

*"First-Class Diversity, World-Class STEM"*



**33rd Annual**

**GMIS**

**CONFERENCE**



**2021 GMIS Conference  
Virtual Convening Report**

**October 11-22, 2021**

[www.gmisconference.org](http://www.gmisconference.org)

Throughout the pandemic, GMiS pivoted to deliver its access and services to underserved students to continue to amplify their talents and experiences. Building on the success of its first-ever virtual conference in 2020 and coupled with the uncertainty of how the country would fare in Fall 2021 due to COVID-19, GMiS decided to deliver its 2021 GMiS Conference, virtually. Understanding the risks of Zoom fatigue, vaccination protocols, fluctuating travel restrictions, and higher education enrollment patterns, GMiS pushed forward to showcase, [“First-Class Diversity, World-Class STEM.”](#)

COVID-19 caused setbacks all across the STEM Enterprise especially in the education progress of our underserved students. The achievement gaps that were closing were suddenly widened, the fading digital divide re-emerged, and students’ mental well-being became a more apparent concern. According to Dorn, et al (2021), at the pre-college level, “unfinished learning” has resulted in students being five months behind in mathematics and four months behind in reading. Nationally, the percentage of freshmen who return for their second year of college declined by an “unprecedented” level during the pandemic, according to a July 2021 report from the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center that tracks national enrollment trends. While in the past few years around 75% of students returned, just 73% of students came back in 2020 — the steepest drop in a decade — the center found (Cal Matters, <https://nscresearchcenter.org/>)

By hosting its national conference, virtually, GMiS sought to mediate the negative STEM career pathway impacts the pandemic created. GMiS successfully convened its strategic partners representing a cross section of leading industries, laboratories, government agencies and academic institutions. The Class of 2021 HENAAC honorees - a stellar class of strong, resilient and visionary STEM role models - shared meaningful and inspirational success stories that serve as pathways and beacons of hope.

To enhance the virtual student engagement, GMiS incorporated the following:

- Expanded its STEM-Career Readiness Coaching Sessions for an entire month pre-conference
- Brought back its GMiS College Bowl – virtually
- Implemented *Discord* as the primary student chat platform
- Hosted three virtual student testimonial contests
- Expanded the virtual career fair by two hours each of the two days
- Added a second Speed Networking Session
- Added Graduate School Roundtables

Students appreciated these additional engagement activities, which provided them more flexibility as they pursued their on-campus and online classes. As this country emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic, GMiS remains committed to providing programs and services to empower the STEM Identity and STEM-career readiness of our underserved students. This report is a summary of the impact on student engagement.

To learn more about how you can support GMiS in advocating for student success, please visit our website at [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org) or email [info@greatmindsinstem.org](mailto:info@greatmindsinstem.org). We look forward to seeing you in-person at our 2022 GMiS Conference, in Pasadena, CA.

Juan Rivera, Ph.D.  
Acting CEO and Board Chairman

Bertha Haro  
Executive Director

Virtual 2021 GMIS Conference  
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1,993 Participants	84 Events	12 Days	6 Virtual Platforms	2 Career Fair Days	0 Down Time
139,217 Conference Portal Loads*			5,400 Conference Website Loads*		

\* The reporting period for these metrics is 10/11 – 10/22

## Thank You to Our Sponsors

### Host Sponsors



### Academic Hosts



### PRE-CONFERENCE ENGAGEMENT



#### STEM Career Readiness Coaching Sessions

In advance of the two-week conference, GMIS hosted a series of small-group, focused webinars to prepare students for the conference. These 45-minute sessions provided one-on-one resume reviews, virtual interviewing strategies, how to curate an online presence, and how to navigate a virtual career fair.

#### Conference Website Launched!

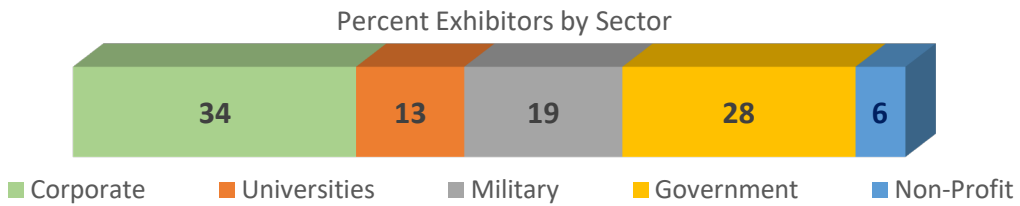
GMIS officially launched its Conference Website on August 22. Through the start of the conference, there were **over 13,800 conference page loads**.

