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IT Apprenticeships A "Win Win" for Students & Employers

Registered apprenticeships combine the concepts of on-the-job training, mentoring, and classroom instruction. Employers can work with EICC staff to design an apprenticeship that meets their business needs and Department of Labor requirements.

Establishing Registered IT Apprenticeships is a grant deliverable for the U.S. Department of Labor IHUM grant. This \$15 million grant is part of the larger federal initiative called Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT). IHUM consists of IT, Health, Utilities, and Manufacturing – its external presence is known as Enhance Iowa, creating signature programs to enhance Iowa's workforce.

Employer Benefits - Training costs are reduced and funding may be available to offset tuition/wages. Latest certifications, skill upgrading. Improve employee retention. Set goals for current employees – create a professional development plan. Resolve issue of hard to place positions. New & existing employees eligible.

Employee/Student Benefits - Learn and Earn! Training costs may be paid for. Structured on-the-job training and classroom instruction. Wages increase as training milestones are reached. Includes quality benefits from employer like medical insurance, retirement plans and vacation days.

Contact Lori Walljasper lwallasper@eicc.edu or Christine Powers cpowers@eicc.edu 563-336-3317 to arrange an informational meeting.



EICC Partners with World Leader in Virtual Reality

The college has announced a new partnership with [EON Reality](#), the world leader in Virtual and Augmented Reality software applications. The partnership establishes an [EON Innovation Academy](#) providing the college's graduates and others with the opportunity to further

develop their skills through project-based learning, working on real customer projects.

The curriculum for the Innovation Academy is divided into two distinct phases. The first is a four-month training program that teaches students the basics of



Augmented and Virtual Reality such as 3D modeling, animation and basic scripting.

The second phase comprises a seven-month real life project work providing students the opportunity to add projects for regional and global companies to their portfolios.

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Top: Team building and problem solving exercises. Bottom: City Council Visit.

IT Students Focus on Soft Skills in Leadership Course

"Most employers tell me that they are looking for information technology students that have excellent people skills as well as technical," says Christine Powers, IT Work-based Coordinator and Adjunct Faculty member. Her course is designed to build leadership, effective communication, and critical thinking skills. *"I cover customer service issues through role play. Success in the work-place can depend on getting along with others and resolving conflict."*

The Leadership and Professionalism class also took a tour of City Hall and attended the September 28th City Council meeting. Mayor Frank Klipsch invited the students to sit in council chairs and explained how the meeting process worked. *"It was an enlightening experience to witness parliamentary procedures first hand and to take part in the local community,"* said student Rodney Riley. *"While I wouldn't want to serve in one of these positions, I am glad that there are people who take the job in order to make our community a better place,"* said student Brandon Howe. Several students have expressed an interest in the City of Davenport Citizen's Academy.

Students See Benefit in Networking—Let's "Meetup"!

Professionals and students gain valuable insights and make great connections when networking. For Information Technology, "Meetups" are growing in popularity. People can go to Meetup.com, create a free profile, then search from groups with common interests. Meetup receives revenue by charging fees to organizers of groups. Some organizers break this expense out among the participants. Meetup, Inc. is based in New York City and was co-founded in 2002 by Scott Heiferman and Matt Meeker.

Thursday September 8th, the Quad City Software Development group met at the Kahl Building. Several students attended and had this to say:



Larry Haufle

"Programing, like every area of technology, is always changing. Skills that we have become proficient with

can lose their value over time as new programming languages become prominent. To be successful you must be a student of your profession and commit to being a lifelong learner. This is why Software Developments groups can be so helpful. When attending these groups, you learn about new trends and how companies are implementing them. The topic that was covered by Adam Brunner was Node.js development. Node.js is a JavaScript run-time environment that is rapidly gaining in popularity. Often we think of enterprise level development being created with a language such as Java. Adam, from John Deere, pointed out that large companies such as Netflix, LinkedIn, Uber, and now John Deere are all currently developing with JavaScript.

He gave strong reasons why many are making the switch. To name one, it is open source, so thousands of developers are working on it. Because it is open source, many tools are available. When problems arise, you will often find the solution has already been

created. For someone who is just starting down this path or is "continuing" their education, this is a great opportunity to keep up with what is currently relevant, learn new skills, and network with people who have years of experience."

"Speaker Adam Brunner talked about his experience with JavaScript and how it changed over the years. Javascript started as a language with very few tools to test it compared to other languages. Then in 2008 a book came out called JavaScript The Good Parts by Douglas Crockford. After this book came out a lot of tools were developed for Javascript that allowed the language to be used for other things than code on a browser. *Nodejs* was made in 2009 and javascript was starting to be run on servers. In 2013 React was released and this is a Javascript library that the speaker found incredibly developer friendly. *React* is unique as changes to the code are visible instantly which allows for faster tests which can lead to faster deployment. With Nodejs, Reactjs, and the largest coding community in the world the speaker decided to move his company from using java to javascript today.



