

D.C. Wins 2nd Place in National Computing Competition

Additional coverage and related National BDPA Technology Conference Updates – Page 10



bdpatoday

Washington, D.C. Chapter Edition

September 2007

21st Century eLearning Frameworks "IT" goes Back to School

Partnership For 21st Century Skills Releases Updated Framework For 21st Century Learning

New framework provides states with comprehensive guide to develop 21st century educational outcomes

Washington, DC—The Partnership for 21st Century Skills, a national education-business coalition which developed the country's first Framework for 21st Century Learning, released in August an updated version of its framework that addresses two key questions of the U.S. education system:

What are the skills, knowledge and expertise today's students must master to compete globally and become successful 21st Century citizens?

What are the critical support systems schools need to produce 21st century teaching and learning outcomes?

Continued on Page 12 See [eLearning](#)

www.bdpa-dc.org



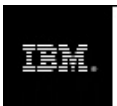
With only one senior headed to college this year and having finished third place in Los Angeles last year, the 2007 Washington, D.C. High School Computer Competition (HSCC) team secured second place during this year's conference in August. As this year's reigning Northeast Regional HSCC Champions, they are poised to capture thousands of additional scholarship dollars with a National Title in 2008. Read more on [Page 10](#).

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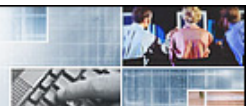
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Now accepting enrollments from Junior and High School students for Fall and Winter 2007 sessions. For more information, call (202) 584-1898 to register as a student. Instructor-mentor, parent-student teams, JEF scholarships and internships with JEF also are available.

Contact: Dr. Jesse Bemley
(202) 584-1898
www.jef.org

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SECURING TOMORROW TODAY



September 2007



Dear Members and Associates,

On behalf of the Washington, D.C. Chapter of BDPA, I deeply appreciate our opportunity in welcoming you to the District of Columbia to attend another very exciting Annual Legislative Conference hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. (CBCF.)

This year, we will continue to leverage CBCF's venue by attending workshops and promoting professional networking activities thus preserving our very rich legacy of reaching out to our diverse communities. Moreover, BDPA continues to support training, preparing, mentoring, and hiring tomorrow's workforce. We also provide new advances in technology with exciting opportunities for BDPA professionals and BDPA student members in government, emerging industry sectors, and academia.

Congressional support of our National High School Computer Competition (HSCC) programs, Youth Technology Conferences, and regional IT Showcases will help BDPA continue to bring technical advances from industry to the forefront of Minority Serving Institutions (MSI's) and underserved communities.

For returning BDPA members who recently attended our National Technology Conference last month, we enthusiastically applaud your Chapter's continued efforts in cultivating relationships with your Senators and Congresspersons in the House of Representatives while developing innovative Government Relations programs for BDPA Chapters.

Take with you exciting new partnerships with many strategic lessons from CBCF's 37th Annual Legislative Conference. Our Chapter welcomes continued support of infrastructure upgrades for MSI's, economic development initiatives, diversity in technology, and advocates corporate growth for Small Businesses.