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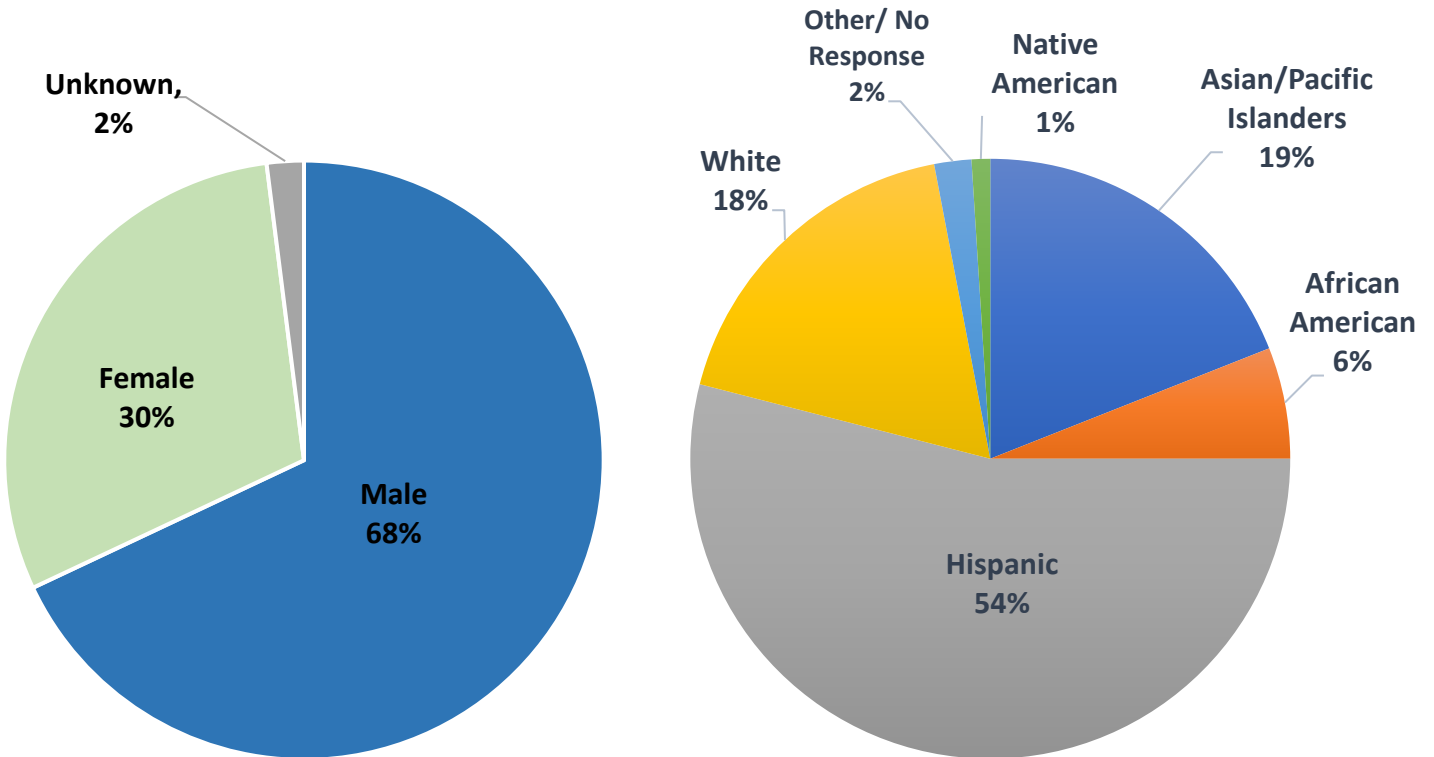
**CAREER FAIR**

**1,286**  
Est. Unique Participants
**55**  
Entities Represented
**4,245**  
Chats
**3.3**  
Avg. Chats\*
**1:2**  
Recruiter:Job Seeker Ratio

\*GMIS engaged Brazen to power its virtual career fair. According to Brazen, the average number of chats per job seeker is two, and the average Recruiter:Job Seeker ratio is 1:10.

