



NC STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Engineering

125
YEARS

CHAMPION OF CHANGE

The White House honors
PhD student **Sina Bahram**
for efforts to make STEM
accessible to people
with disabilities

Bahram one of President Obama's 'Champions of Change'

President Barack Obama recognized Sina Bahram, a North Carolina State University PhD student in the Department of Computer Science, as a "Champion of Change" at a White House ceremony in May.

The award recognizes leaders making significant efforts to make science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) accessible to the disabled. Bahram, who also earned his undergraduate and master's degrees at NC State, conducts research on improving interaction between people and the technology they use. This field of study has special meaning for Bahram, who is blind.

Bahram's goal is to give users with functional limitations or specific needs better access to information. He has already developed a prototype system that allows computer users to access graphical information in an "eyes free" fashion. The system can already be employed to help blind users interact with Google Maps, and more applications are under development.

Bahram attributes much of his success to the support he's received at NC State. He is grateful to his professors for the many hours they have spent working with him outside of class.

"I wouldn't choose to be part of any other university," he said.

For more information, visit www.engr.ncsu.edu/news.

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