With very warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,

Perry Carter
President
BDPA Washington, D.C. Chapter

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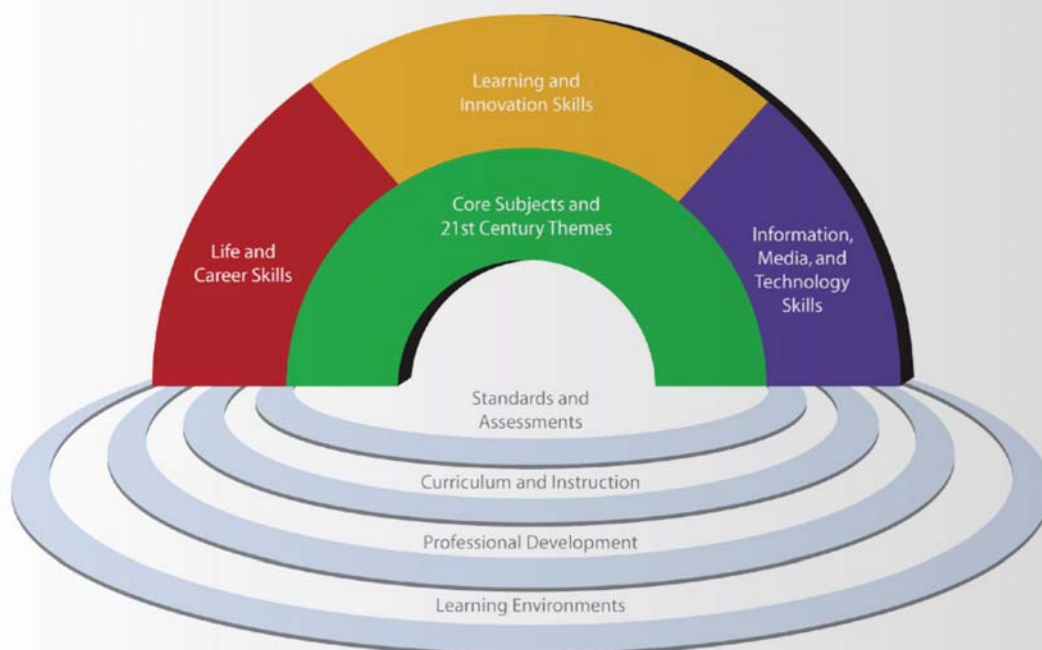
Framework for 21st Century Learning

Member Organizations

- Adobe Systems Inc.
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- Apple
- AT&T
- Blackboard Inc.
- Cable in the Classroom
- Cisco Systems Inc.
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting
- Davis Publications Inc.
- Dell Inc.
- Discovery Education
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- Intel Foundation
- JA Worldwide
- KnowledgeWorks Foundation
- LeapFrog SchoolHouse
- McGraw-Hill Education
- Microsoft Corporation
- National Education Association
- Oracle Education Foundation
- Pearson Education
- PolyVision
- SAP
- SAS Institute
- Texas Instruments
- THINKronize
- Thomson Gale
- Verizon

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills has developed a vision for 21st century student success in the new global economy.

21st Century Student Outcomes and Support Systems



21ST CENTURY STUDENT OUTCOMES

The elements described in this section as “21st century student outcomes” (represented by the rainbow) are the skills, knowledge and expertise students should master to succeed in work and life in the 21st century.

Core Subjects and 21st Century Themes

Mastery of **core subjects and 21st century themes** is essential for students in the 21st century. Core subjects include English, reading or language arts, world languages, arts, mathematics, economics, science, geography, history, government and civics.

We believe schools must move beyond a focus on basic competency in core subjects to promoting understanding of academic content at much higher levels by weaving **21st century interdisciplinary themes** into core subjects:

- **Global Awareness**
- **Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy**
- **Civic Literacy**
- **Health Literacy**

Publication date: 07/23/07

Learning and Innovation Skills

Learning and innovation skills are what separate students who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments in the 21st century and those who are not. They include:

- **Creativity and Innovation**
- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
- **Communication and Collaboration**

Information, Media and Technology Skills

People in the 21st century live in a technology and media-driven environment, marked by access to an abundance of information, rapid changes in technology tools and the ability to collaborate and make individual contributions on an unprecedented scale. To be effective in the 21st century, citizens and workers must be able to exhibit a range of functional and critical thinking skills, such as:

- **Information Literacy**
- **Media Literacy**
- **ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy**

Life and Career Skills

Today's life and work environments require far more than thinking skills and content knowledge. The ability to navigate the complex life and work environments in the globally competitive information age requires students to pay rigorous attention to developing adequate life and career skills, such as:

- **Flexibility and Adaptability**
- **Initiative and Self-Direction**
- **Social and Cross-Cultural Skills**
- **Productivity and Accountability**
- **Leadership and Responsibility**

21ST CENTURY SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Developing a comprehensive framework for 21st century learning requires more than identifying specific skills, content knowledge, expertise and literacies. An innovative support system must be created to help students master the multi-dimensional abilities required of them in the 21st century. The Partnership has identified five critical support systems that ensure student mastery of 21st century skills:

- **21st Century Standards**
- **Assessment of 21st Century Skills**
- **21st Century Curriculum and Instruction**
- **21st Century Professional Development**
- **21st Century Learning Environments**

For more information, visit the Partnership's website at www.21stcenturyskills.org.