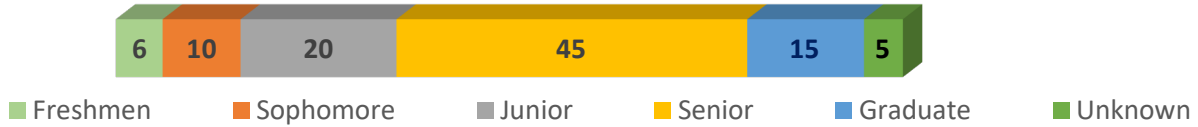


**COLLEGE STUDENTS**  
\*Based on participant data

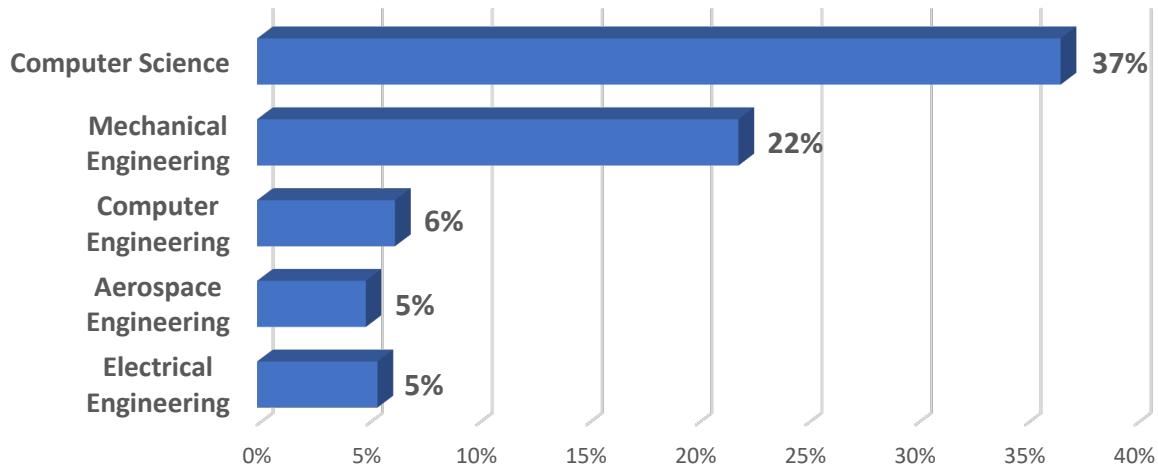


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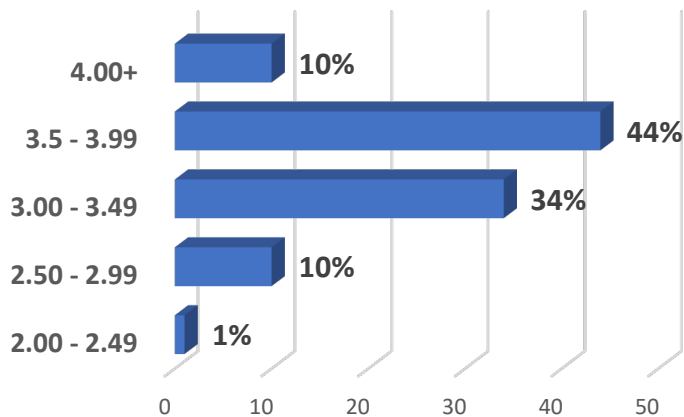
Percent Students by Classification



Top 5 STEM Disciplines Represented



Percent Distribution of Self-Reported GPAs




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*"All the advice gave me a sense of comfort and understanding on how to approach different things and to continue to learn about myself and understand what roads to take." – Student Participant*

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**Student Attendance by Institutional Type**

**86%**      **8%**      **4%**      **81%**  
4-Yr, Public    4-Yr, Private    2-Yr, Public    Hispanic-Serving Institutions

**133 Colleges and Universities Represented – Conference Wide**

Albion College	Indiana University-Purdue University	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Arizona State University	Indianapolis	Saint Louis University
Athens State University	Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Aguadilla	San Antonio College
Binghamton University	Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon	San Francisco State University
California Baptist University	Kean University	San Jose State University
California Institute of Technology	Lamar University	Santa Ana College
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona	Lehman College	Seattle University
California State University Maritime Academy	Lone Star College System	Stanford University
California State University, Bakersfield	Los Angeles Pierce College	Teachers College
California State University, Chico	Los Angeles Trade Technical College	Texas A&M University
California State University, Dominguez Hills	Louisiana State University	Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
California State University, Fresno	Louisiana State University Shreveport	Texas A&M University - Kingsville
California State University, Fullerton	Loyola Marymount University	Texas Tech University
California State University, Long Beach	Macalester College	Texas Woman's University
California State University, Los Angeles	Marist College	The Pennsylvania State University
California State University, Northridge	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Tulane University
California State University, Sacramento	Merced College	Universidad Ana G. Mendez--Gurabo
California State University, Stanislaus	Miami Dade College	Universidad de Puerto Rico Recinto de Rio Piedras
College of the Canyons	Missouri University of Science and Technology	University of Arizona
Colorado School of Mines	Morgan State University	University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Colorado Technical University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	University of California, Berkeley
Columbia University	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology	University of California, Davis
Del Mar College	New Mexico State University	University of California, Irvine
Dominican University	New Mexico State University at Alamogordo	University of California, Los Angeles
Duke University	New York City College of Technology	University of California, Merced
East Los Angeles College	North Carolina State University	University of California, Riverside
El Camino College	Northeastern Illinois University	University of Central Florida
El Paso Community College	Northern Illinois University	University of Chicago
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University - Daytona Beach	Oral Roberts University	University of Florida
Florida Gulf Coast University	Oregon State University	University of Houston
Florida Institute of Technology	Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico	University of Houston-Clear Lake
Florida International University	Prairie View A&M University	University of Houston-Downtown
Georgia Institute of Technology	Reedley College	University of Houston-Victoria
Glendale Community College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Illinois at Chicago
Houston Community College	Rice University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Illinois Institute of Technology	Rio Hondo College	University of La Verne
Illinois State University	Rio Salado College	University of Maryland - Baltimore County
Indiana Institute of Technology		University of New Mexico

