VizVignettes

BPViz: Broadening Participation in Visualization

Special points of interest:

- Clemson University Hosted the 1st CRA-W/CDC Broadening Participation in Visualization Workshop

- Workshop a Success Despite the Polar Vortex

- 2nd Annual Broadening Participation in Visualization Workshop

- Plans underway for BPViz[15]; Chicago, IL

In this issue:

1st CRA-W/CDC Broadening Participation in Visualization Workshop

February 10-11, 2014, Clemson, SC. Clemson University's Computing and Information Technology Department hosted the 1st CRA-W/CDC Broadening Participation in Visualization Workshop (BPViz). The idea for the workshop was borne out of an understanding of the importance of visualization in all aspects of research and scholarship and a keen awareness of the lack of representation of women and underrepresented groups in the field. The workshop offered keynote speaker sessions, poster/visualization showcase by participants, panel sessions, and opportunities for mentoring and networking. The two day workshop included scheduled a diverse panel discussion by visualization experts; mentoring activities, tours of various visualization labs at Clemson, and keynote speakers from experts in the field from academia and industry. Based on participant feed back the events making the most dramatic impact included: First Impressions, Meet the Panelists, Fast Forward, and Poster/Visualization Showcase. The workshop was partially funded by NSF Grant ACI-1419415.

Participants of the 1st CRA-W/CDC Broadening Participation in Visualization Workshop.
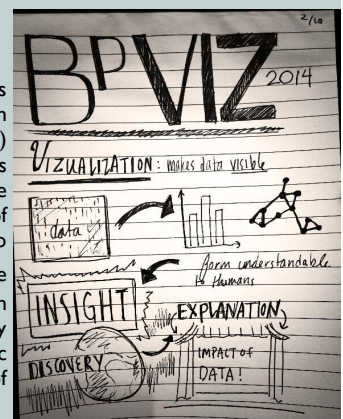
BPViz2014 on Social Media

A word cloud of words/phrases tweeted and retweeted about BPViz2014 during the workshop s shown in the figure on the left. The figure was generated using Salesforce.com's Radian6 Dashboard Analysis, and provided by Rebecca Appleford, Social Meida Analyst, Social Analytics Institute, Clemson

First Impressions

The workshop began with an Opening Reception with a meet-and-greet feel. Participants willing to share their pre-workshop thoughts about their understanding of visualization were asked three questions about visualization: 1) how do you define visualization? 2) what is the purpose of visualization? And 3) why is visualization important? Responses indicated there was a real need to define and explain what visualization is and provide examples of its applications. Workshop organizers defined visualization as a process of representing raw data in a visual format which enables viewers to gain more insight into what the data represents. The purpose of visualization is insight. The ubiquitous nature of visualization speaks to it's importance in analysis of data, research and discovery as well as in our daily lives. We all use and rely on visualization. A summary of what organizers hoped to convey to participants was conceptualized in the schematic (shown here) created by workshop participant, Cathryn Ploehn from the University of Texas at Dallas, during the first day of the workshop,

VISUALIZATION AS A CATALYST FOR

- **COLLABORATION**
- **COMMUNICATION**
- **PARTICIPATION**

@**BPViz**

BPVIZ
Broadening Participation
In Visualization

Clemson University, Clemson, SC

Visualization Showcase

The highly anticipated poster/visualization showcase was well attended. The session further engaged participants and speakers alike by allowing participants with intermediate/advanced knowledge of visualization to showcase their work while giving beginners an opportunity to converse with others and experts in the field about their visualization interests. Participants new to visualization were advised to treat the poster session as a conversational piece and embrace the moment for the invaluable experience that it was: a mechanism for initiating conversation with leading experts in the field. How often does this happen for someone new to the field? Poster topics were a wonderful mix of research not only in expected fields like computer science, engineering and biology, but also represented research interests from digital humanities and social media, to wire fraud and air quality. Posters from the showcase can be viewed at http://citi.clemson.edu/viz/BPViz2014/Showcase/Poster.html
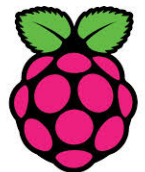

Poster Competition Winners

Katherine Prutz and Annalise LaBatut (Louisiana School for Mthah, Science and the arts) winners of poster competition

The workshop provided diversity in participant participation, representation of research, and in workshop content. Despite inclement weather conditions, the workshop was a success. Visualization incorporates techniques and methods applied and refined in science, technology and engineering fields and as such the field of visualization is subject to the same diversity deficiencies found in all STEM fields. Workshop participants were given an opportunity to showcase their work while getting feedback from visualization experts by participating in the visualization showcase/poster competition. Invited speakers for the workshop served as judges for the competition. Poster competition winners, Katherine Prutz and Annalise LaBatut , received a Raspberry Pi Bundle, donated by Element14.

RaspberryPi

Publications and Presentations

CyberInfrastrcture Expo. Clemson University, Clemson South Carolina. Poster Presentation, September 22, 2014.

Overview of Broadening Participation Efforts at Clemson. Presented at the Incorporating HPC in Undergraduate Biology Education Meeting. The Banbury Center, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, September 3-5, 2014. Invited Talk.

Visualization as a catalyst for communication and conduit for collaboration and participation. Vetria Byrd. XSEDE14, July 2014, Atlanta, GA. Invited Plenary Talk.

CyberInfrastrcture Expo. Clemson University, Clemson South Carolina. Poster Presentation, September 22, 2014.

Byrd Emphasizes Value of Visualization at XSEDE14**,** By Trish Barker, HPCWire July 31, 2014.

Expanding the Pipeline: 1st CRA-W/CDC Broadening Participation in Visualization (BPViz) Workshop, By Vetria L. Byrd, Computing Research News, Vol. 26, No. 4, April 2014. Invited Article.
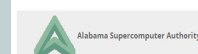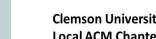
1st CRA-W/CDC Broadening Participation in Visualization (BPViz) Workshop A Success Despite the Polar Vortex! By Vetria Byrd and Lori Tanner, Computing Research News (CRN) Newsletter, April 2014.

Sponsors and Supporters

BPViz 2014 Sponsored By:

CLEMSON COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CRA W

the coalition to diversify computing

Supporters of the workshop:

IEEE Computer Society

CRAY THE SUPERCOMPUTER COMPANY

iaamcs

XSEDE Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment

sgi

Kitware

SILICON MECHANICS

Clemson University Local ACM Chapter

BOEING

OAK RIDGE National Laboratory

Alabama Supercomputer Authority

Newark

element14

Thank You