



COLORADO COALITION FOR
GENDER & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**BoF SESSION: INSPIRING AMBITION IN K-12 GIRLS
COLORADO CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN COMPUTING
APRIL 2008**

The Colorado Coalition for Gender & IT (CCGIT) is unique nationwide in its regional approach to outreach programs for K-12 audiences: five universities participated in a collaborative, interactive training program last September. Now all attendees of the Colorado Celebration of Women in Computing have the opportunity to get a taste of the training, and learn the best ways to convince young girls that IT and computer science are viable, interesting, hip career and educational possibilities.

Chew gum! Talk in class! Pass notes! Aw, heck, just enjoy life as a middle schooler again! This birds-of-a-feather presentation will allow participants to experience a computer science K-12 outreach road show and learn about great activities that encourage girls and underrepresented minorities to consider computer science education and careers.

This birds-of-a-feather session will be led by experienced road show trainers Sarah Hug, Ph.D. and Terra Morris of the University of Colorado at Boulder, who ran the very successful summer road show camp for undergraduates last September, and Sarah Tonso of the Women's College at the University of Denver, who has gone on to train her peers at TWC and given several road shows at Denver-metro middle- and high-schools.

The trio will alternate between encouraging audience role-playing, demonstrations of top-rated activities, and helpful hints about how to present a successful road show. From cheetos to sorting activities, this session will be fun, informative, and inspiring to undergraduates, faculty, and professionals alike.

The Colorado Coalition for Gender & IT (CCGIT) works to increase the number of girls and women in information technology (IT) education and work. **Our vision is gender parity at all levels of IT education and work by the year 2020.**