The Washington, D.C. Chapter of BDPA (BDPA-DC) serves the District of Columbia, Southern Maryland, and BDPA Chapters by identifying industry resources for BDPA Members and corporate sponsors. BDPA-DC owns strategic relationships within the National Capital Region (NCR) and is available to provide research and development support to other non-profits for legislative or I.T. agenda items, which transcend industry sectors or vertical markets.

Representative	Roles and Committees	Suggested Projects To Fund
Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-District of Columbia)	Homeland Security Oversight and Government Reform Transportation and Infrastructure	BDPA Washington, D.C. Chapter For current Chapter Programs, visit: www.bdpa-dc.org
Rep. James P. Moran (D-08 Virginia)	Appropriations Committee	BDPA NoVA Chapter Alexandria JobLINK—CDDI Community Digital Divide Initiative Visit: www.cddi.us
Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Maryland)	Appropriations Health, Education, Labor, Pensions Select Committee on Intelligence	BDPA Baltimore Chapter National BDPA Office--Largo, MD Maryland HBCU/MI and Internet-2
Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Maryland)	Budget Environment and Public Works Foreign Relations Judiciary Security & Cooperation in Europe Small Business & Entrepreneurship	BDPA Baltimore Chapter National BDPA Office--Largo, MD Maryland HBCU/MI Infrastructure
Rep. John P. Sarbanes (D-03 Maryland)	Oversight and Government Reform Natural Resources Education and Labor	BDPA Baltimore Chapter BDPA Chesapeake /Annapolis CIG Anne Arundel County HSCC Team
Rep. Albert Wynn (D-04 Maryland)	Energy and Commerce	BDPA Prince George's County CIG Prince George's County HSCC
Rep. Steny H. Hoyer (D-05 Maryland)	House Majority Leader	BDPA Prince George's County CIG BDPA Charles County CIG & HSCC BDPA PAX River CIG & HSCC
Rep. Roscoe G. Bartlett (R-06 Maryland)	Armed Services Science and Technology Small Business	BDPA Baltimore Chapter BDPA Montgomery County CIG Montgomery County HSCC Team
Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D-07 Maryland)	Armed Services Oversight and Government Reform Transportation and Infrastructure	BDPA Baltimore Chapter BDPA Howard County CIG Howard County HSCC Team
Rep. Chris Van Hollen, Jr. (D-08 Maryland)	Ways and Means Oversight & Government Reform	BDPA Montgomery County CIG Montgomery County HSCC Team

In 2008, voters will elect representatives to the 111th Congress in the next General Election. The following bills pending in the first session of the 110th Congress likely will be used as a catalyst to craft new commerce, education, technology or telecommunication legislation. Contact a BDPA Chapter or Chapter Interest Group (CIG) for more information at: **800.727.2372** (BDPA).