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University of Oklahoma  
 University of Puerto Rico at Arecibo  
 University of Puerto Rico at Bayamon  
 University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez  
 University of South Florida  
 University of Southern California  
 University of Texas at Arlington

University of Texas at Austin  
 University of Texas at Dallas  
 University of Texas at El Paso  
 University of Texas at San Antonio  
 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
 University of Washington  
 Vanderbilt University

Ventura College  
 Virginia Commonwealth University  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
 Waukesha County Technical College  
 West Virginia University

**COMPETITIONS**

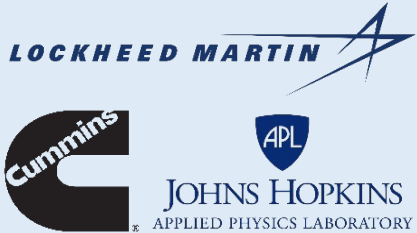
**Research Poster Competition**



**77** Accepted Submissions  
**18** Competition Awards



**CAHSI Hackathon**



**159** Participants  
**28** CAHSI Institutions

Hidden Messages: TEAM 57  
 PenTest: TEAM 40  
 Forensics: TEAM 11  
 Password Cracking: TEAM 17  
 1<sup>st</sup> Overall: TEAM 41  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall: TEAM 10  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall: TEAM 49

**CAHSI Data Analytics**



**27** Participants  
**15** CAHSI Institutions

1<sup>st</sup> Place: SOLO  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: UHD2021



**126** Participants  
**50** Unique winners

10 Individual Winners  
 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team: NASA  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Team: Northrop Grumman Alpha  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Team: Northrop Grumman One

**Students competed in Individual Competitions and on two different teams for the Team Competition.**

**Over \$22,400 in competition awards**

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## GMiS STEM SCHOLARS

GMiS received over 800 completed applications for the [GMiS STEM Scholarships](#), which offers both merit-based academic scholarships and STEM Civic Leadership Scholarships. This year, scholars were honored virtually at the Scholars Reception and the Student Leadership Awards.

By end of 2021, GMiS will have awarded over **\$5.3M** to more than **1,700** college students, since 2000.



*“As a Hispanic woman in STEM, it is important to me to have a support system that understands my background and experiences, and I am grateful that Lockheed Martin has provided me with role models and opportunities that will encourage me in my academic and professional development... this award will provide a springboard that will allow me to make contributions to the advancement of computing, data sciences, and information technology.”*  
 – Isabel O. Gallegos, 2021 GMiS Outstanding Student Leadership Award Recipient

<b>Number of GMiS STEM Scholarships</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>Total Awarded</b>	<b>\$237,524</b>											
<b>Average GPA</b>	<b>3.71</b>													
<b>Classification</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>9%</b> Graduate Students</td> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>13%</b> Sophomores</td> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>56%</b> Male</td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>47%</b> Seniors</td> <td><b>11%</b> Freshmen</td> <td><b>44%</b> Female</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>20%</b> Juniors</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>9%</b> Graduate Students	<b>13%</b> Sophomores	<b>56%</b> Male		<b>47%</b> Seniors	<b>11%</b> Freshmen	<b>44%</b> Female		<b>20%</b> Juniors				
<b>9%</b> Graduate Students	<b>13%</b> Sophomores	<b>56%</b> Male												
<b>47%</b> Seniors	<b>11%</b> Freshmen	<b>44%</b> Female												
<b>20%</b> Juniors														

The GMiS STEM Scholars are part of the GMiS Scholarship Program which offers year-round scholarships including:

