

BEST of CWIT



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The Center for Women in Technology

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What is CWIT about?

The **Center for Women in Technology (CWIT)** enables success for *all women* and other underrepresented groups in technology education and careers. We support students with

- A nurturing and challenging community
- Transformative leadership experiences
- Professional development opportunities

Our vision is to prepare and empower members of our community to be *change agents* in creating technology workplaces that are **diverse, equitable, and inclusive.**



CWIT's Strategic Goals

1. Sustain our vital **Scholars** and **Affiliates** programs
2. Create and sustain a supportive, diverse **community**
3. Examine and address **gender climate** in COEIT
4. Pipeline development through **K-12 programs**
5. Advocacy to **remove barriers** to participation across campus
6. Contribute to the **national dialogue** on diversity and inclusion in technology education

VITAL SCHOLAR & AFFILIATE PROGRAMS...

- **56 CWIT Scholars**
 - New Freshmen
- **19 T-SITE Scholars**
 - Incoming Transfer Students
 - MD community colleges
- **37 Cyber Scholars & Associates**
 - New Freshmen, Transfers, Continuing UMBC students
- **17 Living Learning Community Affiliates**
 - New Freshmen
- **200 CWIT Affiliates**
 - New Freshmen, Transfers, Continuing UMBC students

PROGRAM FUNDAMENTALS

- Community Support
 - Mentoring
 - Living Learning Community
- Academic Support
 - First Year Experience Course
 - Monthly Advising
- Career Development
- Professional Development
- Leadership Development



BUILDING COMMUNITY

- New Student Retreat
 - Connect incoming Scholars with one another across programs
 - Planned and implemented by older Scholars
- Monthly Family and Cohort Meetings
- Regular events throughout the year
 - CWIT New Scholar Reception
 - Women in Technology Series
 - CWIT Showcase
 - Allies in CWIT Group



MENTORING

CWIT Offers Four Types of Mentoring:

- Peer Mentors
 - Older students within their majors
- Faculty Mentors
 - Professors within their departments
- Industry Mentors
 - Professionals from the fields of engineering and computing
- CWIT Staff Mentors
 - Staff members with backgrounds in student support to help students navigate the college experience



DURING THEIR FIRST YEAR

- CWIT Living-Learning Community
 - Residential community in which Scholars & Affiliates live together
 - Returning students are asked to take a leadership role within the community
- First Year Experience Seminar
 - Older Scholars and CWIT Team lead class discussions on topics ranging from time management to study skills



CWIT AFFILIATES

The Affiliates Program offers a supportive community and connections among the women in the College of Engineering and Information Technology.

The Affiliates Program connects women in UMBC technology majors through:

- Living Learning Community (LLC) and FYE
- Peer mentors for freshman and transfer students each semester
- Opportunities to meet faculty and other majors
- Women in Technology (WIT) Networking Events

**** 200-300 CWIT & Cyber Affiliates in 2019 ****

CWIT & Cyber Scholar Program Application

- Apply to UMBC by Nov 1st (priority deadline)
- Scholar Application:
 - Available today, 10/18/19!
 - Due Jan 15th- online application
<http://www.cwit.umbc.edu>
- Two letters of recommendation
 - One science or math teacher; one from someone who can speak to your fit for our mission





QUESTIONS ABOUT CWIT?



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Meet the Faculty



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Meet
Admissions
Honors College
Scholarship &
Financial Aid



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Break Time!



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Meet the Students



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PWIT

Parents of CWIT, Cyber & T-SITE
Scholars and Associates



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Welcome Parents and Families!

We are a **fabulous** committee of CWIT parents
who meet quarterly(ish) to provide special
experiences for our students!

Here are a couple of things we do...

Stress Bags

To help alleviate those
Final Exam tensions



Family Dinner



The Living Learning Community hosts monthly Sunday Family Dinners for all Scholars and Affiliates to come together and enjoy!



Friendsgiving in November!

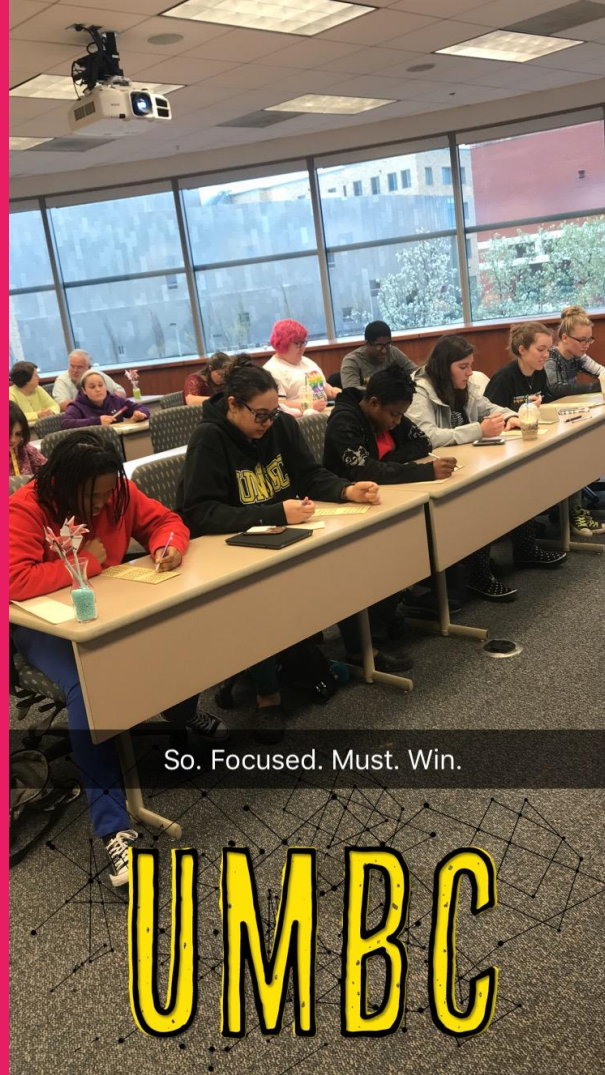
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Snacks!

