## News & Media

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## Informatics Students Fare Well in Conference Competition

Three Indiana University School of Informatics students took top honors in contests at the Indiana Women in Computing 2006 conference.

Narmada Jayasankar, who is pursuing a master's in bioinformatics, won first place in the Best Poster category. Her entry was "Machine Learning Approach to Predicting Peptide Fragmentation Spectra."

Tammy Toscos, a candidate for doctorate in informatics, finished first for Best Graduate Presentation. Her presentation focused on the ways to use information technology to help encourage physical activity and wellness among teenaged girls.

Graduate student Tonya Stroman won first place in the Best Lightning Talk category. Her presentation, "Feeling Chemistry in a Virtual Word," covered the power of technology and the ways that online dating environments should mirror off-line dating environments.

The Feb. 3-4 conference drew more than 130 women in academia and industry students, instructors and researchers from universities and the computing industry around Indiana for a retreat at McCormick's Creek State Park, Spencer, Ind.

The event offered programming tracks covering material of interest to high-school students, undergraduates and graduate students, and the opportunity to learn career-building techniques and to meet with corporate recruiters.

Key sponsor of the event was WIC@IU (Women in Computing at Indiana University), an IU School of Informatics-supported grassroots organization providing mentoring and leadership opportunities to graduate and undergraduate women students in computing-related fields.

To view a complete list of conference award winners, go to www.cs.indiana.edu/inwic.