



# **What do students with disabilities, web accessibility, captioning, and internships have in common?**

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# AccessSTEM

- “ The Alliance for Students with Disabilities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) ”, funded by NSF
- Goal: To increase the participation of students with disabilities in academic programs and careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)
- <http://uw.edu/doi/stem>



# AccessComputing

- “The Alliance for Access to Computing Careers”, funded by NSF
- Partnership between DO-IT, the UW Dept of Computer Science & Engineering, plus various institutions and alliances
- Goal: To increase the participation of students with disabilities in computing careers
- <http://uw.edu/accesscomputing>

# Web Accessibility Trainings (WAT)

- 3-5 day workshops for high school or college students with disabilities
- Students learn accessible web design
  - Basics of HTML, CSS, and Javascript
  - Common accessibility problems and solutions
  - How to evaluate web pages for accessibility and report findings
  - How to caption video
- Work-based learning: Students learn job skills: application to work experience

# Our WATs

- Summer 2009 – 10 college students @ UW
- Summer 2010 – 2 high school students @ UW
- Late Summer 2010 – 30 college students @ Bellevue College
- Next week – 16 college students @ UW plus two UW faculty members & one industry representative

# Working Together: It's Adaptable!

- Process: Application, Paperwork, Timecard
- Work Experience: none to career professionals
- HTML Experience: basic to proficient
- Ages: 16-60
- Environment: Conference Room, Classroom, Computer Lab
- Classroom Support: Instructor, Guest Lecturers, Work-Based Learning Lead, Intern

# Post-WAT Opportunities for Learning

- Final project for bonus pay
  - a) Conduct three web accessibility evaluations and write reports of findings and recommendations
  - b) Caption three STEM-related YouTube videos
  - c) Three activities combining a) and b)
- On-line community including students, mentors, and staff
- Internships

# Post-WAT Student Experiences

- Even students with good HTML background fine-tuned good HTML habits
- Created intern team reviewed websites
- One intern is in the process of being hired by an organization where he reviewed their website
- Jeremy
- Anna

# WAT Class Resources

- The Curriculum:

<http://depts.washington.edu/doitsum/wat>

- Accessible University Mock Site:

<http://uw.edu/accesscomputing/AU>

# WAT Can You Do?

- Knowledge Base
- Publications and Videos
- Communities of Practice
- Mini-grants
- AccessComputing Team

**<http://uw.edu/accesscomputing>**