REMINDER: UPE National Convention - We invite all UPE members and their guests to attend the 2012 UPE National Convention (held in conjunction with the 2012 ACM SIGCSE Technical Symposium) in Raleigh, North Carolina on March 2, 2012 [12:10-1:35 PM, Raleigh Convention Center, Room 302AB]. Convention participants will include members of the UPE Executive Council, chapter representatives and advisors, and friends of UPE from the various colleges and universities who are registered for the SIGCSE Symposium. Symposium details can be found at http://www.sigcse.org/sigcse2012/.

UPE Convention highlights

• **Presentation of the ABACUS Award.** UPE is pleased to announce the presence of Dr. Alan Kay, recipient of the 2012 ABACUS Award, at the 2012 UPE Convention. Dr. Kay is a Silicon Valley pioneer and visionary who is credited with the creation of the personal computer along with a wide range of related systems and applications for today’s computing environments. He has received numerous awards including the Charles Draper Prize, the Kyoto Prize and the Turing Award. A more detailed biography of Dr. Kay can be found at http://www.vpri.org/html/people/founders.htm. Dr. Kay will make a UPE convention speech as part of the ABACUS Award presentation.

• **UPE Chapter Reports** – Chapter representatives (students and chapter advisors) are encouraged to make brief presentations that summarize activities of their chapters during the past year. Council will present a $200 cash award to each individual who volunteers to make this presentation. Each presentation will be limited to a brief three-minute report. Presenters are expected to send a one-page draft of their presentation to upe@acm.org no later than February 22, 2012.

• **Council Member Election** – An election to fill a UPE Executive Council vacancy will be held during the 2012 UPE Convention. Candidates for this position must be present at the Convention and each candidate is expected to make a brief speech prior to the election. UPE Executive Council Members serve without pay but may be reimbursed for UPE-related expenses including travel to new chapter installations and other Council-approved UPE activities, including two council meetings each year. Each council member serves a 5-year term and must be an active member of a UPE Chapter. Applications (cover letter and detailed resume/academic vitae) must be sent to upe@acm.org and received no later than February 18, 2012.

**UPE-Sponsored Reception at the 2012 SIGCSE Symposium** – UPE will sponsor a reception for all student volunteers at the 2012 SIGCSE Symposium. This reception will be held on Friday, March 2, 2012 at the Raleigh Marriott Hotel. We encourage UPE members from area institutions to attend the UPE Convention and also serve as volunteers for the SIGCSE Symposium. Interested students can view http://www.sigcse.org/sigcse2012/students/volunteer.php for more information on this volunteer program.