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# SANTA CRUZ TECH BEAT

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## Digest #264

Thank you to **CSUMB** and **Cabrillo College** for renewing their partnerships with us! As always, I'm grateful for [all of Santa Cruz Tech Beat's partners!](#)

Have you heard the phrase "serious game" and do you know what it means? According to [Wikipedia](#), serious games are "video games used by industries like defense, education, scientific exploration, health care, emergency management, city planning, engineering, and politics." They are used outside of entertainment. Find out, below, why serious games are so powerful.

We have another article about using acoustics to combat unproductive open office environments. CruzHacks (at the time I'm writing this) is still looking for mentors and judges for their annual hackathon this weekend at UCSC. Looker looks back at 2018 and delights in stories that *their customers* wrote over the last year.

As usual, there's more! Scroll down and starting reading.

Sara Isenberg  
Founder, Publisher, Editor-in-Chief  
Santa Cruz Tech Beat  
<http://santacruztechbeat.com>

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## Baskin Engineering welcomes 6 new faculty members



## Top Stories

Do you even know what a **"Serious Game"** is? Designed for something other than entertainment, why are they so powerful? [Watch the video.](#)

The Humanities are essential to navigating fake news, targeted ads, and compromised voting systems. The community is invited to ***Questions that Matter: ""Data and Democracy" to be held January 29.*** [Read this article.](#)

Updated headline: Scrappy local startup aims to help companies sell products and services more efficiently using streaming video. [Read this article.](#)

## Our Partners



Digital windows, distraction speakers, dynamic speakers, digital skylights, and even water features create an immersive audio experience. Guess who? [Read this article.](#)

CruzHacks 2019 begins this Friday at UCSC. (At press time, organizers were still seeking mentors and judges. Interested?) [Read this article.](#)

Looker delights in some of the data stories their customers wrote in 2018. [Read this article.](#)

Often overlooked, youth with disabilities are overdue for inclusion in STEM education. [Read this article.](#)

## Jobs/Internships

- [View all job openings](#)
- [Post a job \(free\)](#)

## Events

Note: Dates, times, and locations are all subject to change. Be sure to check the event website, just in case!



- Tue Jan 15, 6pm: [Santa Cruz WordPress Meetup](#) at Cruzio.
- Wed Jan 16, 6:30: [Santa Cruz Bitcoin and Cryptocurrency Meetup](#) at NextSpace.
- Thu Jan 17, 6:30pm: [3rd Annual Titans of Tech](#) at Dream Inn.
- Fri Jan 18 - Sun Jan 20: [CruzHacks 2019](#) at UCSC.
- Tue Jan 22, 6pm: [Startup Monterey Bay Tech Meetup](#), 656 Broadway, Seaside.
- Fri Jan 25 - Sun Jan 27: [Techstars Startup Weekend 2019](#) at CSUMB.
- Tue Jan 29, 7-9pm: [Questions That Matter: Data and Democracy](#) at Kuumbwa Jazz Center.

View more events on  
[our EVENTS page](#).



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