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NEWSLETTER

# WELCOME TO THE NERD HERD

## NOW RECRUITING

The Nerd Herd is looking for diligent individuals who would like to serve as club officers next semester. If you are interested in being involved on campus and organizing IT related events, please contact the Nerd Herd advisor, Professor Asmaa Elbadrawy at [Asmaa.Elbadrawy@asu.edu](mailto:Asmaa.Elbadrawy@asu.edu).



### What is Nerd Herd?

The Nerd Herd is a student led organization within Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering at Arizona State University. Our mission is to promote and support the growing community of students within the Information Technology program. For more information on how to get involved with the Nerd Herd, please visit:

<https://nerdherd.engineering.asu.edu/> and <https://orgsync.com/164992/chapter>.

### Upcoming Events

The 8th Annual Pitchfork Awards is set for Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at the Student Pavilion on the Tempe campus. Try to attend and cheer for awardees who could receive the titles of Emerging Leader, Outstanding Undergraduate Student Leader, Most Promising New Student Organization, Outstanding Undergraduate Student Organization, and more!

The Nerd Herd is preparing for its first Big Data Analytics Event as well! This event will include a workshop on the basics of data mining and analytics, as well as a data analysis challenge.

### Past Events

The Nerd Herd held an interactive session on “Fixing Phishing: Web Authentication and the End of Passwords” by our guest speaker J.C. Jones, one of the authors of the Web Authentication specification at the W3C!

The Nerd Herd also held the Nerd Hack event, which was a 20-hour university hackathon at the Polytechnic campus. Students from different backgrounds came together to transform their ideas into reality. Students developed products, gained new skill sets, or just had fun working on a project over weekend with their friends.

## Alumni Talk

**Elizabeth Joshi**

**MS IT Class of 2017**

Working as a Network Security Engineer at Facebook, Elizabeth develops software applications and tools to protect the security and privacy of over a billion people. As advice to the students she says, “Start everything early. Apply for internships early, start preparing for interviews, understand what is needed out there and mold yourself to that. It is not a fast process and giving ample time will lead to rewards later! Find out what you really want to do. Shortlist the jobs that you see yourself doing and build on that. Also, talk to as many people as you can in your field and always be open to learn. Good luck!”

**Pramod Mekapothula**

**MS IT Class of 2017**

Working as a Software Engineer at Edgenuity, Pramod works with cloud and microservices to build new blended learning solutions. As advice to the students he says, “In my experience, the first step in building a successful career in IT is to choose a field that excites you the most like Machine Learning, Full Stack Development, DevOps, etc. Then, work towards becoming an expert in that field. When it comes to jobs, you should consider building your profile by working on projects, contributing to the open source projects, and creating a personal website for branding. Try to keep yourself updated with current technologies being used in the industry and your field of interest. Keep learning and be confident. All the best!”

Best of luck Sun Devils!

