, all the representatives from our own MIS Advisory Board, here at CMU and the students from the CMU AITP student chapter who all took time in making sure this was possible. *Many thanks go out to everyone who was involved in the organizing of this conference!*

BEWARE: this is a brief preview of what you will encounter in the wonderful city of Detroit in March; I don't want to share all of the secrets! You're just going to have to come and experience all that you can! Don't forget it's from Thursday, March 29th to the 31st, and I promise you it will be the most rewarding three days of your college career. From the CMU AITP Chapter to you, please come and join the fun! We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Christina Alward
CMU AITP's Program Chair
CMU Senior
<http://www.aitpncc2007.org>