On behalf of the college, it’s my pleasure to welcome you to this no-holds-barred hackathon. Competitions like this demonstrate that VCU Engineering was — and is — the engineering program built on public-private partnerships. Your assistance is what makes it possible for us to ask our students to gather their most daring ideas and come up with astonishing innovations in just 24 hours.

Thank you for your support.

— Barbara D. Boyan, Ph.D.
Alice T. and William H. Goodwin, Jr. Dean
VCU College of Engineering

As the Department of Computer Science chair, it is my pleasure to announce the seventh year of RamHacks, VCU College of Engineering’s premier hackathon. We are excited to organize and host this event — and develop a lasting partnership with your company. By partnering with the Department of Computer Science, your company engages students from across the region and enhances their creative and programming skills. Thank you for considering a partnership with RamHacks.

— Krzysztof J. Cios, Ph.D.
Chair
Department of Computer Science
Who we are
The RamHacks organizing committee of the VCU Department of Computer Science.

The hackathon
RamHacks is a 24-hour programming marathon for innovative developers from a variety of universities to design and implement a software or hardware application. Sponsors provide specific themes and challenges, and competitors take them on. This will be the seventh hackathon organized at the VCU College of Engineering. Our goal this year is 400 participants.

Students work in teams of up to four members. Cross-university teams are encouraged. RamHacks gives creative programmers a chance to innovate together. We host this hackathon to ignite the spirits of students in a competition with no creative boundaries.

Why RamHacks?
RamHacks is an opportunity for technology-driven companies of all sizes to engage with VCU College of Engineering — and recruit the next generation of highly skilled workers.

Benefits of sponsorship
• Recognition at the event
• Company branding on RamHacks materials
• An interactive networking opportunity with a recruitment pool of 400 students
• New API/software demonstrations

How sponsors can help
Sponsors make this hackathon possible by providing funds for food, beverages, security, housekeeping and other costs. Any surpluses go to the Department of Computer Science for future events, undergraduate research and more.

How to become a sponsor
Visit us in person, or go online at RamHacks.vcu.edu. Checks may be made payable to the VCU College of Engineering Foundation for RamHacks.

For more information about the event, contact:

Alberto Cano, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Computer Science
(804) 827-4002
acano@vcu.edu

Previous sponsors' placement on RamHacks T-Shirts
RamHacks isn’t just an opportunity to attract award-winning talent — it’s a chance to show what your company can do by tapping into some of the most innovative minds in the country.

**Sponsorship Tiers**

**Platinum** $10,000
Event co-host and keynote speaker
- Top T-shirt logo placement.
- Keynote speech.
- A dinner named after the company.
- All the benefits of the gold, silver, bronze and supporter packages.
- Limited to one sponsor.

**Gold** $7,500
Tutorial sessions and tech talks
- Tutorial session and a tech talk.
- Priority T-shirt logo placement.
- A lunch named after the company.
- All the benefits of the silver, bronze and supporter packages.
- Limited to two sponsors.

**Silver** $5,000
Tech talks
- A tech talk.
- More prominent T-shirt logo placement.
- A meal named after the company.
- All the benefits of the bronze and supporter packages.
- Limited to three sponsors.

**Bronze** $2,500
Create a challenge
- Representative and booth at the event.
- Access to participants’ resumes.
- All the benefits of the supporter package.

**Support** $1,000
Show your support with a presence at the event
- Logo on t-shirts.
- Opportunity to judge entries.

For information about sponsorship and benefits, contact:

**Philip O’Connor**
Executive Director, College of Engineering Foundation and Corporate Relations
(804) 828-9551 | oconnorpl@vcu.edu

JUDGING

**Waves of Judging**

Judging will be conducted by the official sponsors of RamHacks.

**Overall**
The criteria for judging participants will be based upon:
- Usability
- Functionality
- Innovation
- Use of hardware component (where applicable)
- Aesthetics

**Specific Challenges**
Judged only by the creator of the challenge.

Independent criteria and awards will be based on the sponsor’s preference. A sponsor creating a challenge must provide a judge and an award. Teams are eligible for more than one award.
**SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, Sept. 26**

9 a.m.  Registration
10 a.m.  Opening ceremony and keynote address
10:30 a.m.  Team formation
11 a.m.  Hacking begins
Noon  Gold sponsored lunch
3 p.m.  Tech talk
4 p.m.  Tech talk
6 p.m.  Platinum sponsored dinner
7 p.m.  Tech talk
9 p.m.  Tech talk

**Sunday, Sept. 27**

Midnight  Silver sponsored midnight snack
8 a.m  Silver sponsored breakfast
11 a.m.  Hacking ends
Noon  Gold sponsored lunch
1 p.m.  Expo and judging begins
3:30 p.m.  Closing ceremony

[Schedule may be subject to change]

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**THE TEAM**

The RamHacks organizing committee of the Department of Computer Science is grateful for your involvement with RamHacks. Companies like yours that value innovation, creativity and impact make this hackathon possible. Thank you.

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**Alberto Cano, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor
Department of Computer Science
acano@vcu.edu | (804) 827-4002

**Mosammat Sarker**

ACM-W

**John Naylor**

RamHacks Lead Organizer and RamDev President

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**Mohammad Malik**

Linux User Group
Affiliate Faculty: 9
Graduate Students: 64
Full-time Faculty: 26
Undergraduate Students: 450
Computer Science
Undergraduate Students: 1782
Graduate Students: 309
M.S. Students: 113

RESEARCH Sponsors
- Amazon Machine Learning Awards
- Idaho National Laboratory
- National Institutes of Health
- National Science Foundation
- U.S. Army
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- VCU Innovation Gateway

RESEARCH Areas
- Data security and resilience
- Machine Learning
- Biomedical informatics
- Internet of Things (IoT)
- Recommendation systems for software engineering
- Cryptography and Blockchain

RESEARCH Areas
- Sustainability & Energy Engineering
- Mechanobiology & Regenerative Medicine
- Micro & Electronic Systems
- Cybersecurity
- Pharmaceutical Engineering
- Device Design & Development

STUDENT Orgs
- ACM (Association for Computing Machinery)
- Computer Science Student Advisory Board
- ACM-W (ACM’s Council on Women in Computing)
- Ram Development @ VCU
- Cyberdefenders @ VCU
- Linux User Group @ VCU

BY THE NUMBERS
VCU College of Engineering
Female Students: 25%
Median Admit SAT: 1288
Average Admit GPA: 3.95

3 Undergraduate Programs
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
  (Virginia’s first ABET-accredited CS program)
- Accelerated Bachelor of Science / Master of Science in Computer Science
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Computer Science

5 Graduate Programs
- Master of Science in Computer Science
- Ph.D. in Engineering – Computer Science Track
- Dual Ph.D. Program with University of Cordoba, Spain
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Cybersecurity
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Data Science

BY THE NUMBERS
VCU College of Engineering
1288 Median Admit SAT
3.95 Average Admit GPA

International Students/Latinx: 47.3%
Black/African-American: 17.2%
Asian: 13.5%
Hispanic/Latino: 9.9%
2 or More Races: 6.0%
4.7%