Bill Number	Pending Legislation and Bill's Purpose	Community Implications
H.R.3144	<p>Summary: To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide penalties for sex offenders who access social networks on the Internet, and for other purposes. Sponsor(s): McMorris; Rodgers Status: Introduced On August 10, 2007--Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.</p>	<p>Funded opportunities or grants may exist for online training and social networking awareness programs for your community. Excellent opportunities for BDPA Chapters to leverage MySpace.com and YouTube portals for community outreach goals.</p>
S.1965	<p>Summary: A bill to protect children from cyber crimes, including crimes by online predators, to enhance efforts to identify and eliminate child pornography, and to help parents shield their children from inappropriate material. Sponsor(s): Stevens Status: Introduced On August 2, 2007--Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.</p>	<p>Funded opportunities or grants may exist for training and awareness programs in your community. Excellent opportunities for BDPA Chapters and faith-based organizations to collaborate with participating families on local outreach efforts for parents and children.</p>
H.R.3155	<p>Summary: To amend titles 17 and 18, United States Code, to strengthen the protection of intellectual property, and for other purposes. Sponsor(s): Chabot Status: Introduced On July 24, 2007--Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	<p>If passed will authorize the FBI to create an operational unit to coordinate international enforcement of intellectual property laws; provides civil forfeiture of property or equipment (cameras, DVD recorders) used to facilitate these infringements.</p>
H.R.948	<p>Summary: Social Security Number Protection Act of 2007 Sponsor(s): Markey Status: On July 20, 2007-- House Committee on Ways and Means granted an extension for further consideration ending no later than September 7, 2007.</p>	<p>If passed will render use of SSNs on the Internet, ID cards, passwords, and websites unlawful. Contracting opportunities may exist to help enforce the new law, for web site upgrades, or to improve software.</p>
H.R.1689	<p>Summary: To provide support to combat illegal downloading on college and university campuses. Sponsor(s): Keller Status: On June 27, 2007-- Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness.</p>	<p>If passed, establishes pilot programs and initiatives on college campuses to reduce illegal downloading of copyrighted content. Funded opportunities may exist for training and awareness programs.</p>
S.1650	<p>Summary: Minority Serving Institution (MSI) Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act Sponsor(s): Kerry (Boxer, Lott, Smith, Stevens, Webb) Status: On June 27, 2007-- Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably.</p>	<p>If signed in to law, creates a Grants Program for MSI's, creates an office at the National Sciences Foundation (NSF) for MSI Digital and Wireless Technology, and authorizes \$250 million each fiscal year from GFY-08 through GFY-12 beginning OCT 2007.</p>



The "Think Tank" © BDPA-DC

BDPA is privileged to have dedicated volunteers and corporate sponsors networking with area youth to qualify them for internships, scholarships, and coveted slots on one of BDPA's High School Computer Competition (HSCC) Teams. Pictured above (standing l. – r.) are Ed Yeldell, BDPA-DC's HSCC Coordinator; Christopher Lindsay; Lou Shack, Application Development Coach; Airrick Woolen; and Rod Edwards, Web Development Coach. Seated (from l. – r.) are Turkenya Herring, Francisco Nuñez, and Tarik Massac. Regional sponsors included *BE-100* firms RS Information Systems (RSIS) and Tec-Masters (TMI).

Freddie Mac, Merrill Lynch, Microsoft, and Scholarship America Join Regional Chapters Promoting National Technology Conference
 Merrill Lynch hosted a 2-day Minority Business Executive (MBE) retreat and sponsored BDPA-DC's MBE reception. Freddie Mac and BDPA-NoVA sponsored BDPA's Annual Golf Classic in Northern Virginia. Microsoft and Scholarship America made joint televised appearances with BDPA-DC. Shown below, Perry Carter, Host Chapter President with Jeffrey Sapp, Vice President Programs for Scholarship America discuss HSCC and scholarship program opportunities on CBS, W*USA 9's *9 News Now*.



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Information Technology Showcase Prepares Interns For 2008

BDPA Students Present Real-World Innovative Concepts to Industry Judges [*Hiring Managers*]

Allstate Executive Elected To National Office
 National BDPA Chapter Delegates selected Yvette Graham, an Allstate executive and BDPA's Chicago Chapter President, to lead the organization into its next decade. Graham's term as National President begins January 1st, 2010 and as President-Elect beginning January 1st, 2008.



IT Showcase participants from left to right (back row) are Eric Lamison-White, Darren Lamison-White and Delano Robinson. Front row: Dr. Jesse Bemley (JEF), Bryan Bemley and Christian Logins. Mr. Robinson captured first place in the College IT Showcase.

Microsoft Camp Brings Sports, Technology To High School Girls

BDPA Member Leads Winning DigiGirlz' Web-Dev Team For WNBA's Washington Mystics

By Sidney Glass
Contributing Writer,
The Washington Informer

During the recent DigiGirlz camp, hosted by the D.C. Microsoft office, 40 high school girls learned all about technology in the sports industry. The sports industry was the theme of D.C.'s first annual DigiGirlz High Tech Camp. DigiGirlz works to dispel stereotypes about the high-tech industry by providing campers with the opportunity to experience firsthand what it is like to develop cutting-edge technology. The goal of the DigiGirlz camp is to educate and inspire young women and African Americans to become the professional IT leaders of tomorrow. Currently, only four out of 100 Computer Scientists are African American. "DigiGirlz aims to boost the declining enrollment of women majoring in science, engineering, and mathematics programs. We want more women to know that that they can excel in these subjects," said Donna Woodall, community outreach director for Microsoft.