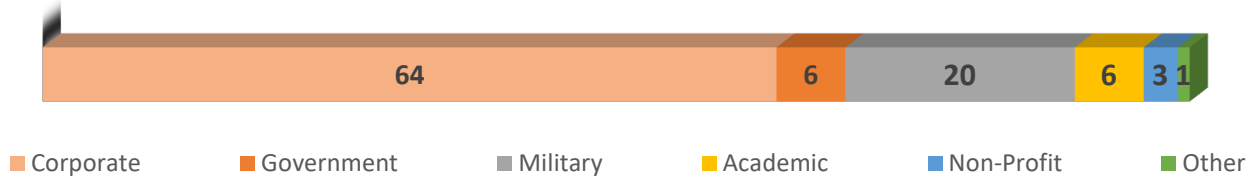
- Artemio. G. Navarro Scholarships** For eligible graduating seniors attending Bishop Mora Salesian High School in Los Angeles.
- California Medical Scholarships** For eligible underrepresented students pursuing a medical profession in one of these California medical schools – University of California, Davis School of Medicine; University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine; University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine; and University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine.
- California Health Scholarships** For eligible undergraduate students pursuing a health-related discipline at a four-year institution in California.



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**PROFESSIONALS**

Percent Professional Participants By Sector (n=744)

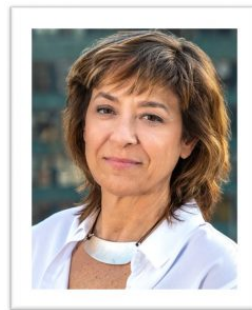


**2021 HENAAC Engineer of the Year**



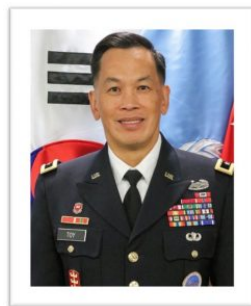
**Marla E. Pérez-Davis, Ph.D.**  
 Director  
 Office of the Director  
 NASA Glenn Research  
 Center

**2021 HENAAC Scientist of the Year**

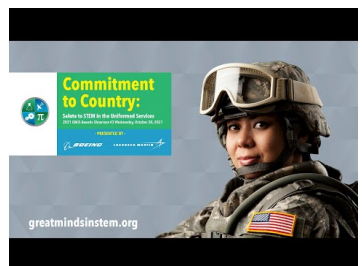


**Daniela Brunner, Ph.D.**  
 Chief Innovation Officer  
 Data Sciences &  
 Services Department  
 PsychoGenics Inc.

**2021 Chairman’s Award**

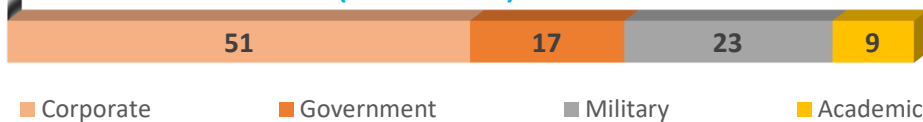


**Major General R. Mark Toy**  
 Chief of Staff  
 UNC Headquarters  
 United Nations Command



Percent HENAAC Award Honorees By Sector (n=47)

**(47% Female)**







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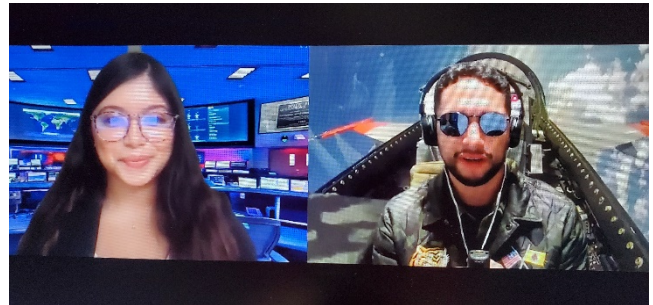
SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT



GMiS used Discord for the first-time. Over **530** users engaged with this communications platform during the virtual conference.

	<b>152,897</b>	<b>8,561</b>	<b>25,866</b>
	<b>Impressions</b>	<b>Engagements</b>	<b>Audience</b>
	48,559	5,194	5,110
	28,532	333	16,099
	61,510	2,416	3,451
	14,296	618	1,206

Numbers from 10/11 – 10/29



On behalf of the entire GMiS Team, thank you for being part of the virtual 2021 GMiS Conference! Please continue to visit our GMiS Conference Website - [www.gmisconference.org](http://www.gmisconference.org) - to access the on-demand webinars, award shows, GMiS STEM Scholars, and Research Poster Exhibit Hall for the next several months.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2022 GMiS Conference, in Pasadena, CA, from October 5 - 8, 2022!