1145-N5-671   **Robin L Angotti*** (`riderr@uw.edu`), School of STEM, Campus Box 358538, 18115 Campus Way NE, Bothell, WA 98011, and **Johnny Arenas** (`arenasj@uw.edu`), **Bethany Leach** (`bleach22@uw.edu`) and **Dion Thompson** (`diont2@uw.edu`). *Democratizing Data: Expanding Opportunities for Students in Data Science.*

According to Glassdoor, data science was the hottest job in America the last three years. How can small colleges and universities with no data science program or even a statistics department give students experiences to explore further study or pursue employment in data science after graduation? At one small northwestern university, faculty are piloting an internship program in which an interdisciplinary team of undergraduate students learn how to help university faculty, staff and community partners analyze, visualize, and understand complex data. This allows students to have hands-on practice with software and data science concepts, learn how to communicate with clients, understand large complex data sets, and answer underlying questions the clients are grappling with. Students employ data analysis, visualization techniques, and use of appropriate software tools in an iterative design based cycle to give clients insight on what their data is saying. Students work as a team under the supervision of a faculty member but are responsible for end products and communication with clients. In this talk, undergraduate students involved in this program will present their perspectives and examples of use of common software in solving these real world problems. (Received September 12, 2018)