"There is a prevailing myth that technology is for boys. We are hosting this DigiGirlz camp to dispel that myth." During this three-day camp, participants were mentored by female Microsoft executives, attended a session on robotics, learned about the vital role technology plays in the medical industry, and explored the fundamentals of web design.

Another exciting aspect of this camp was the trip to the Verizon Center to meet with the Washington Mystics to discover the integral role that technology plays in the sporting industry. During this visit, campers



Ms. Danna Jennings (Microsoft), Dr. Jesse Bemley (JEF), and Ms. Jessye Bemley (NC A&T State University) deliberate shortly after DigiGirlz presentations on robotics and nanotechnology. Jessye's DigiGirlz team, "JACK DAN," developed this year's winning website recently selected by the Washington Mystics' fans. For the winning site, visit: http://www.wnba.com/mystics/kids/digigirlz_070810.html

learned how technology is involved in just about every aspect of sporting events ranging from the tickets and the electronic scoreboards, to the handheld personal data assistants (PDAs) that keep Mystics players in touch with their families while they are traveling on the road.

After meeting the Mystics, the DigiGirlz returned to the Microsoft D.C. office to meet with their mentors, form teams and begin the rigorous task of designing a Web page for the Mystics. This camp caused some young women to change their future career outlook. "DigiGirlz camp opens the eyes of many young Black women and gives us the opportunity to learn about technology and software from

experts at Microsoft," said high school junior Brittany Wynn. "I always thought I wanted to be a lawyer but this program has opened my eyes and now I want to be a software engineer."

The DigiGirlz teams' web site is hosted on the Mystics' Website and the Mystics' fans had the chance to vote on their favorite page during the week of BDPA's National Technology Conference in Washington. On Aug. 14th, at half time, the DigiGirlz went to center court where the winning team's site was announced. Woodall gave the DigiGirlz this advice, "Pursue your passion and push all the other noise out. You will be successful if you pursue what you are truly passionate about."



eLearning--Continued from Front Page

The newly revised framework addresses these key questions by developing a clear vision for 21st century student outcomes in the new global economy. It also for the first time defines how school systems can best support these outcomes by focusing diligently on 21st century standards, assessments, professional development, curriculum and instruction, and learning environments.

Karen Cator, chair of the Partnership for 21st Century Skills and director of education leadership for Apple, explained that while the Partnership's new framework outlines a clear distinction between the 21st century student outcomes and the critical school support systems that are needed to help students master the multi-dimensional capabilities required of them in the 21st century, "all the components must be fully interconnected in the process of 21st century teaching and learning."

This new framework provides a "compelling roadmap for the entire education system to help students learn the skills they need to thrive in an increasingly global, interconnected workforce and society," said Bernie Trilling, Partnership board member and senior director of the Oracle Education Foundation. "The education system must move beyond its current focus on basic competency in core subjects to promoting deeper understanding and real-world applications of content. Weaving 21st century interdisciplinary themes and learning projects throughout the core curriculum will go a long way toward engaging students in acquiring essential 21st century skills."

An example of these skills can be found in a new framework category, created by the Partnership, called learning and innovation skills. These skills are increasingly recognized as distinguishing those students who can thrive in the complex life and work environments of the 21st century. The Partnership's framework advocates for a focus on creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration as essential to preparing students for the future. Mastery of information, media and technology skills is also an essential part of 21st century skills outcomes, said Charles Fadel, Partnership board member and global lead for education, Cisco Systems Inc.

"We live and work in a technology and media-driven environment, marked by access to an abundance of information, rapid changes in technology tools, and the ability to collaborate and make individual contributions on an unprecedented scale. To be effective in the 21st century, today's students must be able to exhibit a range of functional and critical thinking skills related to information, media and technology," Fadel said.

Another key element of 21st century student outcomes, life and career skills, such as flexibility, innovation, self direction, social and cross cultural skills, as well as leadership and responsibility, are increasingly being identified by U.S. employers as the skills they need from their 21st century workforce.

