

# bonanza

everything but the ordinary

109 W Denny Way #312  
Seattle, WA 98119

Program Officer  
Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Program  
National Science Foundation

Dear NSF Program Officer,

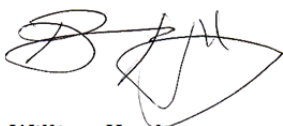
I have read the *Computer Science Access and Opportunity Initiative (CSAOI)* proposal from Kelvin Sung for the NSF S-STEM program regarding recruiting and engaging Game-Themed Computer Science (GTCS) scholars in Computer Science discipline. I believe that the experience and discipline that students will learn in this program could serve as a platform for a lifetime of success. I believe Professor Sung is the ideal mentor to help these students thrive.

I graduated from Computing and Software Systems Program (CSS) at the University of Washington Bothell (UWB) in 2004. The CSS program provided a concrete technical preparation for me to secure my job with Amaze Entertainment, as a beginning game programmer. Using the experience I gained at UWB, I was able to become a Lead Developer at Amaze Entertainment within 3 years. Shortly thereafter, I went on to found the web site that became Bonanza.com, where I currently serve as the CEO of a diverse and rapidly growing team. In early 2014, our site was voted by more than 10,000 online sellers as a better selling platform than eBay, Amazon or Etsy (via Ecommercebytes.com). My career trajectory has been a testament to how technology can contribute to society and help students go on to a rich and fulfilling lifestyle.

I am excited by Professor Sung's CSAOI proposal and I am committed to support this project serving as an industry mentor. In my mentorship role, I will:

- Meet with a GTCS scholar once or twice each year to learn about the student, to share with the student my personal and professional experience at CSS and at my current job.
- Participate as a panelist at CSS answering students' questions regarding my job, career, and experience as a CS major student.
- Host GTCS scholars at my workplace giving them a guided tour and description of my job.
- Work with the HR department to explore internship opportunities for the GTCS scholars.

Thank you very much for your consideration of Professor Sung's proposal.



William Harding  
CEO, Bonanza.com