

THE ASSOCIATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

STEM Technology in Business



Make an App Workshop

LINK FOR OUR WORKSHOP

[HTTPS://NMSU.ZOOM.US/J/4464290229](https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/4464290229)

The Association of Information Technology Professionals will be hosting their first virtual make an app workshop. Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes of a mobile app? Do you feel too intimidated to learn about technology? Join AITP for their free Make an App Workshop! No coding experience is required to join. Meetings will take place every other Thursday starting September 3, 2020. Register today to let them know you are coming!

Are you interested in learning more about AITP? AITP is open to all majors/levels and the best part is that no technological skills or fees are required to join their local and national association. They are a group of NMSU students exploring the advancements of technology in business. Join AITP's Zoom workshops and venture into the information technology world.

AITP MEETINGS ON
THURSDAYS

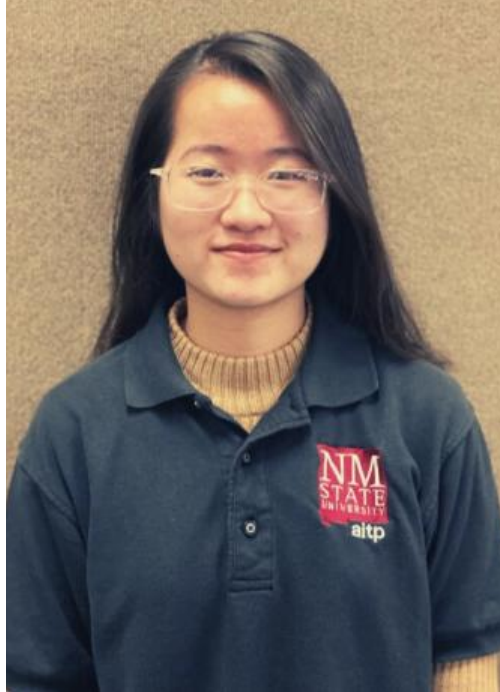
MAKE AN APP
WORKSHOP

DATES: 9/3 9/17 10/1
10/15 10/29 11/12 12/3

5:00PM-6:00PM
ON ZOOM

CONTACT US:

RAJAA SHINDI
DEPARTMENT OF
ACCOUNTING AND
INFORMATION SYSTEMS
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
RSHINDI@NMSU.EDU



**" I must say that this
is the most challenging, evolving, exhilarating, grateful,
satisfying
experience I could ever have in my entire life. "**

This Month's Student Spotlight

INFORMATION SYSTEM'S INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND AITP
MEMBER

ZOEY LEE

INTERVIEW BY: YANIN SANCHEZ

Zoey first heard about AITP through her professor Rajaa Shindi who is not only an Information Systems instructor at NMSU but also the lead advisor for the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP). When Zoey attended her first AITP meeting, she was timid and shy, but the members and officers were all very welcoming. That night, Zoey left the meeting with new friends and a new title. She became AITP's Director of Finance and handled the associations fundraising events, financial, and administrative duties of the association.

After a a semester as AITP's Director of Finance, Zoey was presented an opportunity to join an internship at NMSU's Center for Community Analysis. The skills she learned from her semesters as a student and as a member of AITP, prepared her for her internship experience.

AITP's members are very proud of Zoey's accomplishments as an NMSU student and member of AITP. Through sharing Zoey's story, AITP members hope to inspire students to make the most out of their time as NMSU students by joining clubs and organizations that will supplement their education.

Can you tell us your name, where you are from, and your major?

I prefer to be called Zoey but my native name is Thao. I am pursuing a bachelor's degree with a major in Business Information Systems and a minor in Business Management.

How did you learn about the study abroad opportunity? Did you always know you wanted to study abroad?

My English teacher, who is a good friend of the program director, introduced me to this program. I had never thought I would be studying abroad. I only imagined myself studying in one of the Vietnamese universities. But thanks to my mom, who wants her children to see the world and grow to be open-minded people. I finally got to study overseas.

What was the hardest adjustment you had to make?

Vietnamese people have a high tolerance for silence. In a group of people, some might be so quiet, and others feel fine with it. I could sense silence was something people considered "awkward", so I would force myself to talk. Eventually this adjustment has helped me to become more approachable and sociable than I was before.

What was a problem you faced as an NMSU student and how did you overcome it?

In high school, it was much easier to achieve good standing grades. I got lost in my first semester of freshman. I thought everything was going to be smooth, but I got a B and a C the very first semester. I was shocked! That was the time I realized I needed to be very serious about college. I started to focus more on my self-learning time after class and tried my best to organize my time and be consistent with it.

How are you different? How are you the same after your study abroad experience?

I have changed significantly, in a good way for the better. Compared to who I was before, Zoey from 3 years ago would be so jealous of Zoey today! Now I can deal with deadlines, and pressures better. I feel more connected with people around me. No one knows what will happen in the future, but what comes is always better than what's gone.

What is one thing you would change about your study abroad experience?

I always wish I had spent and invested more time learning about cultures. It took me months to get used to and be comfortable with my new environment. I would have tried to enjoy more of my time since the very first year of my study abroad experience.

What advice would you give to students who are thinking of studying abroad?

I think being abroad is the most precious time everyone should have at least once in life. Being abroad will broaden our vision of the world. I feel so lucky I spent more than a year in a foreign country. I got many chances to meet different people from different backgrounds. Study abroad is hard, but it is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Your favorite place/places in the University?

My favorite place in the University may be the libraries. I always feel cheerful and productive when I am in the libraries. The libraries are the most motivating places to study because all the people around us are focusing on their studying. At the same time they have places to do group projects or to hang out with friends.



Did you join any organizations? If so, which ones and how did they help with your college experience?

I joined AITP, Association Of Information Technology Professionals. AITP was the first student organization I joined during my college years. During my freshman and sophomore years, I was so shy to join any groups, clubs, or student organizations. I was always scared that I couldn't socialize enough to fit in the group. At the end of my second year of college, I got bored of being in class in the morning and at home in the afternoon and doing nothing but homework. I saw an email from AITP and gave it a try. That was the first time I tried to step out of my comfort zone and make a serious commitment to AITP. AITP was my first big step and I want to contribute something to it. I applied for an open director of finance position and this chance brought me so many changes. The team members and I did some fundraising activities, and raised money for our organization. We now have some common topics to talk about and discuss. This is how I shifted myself to a new chapter. I've become more sociable by keeping myself busy with AITP's activities and AITP is an ideal environment where I get a chance to meet friends sharing the same interests. The most important thing is AITP sends us news and the latest information about things I should know for my future career.

Tell us about your internship experience.

By becoming a member of AITP I got a chance at more opportunities. Our advisor, Rajaa Shindi, is always guiding us to open jobs around campus for IS students like me. She sent out an email about a position at the Center for Community Analysis, and it seemed like a very suitable position for me and most of the duties were related to what I am learning currently. Due to Covid-19, I lost my internship with the City of Las Cruces, I decided to give this new position a try and sent out my resume to the team manager. To my surprise, they called me for an interview the next day. I felt so happy about this fortune! I got accepted and started the job a few days after that. I was the only undergraduate student in the team. I felt nervous for the first few days, but everyone was very kind and helpful. They are always willing to spend time explaining and supporting me. A few weeks later, I got used to everything. I helped with small tasks for their large projects, and then eventually started to work on my own. Some of the projects deal with finding data and conducting visualizations. It has been less than three months, but I already feel I have learned and grown so much from it. I thank all the people who have helped me in one way or another to get to where I am today.

"AITP was my first big step and I want to contribute something to it."