According to a 2006 workforce survey sponsored by the Partnership, The Conference Board, Corporate Voices for Working Families and the Society for Human Resource Management, the majority of recent hires are not demonstrating these essential skills.

"Today's life and work environments require far more than thinking skills and content knowledge. The ability to navigate the complex life and work environments in the globally competitive information age requires students to pay rigorous attention to developing adequate life and career skills," said Partnership President Ken Kay.

Kay stressed that the importance of the proper school support systems cannot be overlooked or undervalued if we want to produce 21st century outcomes for our students. "21st century standards, assessments, curriculum, instruction, professional development and learning environments/essential conditions must be aligned to produce a support system that guarantees 21st century outcomes for today's students," he said.

For more information on the Partnership's expanded frame-work, contact:

Jill Tyler
Partnership for 21st Century Skills
520-623-2466

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BDPA's career center has an updated resume databank to post resumes and career vitae for exposure to the best companies in the world for Information Technology positions at all levels. We have an excellent search facility in the form of a Job Bank that allows one to search for the perfect position for matching a specific skill set.

The career center has support services from career coaches that will assist users in getting careers back on track or reaching the next levels of advancement. These support services also extend to salary surveys thus allowing users to see how competitive a salary is in relation to other parts of the country and to other IT positions. These services allow users to view the fastest growing positions in the [IT] industry and connect with resources for a full job outlook.

The career center also supports IT college students with a Student Internship Program to include resources to assist first-time workforce entrants in securing desired college internships over the summer or any time during the course of a school year. BDPA should be one of the first stops in fulfilling all of your career goals and meeting IT professionals in every industry sector.

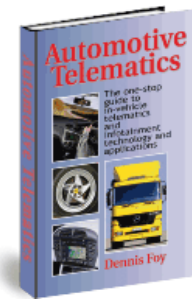
The next opportunity to network and interface with industry is **September, 13-14 2007** in Washington, D.C. during the 25th Annual Minority Enterprise Development Week (MED*Week 25). Registration and reservation details are available

online by visiting www.medweek.gov. 

Send IT job announcements or career opportunity web banner links to:
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– Jonathan Loretto, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young



Telematics | IT Careers in Transportation

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http://dcop.dc.gov/services/employmt_opp/index.shtm

Maryland Department of Transportation Jobs

http://www.mdot.state.md.us/Employment_Jobs/index.html



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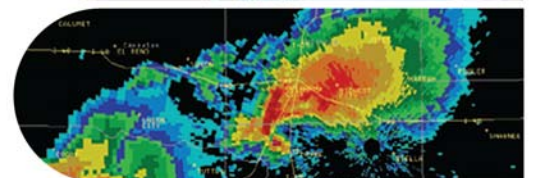
For nearly 15 years, with the guidance and vision of our President and CEO, Rodney P. Hunt, RS Information Systems, Inc. has effectively leveraged business process re-engineering, information technology, engineering management, and scientific applications to become a leading African-American-owned federal service provider.

Through an early understanding of the value of diversity in the workplace, comprehensive business planning, performance-based support, strategic partnerships, and small business mentoring, we have solidified and expanded RSIS from a two-person company to a leader in our industry, which enables and empowers its customers to advance their missions.

One of RSIS' most important resources has always been our diversified talent base. Our workforce is comprised of 65% minorities, women, veterans, or disabled individuals, currently supporting 100 prime contracts with a wide range of defense, civilian, intelligence and law enforcement agencies.

A hallmark of Mr. Hunt's visionary leadership is his continual commitment to the company's mission, business niche, and our corporate values and ethics, which include supporting, honoring, and when possible, improving our employees, customers, partners, and communities.

As we continue to build a broad-based legacy of excellence in the world of technology services, we are proud to honor and celebrate the success of like-minded organizations such as the Black Data Processing Associates. Keep up the good work.



RS Information Systems, Inc.
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In October's issue of **bdpatoday**, discover technology grants, new federal careers, and innovative small business opportunities our next Federal fiscal year may provide for Minority Serving Institutions, and emerging BDPA Chapters.



GFY-08 begins October 1, 2007.

For the latest news, visit:

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bdpatoday OCTOBER 2007
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- Minority Business Executive Programs
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