Faculty of Natural & Mathematical Sciences

Gender Equality Student Fund: Techference 2016

Techference is a conference that brings together people from industry as well as academics to give exciting and various talks for King's College London students and staff. The topics of the talks range from curiosities and practices in fields such as Artificial Intelligence, Security to personal student experiences.

This year, Mike Elsmore from IBM Cloudant was the keynote speaker sharing his experiences as a Developer Evangelist, as well as providing insight into different technologies used by IBM Cloudant. Dr. Andrew Coles gave an intriguing talk on Artificial Intelligence and Planning; including how this can enhance lives both as developers and humans in general.
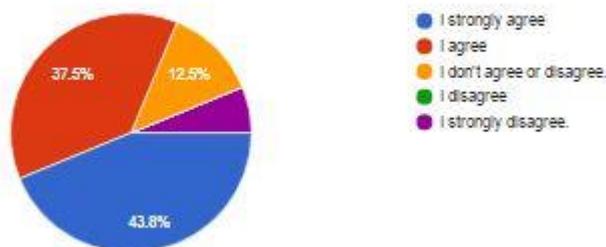
The aim of Techference is to promote and sustain diversity in all of its forms, so included was a talk regarding Women in STEM and its influences at King's College London delivered by Beatrice Bergami (1st year) and Maria Vrabie (3rd year). The talk offered insights into the very first women in Tech, as well as their own experiences as international students in a STEM field here at King's.

"Seeing that I am supported here to follow what I like to do is just awesome" Beatrice said in their talk. Also, Maria added: "I wouldn't see myself doing a degree that is not in the STEM area; I really love the science behind everything!"

After attending the Women in STEM and Gender Equality talk (16 responses)

- I know more about famous women in STEM.
- I found the real life examples of Beatrice and Maria inspiring.
- The talk did not make any impact on my knowledge.
- I did not attend the talk.
- Other

There is a problem with stereotypes when it comes to women studying STEM subjects.
(16 responses)

- I strongly agree
- I agree
- I don't agree or disagree.
- I disagree
- I strongly disagree.

Alex Telek (3rd year), the President of KCL Tech Society: "We are open to everyone, regardless of gender or other differences. We are here to support Gender Equality and to promote Diversity in all forms. Especially Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is a field that interests us, and we're trying to reach out and make everyone feel comfortable and welcomed in the community. We encourage people to do what they love to do, to be different and see things differently."

The KCL Tech Society is run by and made for people who are passionate about tech entrepreneurship and building interesting products. We want to bring together students with different skill sets from various disciplines and degrees to create an innovative and supportive community of likeminded people.

Our aim is to connect students to industry as well as organise events and workshops to develop skills and expertise relevant to current tech trends. Whether you are interested in becoming a graphic design pro with Photoshop, or want to learn how to start programming – KCL Tech society will organise such events.

We are growing bigger and bigger, and we impact the lives of so many people, so if you want to keep an eye on us, or even to become a member, take a look on our website www.kcl.tech