Is Silicon Valley Funding the Wrong Stuff?

By CHRISTOPHER MIMS
July 6, 2014 7:07 p.m. ET

Social networks that allow you to send only the message “I'm at a party” to your contacts. Food-delivery services valued at $400 million. Startups that deliver rolls of quarters to your door (just $27 for $20 in change!).

Is Silicon Valley only interested in the problems of twentysomethings?

By Ezra Klein May 27, 2013
The Response

**Sahana Software Foundation**

The Sahana Software Foundation is dedicated to helping communities prepare for disasters by providing information management solutions.

**Code for America**

What if government services were this good?

Imagine a world where your taxes go to programs you’re proud of, people get the help they need, and the public trusts government again. We’re a nonprofit on a mission to make government services simple, effective, and easy to use.

We’ve partnered with 130 governments on projects that put technology to work for our citizens. Yours could be next.

**Ecuador Response**

Sahana Software Foundation members are providing grants to support organizations within the Ecuadorian government and civil organizations who are deploying Sahana EDEN in response to the earthquake that struck Ecuador on April 16th, 2016. Visit our response page to learn more.

Become a partner
What is Benevolent Computing?

- Applications which leverage social media, mobile applications, cloud computing and big data to address social needs.
- Systems which leverage new business models to achieve sustainability and scalability.
- A new interdisciplinary research area focused on user-centered design, team dynamics, and open source technologies to create robust solutions for social good.
Academic Pioneers
Benevolent Computing Teaching Goals

• Experience for students in building effective teams and working with clients
• Field work identifying problems and stakeholders
• Research of viable solutions, technologies, and platforms
• Visualizing and documenting research and proposed solutions through a design brief
• Implementing a prototype, with integration and iteration in mind, through publication of source code and a software design document
Project Selection
Team Work
Working with clients
Field Work
Technology

Parse Server

The open source Parse backend. Setup your self-hosted Parse API today.

Migrate Existing App

View on GitHub
Mr. Bruno

Breed: American Shorthair
Gender: Male
Age: 4 Year(s)
Color Scheme: Brown Tiger & White
Coat Type: Short
Declawed: No
Spayed/Neutered: No
Good With Pets: No
Good With Kids: No
Staff Comments:
Pilots (ES BOCES, Cleary School)
Publications

- IEEE Xplore
- IASTED
- Journal of Educational Technology Systems
Presentations and Press

Pet Project

Elizabeth Crowe ’15 brings ‘Benevolent Computing’ to Smithtown Animal Shelter
Reviews

“I wanted to send feedback for this group because they truly went above and beyond for me.
They took their time explaining every detail so I would understand it. Nicole was available by email almost weekly. She helped me with other computer or technology needs like changing adobe files to PDF files so I could redesign our brochure. The new design of the website is much cleaner and easier for clients to navigate to find what they are looking for. I love the design of the logo which brings the color I was looking for.
I appreciate them working with me after the project to get all the projects onto the site and begin using them all.
Again, I appreciate all the details, like recognizing all the supporters, designing a logo, setting up the ability to take donations. They listened to my ideas and needs of Sunshine and addressed them.
I appreciated the opportunity to work together with this Team and thank you again for everything.

Sincerely, Carol”

– Dr. Carol Carter, Director of Sunshine Prevention Center, Port Jefferson, NY
STONY BROOK ATHLETICS TEAMS WITH COMPUTER SCIENCE TO LAUNCH WOLFIEMETRICS
Conclusions

• Benevolent Computing provides students with a rich environment for experiential learning and development of critical thinking skills

• Socially-oriented software development attracts a diverse, interdisciplinary range of students; and challenges them to collaborate with each other, clients, and stakeholders

• Computing for Good projects help rebut the antisocial and unethical stereotypes of CS and engineering students, and provide assistance to local non-profits
Any Questions?

tony@cs.stonybrook.edu

https://xsrv.mm.cs.stonybrook.edu/c4g/ncsce_talk.pdf
Agencies Served

- Response of Suffolk County
- LI Coalition for the Homeless
- LI Harvest
- Sunshine Prevention Center
- EAC
- This Machine Feeds
- Long Island Against Domestic Violence
- Boy Scouts of America
- Toys of Hope
- Global Innovation Team
- Smithtown Animal Shelter
- Cleary School for the Deaf
Select industry and non-profit links

Google.org
https://www.google.org

Code for America
https://www.codeforamerica.org

MobileActive
http://www.mobileactive.org

Sahana Software Foundation
https://sahanafoundation.org

Engineering for Change
https://www.engineeringforchange.org/category/information-systems/

Games for Change
http://www.gamesforchange.org
Academic Links

Georgia Tech’s Computing for Good Program
https://computingforgood.wordpress.com

https://bitsofgood.org


Stony Brook University’s Benevolent Computing Program
https://xsrv.mm.cs.stonybrook.edu/c4g/

https://www.stonybrook.edu/magazine/2018-winter/computing-for-social-good
Select Project Links

Shelterware
https://xsrv.mm.cs.stonybrook.edu/c4g/shelterware_sbu_feature.pdf

Sunshine Prevention Center Web Site:
https://www.sunshinepreventionctr.org/

Response of Suffolk County Call Data Visualization:
https://xsrv.mm.cs.stonybrook.edu/c4g/response_stats.pdf
Select Project Links

iSign (Cleary School for the Deaf):
https://xsrv.mm.cs.stonybrook.edu/TS/research/iSign/iSign.html

iSign IASTED paper:
https://xsrv.mm.cs.stonybrook.edu/publications/iSign_IASTED.pdf
Select Project Links

SBU World Trade Center Health Program

Tech Report:
https://tr.cs.stonybrook.edu/tr/sbcs-tr-2017-6

Oral history videos and transcripts:
http://130.245.140.252:8080/engage/ui/index.html