NCWIT Academic Alliance Agreement of Membership Expectations  
January 2016

The National Center for Women in Information Technology's (NCWIT, www.ncwit.org) mission is "to ensure that women are fully represented in the influential world of information technology and computing". The NCWIT Academic Alliance (AA) is the community of academic units (departments, schools, colleges, or other appropriate entities) that share NCWIT's mission and goals, working collectively to help achieve NCWIT's fundamental strategy 'to educate, disseminate, and advocate a national, multi-year implementation plan that generates tangible progress within 20 years." Membership in the Academic Alliance is determined by the NCWIT Executive Team and the co-chairs of the Academic Alliance.

The expectations on members of the AA -- and on NCWIT itself -- are not legally binding in any sense, but instead provide a driver intended to help aggressively push NCWIT's agenda forward in a way consistent with the goals of academia. As achieving these expectations cannot be satisfied by an individual, membership in the AA represents an intention shared across multiple members of the academic unit.

Membership in the AA is free and automatic for academic institutions participating in NCWIT.

AA Member Institutions: AA Member Institutions, abbreviated as AA Member or simply Member, have access to leading-edge best practices for recruiting and retaining women, opportunities to attend workshops and compare practices with other Member Institutions, the ability to advertise programs, achievements, and faculty openings on the NCWIT website, and participation in NCWIT marketing and branding campaigns.

The AA Member Institutions are expected to:

- Select a goal that will help diversify computing at your institution (NCWIT has examples and a tool to capture and share this goal);
- Take actions - primarily local, but also more broadly, as appropriate - that are intended to make progress towards the goals of NCWIT;
- Participate regularly in AA meetings, events, and activities;
- Share experiences with and provide advice to other AA Member Institutions;
- Link to the AA website.

NCWIT is expected to:

- Work with all member units to help achieve NCWIT’s mission;
- Subject to NCWIT’s sole discretion, provide direct and indirect opportunities for funding to support programs and research consistent with NCWIT’s mission;
- Provide information about practices that have been attempted that are consistent with the pursuit of NCWIT’s mission;
- Share aggregate data gathered from the collective membership, subject to any legal or confidentiality limitations to the contrary;
- Link to the AA member's website.

The organization is the NCWIT member and each organization needs to have at least one member representative. These AA member representatives serve as the official point(s) of contact between their institution and the AA.

Member representatives are expected to:

- Inform their institution’s administration and any AA Affiliates from their institution about AA activities;
- Assist their institution in meeting the expectations of AA Member Institutions.

There are two types of member representatives within the AA:

- Core member: This is the main point of contact between NCWIT and the organization. This member should be the most active member with NCWIT.
- Affiliate member: This member has an interest in participating in AA activities, but is not the main person NCWIT may contact.