Garret Lefler

Staff Spotlight—Patrick Dickey, Muscatine Community College

Patrick Dickey graduated from Muscatine Community College in May 2008, with an Associates of Applied Sciences Degree in Microcomputer Information Technology. He has certificates in Cisco Certified Networking Associate prep and Helpdesk Fundamentals. His first position with the college as a tutor for the Information Technology led to a part-time position as an Adjunct Instructor in the Information Technology program.

His full-time job since November 2010 is working for

Allsteel preparing the paint line system for production. When asked what he likes best about the academic setting Patrick says, *"I like the small class sizes. The instructors are able to spend the time needed with the students, to help them succeed. I think Information Technology is going to be around for a long time, and will constantly be evolving. So the career in general is a stable field to go into."*

Student Josh Montoya says that, *"Patrick's best teaching moments come from discussing his own experiences in the IT field."* Another

student, Jeremy Conklin says, *"I think he is a great instructor, he's always there when I need help. He's definitely a fountain of knowledge when it comes to any IT concept; he always has some kind of answer for a question I'm asking."*

In what little spare time Patrick has, he enjoys reading, Facebook, working towards an Amateur Radio

license, and target shooting. We are glad to have Patrick on the IT team!



"With the help of the IHUM grant, I am able to get hands-on experience with real world applications including Phasespace motion capture system, Eon Reality Zspace, Oculus Rift, and 3D Systems Touch Stylus. With Augmented/Virtual Reality having a revenue forecast of up \$120 billion by 2020, VR is gearing up to change all spectrum of digital entertainment and simulations."

- EICC IT Student Lab Assistant Uriah Brock, assisting a local junior high student at STEM event



"Tour de IT" Event Fall 2016

A chance for students to tour businesses with IT positions, learn from professionals in the field.

Friday, October 21st

9am Scott County
11am Royal Neighbors
1pm Modern Woodmen

Registration required and limited!

Any business interested in hosting future tours can contact Christine at cpowers@eicc.edu or call 336-3317.

Virtual Reality Technology (continued)

Many times projects are with Fortune 500 companies. Students will be mentored by global Virtual Reality experts and have the opportunity to tap into EON Reality's global development network. To accommodate the new training the college's virtual reality lab will be further expanded to accept up to 20 students in the program. The program will start in January. Applications for admission will be accepted beginning in September.

The market for Virtual Reality & Augmented Reality knowledge transfer solutions is experiencing rapid global growth and is expected to reach \$150 Billion by 2020 and disrupting the mobile market. To provide context, this growth will far exceed the current pc desktop market of \$80 Billion. For more information about, or application to, the EON Innovation Academy at EICC, contact Ellen Kabat-Lensch, EICC Vice Chancellor for Workforce and Economic Development at 563-336-3331 or ekabat@eicc.edu.





We're on the Web

Clinton Community College

1000 Lincoln Boulevard,
Clinton, Iowa 52732
563-244-7001

Muscatine Community College

152 Colorado Street,
Muscatine, Iowa 52761
563-288-6001

Kahl Education Center

326 West 3rd Street
Davenport, IA 52801
563-441-4001

EICC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission

Eastern Iowa Community Colleges, separates Information Technology (IT) into two tracks: **Networking and Programming (Software Development)**; then, we provide further specialized concentrations: **Networking (CCNA), Hardware/ Help Desk, Server Administration, Security and Forensics, Programming (.NET), Database Administration, Web Development, Games and Simulations.** Consulting opportunities will continue to grow as businesses increasingly need help managing, upgrading, and customizing more complex computer systems. Security and forensics are fast becoming one of the most sought after jobs in the marketplace.

Need an Intern?

"I bring employers and students together," said Christine Powers, IT Work-Based Coordinator. Employers can send Christine their open positions to her and she will distribute them to the EICC IT community. "I am hoping to develop 6-8 established employer sites for regular intern placement." Any employer that is interested can contact her at: cpowers@eicc.edu, on Linked In, or by calling 563-336-3317.

FALL REGULAR DATES

10/14 Mid -Term
10/24 Spring Registration Opens
11/23,24,25 Thanksgiving
(College Closed)
12/8,9,12 Exams
12/13 Grades due & Term Ends
12/23 -1/2 Colleges Closed

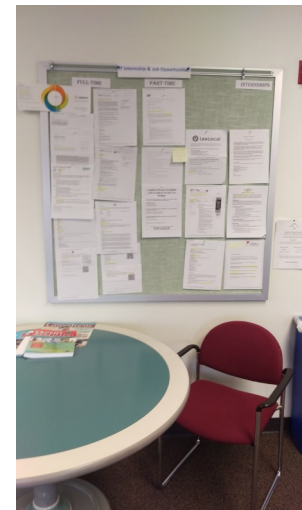
Job Search Resources Available

Room 612 in the Kahl Building offers a space for students to see jobs that are posted and meet with EICC IT designated staff to :

- Learn job search strategies
- Resume development/review
- Mock interviewing/coaching
- Linked In tutorial/set up
- Possible industry exam funding

A laptop is available for student use .

Similar support services are available on all campuses. Christine visits all locations and there are Career Navigators to help.



This workforce solution is funded by the IHUM Consortium which is 100% financed through a \$15,000,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment & Training Administration. The product was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/>