Scholar Selection Day can be intense but applicants and interviewers keep the energy going all day long.



BINGO!



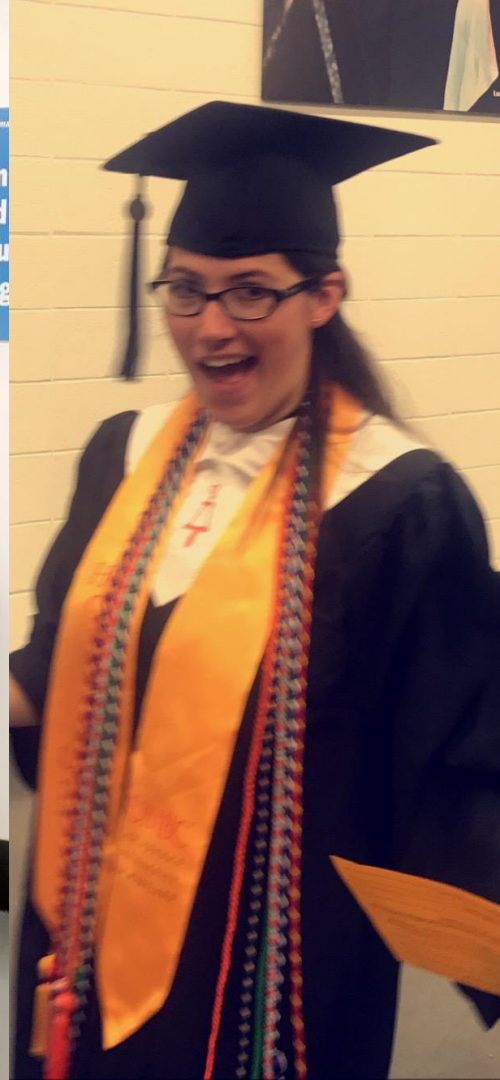
Annual CWIT Picnic!

Food, Games, Music, and
Family



Graduate Gifts & Honors Cords

Time to celebrate
in style!





What makes us successful?

Families!

- Sign up for PWIT & CWIT emails to stay informed
- Give \$50 or any amount that you are comfortable with to help fund these great experiences

— — —

- Join PWIT Committee! (not like PTA!)



Thank you!

Tips for Application



BEST of CWIT

Tip #1 Start Early

Give yourself and your references plenty of time to complete the application requirements **before the January 15th deadline.**

We find that many strong applications arrive in December so submit your application early.

Tip #2

Review the Application Components Closely

The key parts are:

- 1) UMBC Campus ID,
- 2) Short Answer Questions and Answers,
- 3) Additional Documents,
- 4) Recommendation Letters.

Tip #3 Request Recommendation Letters

- **Who:** Ask individuals that know not only how you are a great student, but also why you would be a good candidate for CWIT.
- **How:** Send the details about CWIT to them.
- **Frequently Asked Question/Answer:** Yes, you can use the same recommendation letters that you provided in the UMBC application but make sure they specifically address how you are a good fit for our programs and your success in computing or engineering.

Tip # 4 Mastering the Short Answer Questions

Here is your chance to shine and share with CWIT:

- Who YOU are,
- What you are passionate about, and
- Why you are interested in becoming a CWIT or Cyber Scholar

You only have 300 words or less per short answer so:

- be organized,
- provide clear and succinct examples,
- proofread,
- proofread, and
- ask someone you trust to proofread too.

Questions? Contact us!

Erica D'Eramo at deramo@umbc.edu

Cindy Greenwood at cindyg@umbc.edu

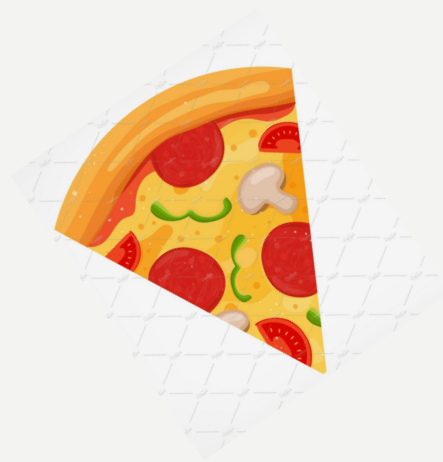
Application Deadline:

January 15th



Thank you for coming!

Join us in the CWIT Living Learning Community for pizza!



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