Howard to Receive Huge Software Grants From Siemens

Contributed by Evan Hollins -- Black College Wire Wednesday, 17 June 2009

In-kind donations total more than \$150 million

American electronics company Siemens unveiled plans recently to make a series of software donations to Howard University, totaling more than \$150 million.

Siemens product life management (PLM) software is a business unit of the Siemens Industrial Automation Divisible and a leading global provider of PLM software and services. The grant was initiated through Dean James Johnson and the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences. However, it is available to the entire university.

The announcement was made at the Business Software Alliance CEO Forum, a gathering of chief executives from the software and computer hardware industries held in Washington, D.C.

The in-kind grants were made through Siemens PLM Software's GO PLM Program, and include engineering software, student/instructor training and specialized certification programs that are designed for manufacturing, engineering, industrial design and other programs and forms of technology.

&Idquo;Howard University was chosen to receive this GO PLM Grant because of its outstanding PLM Collaboration Proposal, its gifted students and dedicated faculty, and wisdom / foresight of its leaders," said Hulas King, Director of Community Relations for Siemens.

Howard joins 49 TOP rated Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education (PACE) institutions globally who are preparing to be the next generation PLM Engineers.

Students and faculty are excited about the grant, many stating that it was much needed.

"I'm excited about the grant because it will help open a lot of doors for fellow Howard students," said Michael Hamilton, a sophomore telecommunications management major. "Colleges and schools at Howard are in need of such grants to establish itself as one of the nation's leading research institutions."

Siemens PLM Software works collaboratively with companies to deliver open solutions that help them turn more ideas into successful products.

The GO PLM initiative leads the electronics industry in the commercial value of the in-kind grants it provides and brings together four complementary community involvement programs focused on academic partnership, regional productivity, youth and displaced worker development and the PACE program.

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Evan Hollins writes for The Hilltop, the Howard University student newspaper, which originally published this article.