

25 IISME Fellows to spend summer at Intel

Bay Area teachers become Intel students immersed in high tech



Some look like returning upperclassman, others like unfamiliar freshmen, but they're all eager to learn – about Intel, the high tech industry, and what it's really like to work for a Fortune 100 company. Look around this summer and you'll see these Industry Initiatives for Science and Math Education (IISME) Fellows – teachers in Intel cubes working on "hard-to-get-done" projects for Intel.

This group of 25 IISME (pronounced iz-mee) Fellows are the teachers who school our children and hundreds of other kindergarten through high school students; this year, even a couple of college instructors are taking part in the IISME program.

IISME Fellow Jason Blum says he expects to enhance his technology skills during his summer internship. Working for Intel mentor Caleb Rabinowitz in the Mobile Platforms Group, Blum was quickly introduced to what makes up Centrino Mobile Technology. Blum reports that his mentor is "very organized, approachable, proactive, and an excellent coach!"

Tara Hunt is spending her summer working for the Intel Museum. While she's here, Hunt says, "I expect to learn how to tailor what I learn at the Intel museum into my first grade classroom."

This is the tenth straight year Intel has sponsored IISME Fellows; about 56 percent of this year's fellows are well versed in Intel's culture since they're returning to Intel for the second, or even third time. The teachers will be at Intel's Mission, Walsh and Bowers campuses for an eight-week fellowship.

Intel and like-minded Silicon Valley companies that want to improve teaching of math and science started IISME over 20 years ago. IISME now offers teachers of all subjects a real worldview of industry that helps them prepare their students for the future. IISME gives teachers an opportunity to apply their skills in a totally different setting than the one they are used to.

Over the years, Intel has offered 215 IISME fellowships to local teachers, and Intel Chairman Craig Barrett has singled out the program as a way to support teacher professional development and retain high quality teachers in the area.