College's New Development Director Brings Experience and Enthusiasm to Role

Wherever she's worked, Gail Mansfield has successfully raised millions of dollars. Now Mansfield is bringing this fundraising prowess to her new role as director of development for Northeastern University's College of Computer and Information Science (CCIS).

Mansfield arrived at CCIS in March after eight years at Philips Academy in Andover, where she served most recently as the independent school's director of major gifts and annual giving and was instrumental in its $34 million capital campaign. Earlier in her career, Mansfield gained higher education development experience at Emmanuel College, Suffolk University, and the Boston Architectural College. The veteran fundraiser, who holds a BS in education from Suffolk University, has also served as the director of annual giving for the Schepens Eye Research Institute and director of development and public relations for the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

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It's Just a Tweet. Or Is It?

It all started with one simple, 113-character tweet.

Because of this tweet, Matt Simmons got to fulfill a lifelong dream: seeing a NASA rocket launch. And not just any launch. Simmons witnessed the first test flight of the Orion spacecraft, designed to one day carry humans to Mars.

Simmons, systems administrator for Northeastern's College of Computer and Information Science, first noticed the message on his Twitter feed. It was a call for applications from NASA for social media commentators to attend the launch.

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Conference Offers Students a New View of Diversity in Computing

For Shivanjali Singh, the impression was immediate: The ACM Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Conference was unlike other computer science gatherings she’d attended. There were more people like herself.

As both a woman and an Indian American, Singh is accustomed to being in the minority in her undergraduate classes at Northeastern University's College of Computer and Information Science (CCIS). But now she was at an event promoting diversity in computing, surrounded by undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, researchers, and professionals from backgrounds underrepresented in the field. Academic institutions and companies committed to diversifying their ranks were also there, eager to meet students like Singh.

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