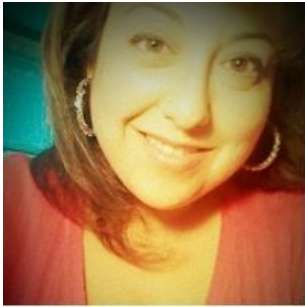


NISGTC BUZZ

September 2013

FROM THE DIRECTOR



[Bunker Hill Community College \(BHCC\)](#) is very excited to offer this inaugural issue of the [National Information Security and Geospatial Technologies Consortium \(NISGTC\)](#) Buzz newsletter!

Funded by the [Department of Labor \(DOL\)](#), the Consortium is the collaborative effort of seven colleges spanning six different states. The focus of this collaboration is to provide new and innovative IT educational solutions to workers who are unemployed, underemployed and trade-impacted.

Through the support of DOL,

BHCC has purchased the “Virtual Lab”—a multiuser system that allows professors to offer state of the art software for students in a virtual space.

The college is also creating a new, industry-vetted program in Mobile Applications which will be available to students by Spring 2014.

Through the consortium, students have new resources such as specialized IT tutoring, access to condensed courses, and the ability to work with a career coach to prepare them for the IT workplace.

The Computer Information Technology (CIT) Department has also “stacked” its programs allowing students to obtain a credential and enter the workplace faster. Students can then continue up the “stack” to a career certificate and on to the associate degree. They also can side stack—meaning they can take more than one program at

a time.

In the very near future, the Consortium will enable the college to bring a job developer on staff, who’s primary purpose will be to build further connections between the college and industry. These connections will aid students in two primary ways: 1. by insuring that the CIT department continues its tradition of creating high-class, industry-vetted curriculum for students; and 2. in building relationships that allow students to connect directly with positions available in the IT field.

We are very happy to be a part of NISGTC and look forward to creating new opportunities through the Consortium for our students.

Should you have any questions about the Consortium, please feel free to contact us at itcareers@bhcc.mass.edu.

WHAT’S NEW IN CIT

The [Computer Information Technology \(CIT\)](#) Department at BHCC has developed Starter (Fast-Track) Certificate Programs which are awarded after completing six courses that total 16 credits.

The Starter Certificate Programs available are:

- [CISCO Systems CCNA](#)
- [Computer Forensics](#)
- [Database Support Specialist](#)
- [Information Technology Security and Essentials](#)

- [PC Hardware Support Specialist](#)
- [Microsoft Applications Support Specialist](#)

Students interested in entering or returning to the workplace in an abbreviated amount of time can also take condensed, or fast-track courses. These allow students to complete a starter certificate in as little as two-semesters. Starter certificates stack up into Career Certificates, which, in turn, stack up into Associate Degrees. These programs are also Section 30 and TAA certified for those who qualify.

For more information about these certificates, email us at itcareers@bhcc.mass.edu.

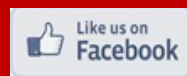


Contents

From the Director	1
What’s New in CIT	1
Career Coaching Corner	2
“IT” in the Community	2
Opportunities in “IT”	2
Focus on Faculty	3
Tech Talk	3
The Future of “IT”	3
Upcoming Events	4
Recent Events	4

We’re on the WEB!!!

Join us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn!



www.tinvurl.com/bhccitfb



www.tinvurl.com/bhccittweet

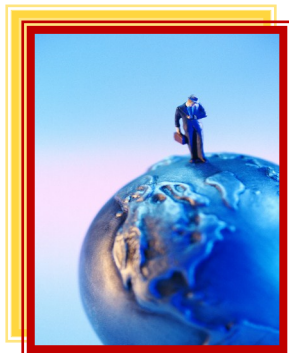


BHCC IT
Career Group

www.tinvurl.com/bhccitlink

CAREER COACHING CORNER

How to Follow-Up with Employers



Timely follow-up with employers can be the key to moving forward in the job application process. Students who have turned in an application to a job

or internship should be asking themselves the following questions: When was the position originally posted? Have I sought out any of my networking connections that I may have at the organization? What do I know about the timeline for the job search process? Does the potential employer know the best way to contact me?

For students in the Information Technology field, particularly those who are look-

ing for contract work and internships, the competition among your peers can be very daunting. Internships and jobs go to those candidates that balance being proactive with being professional and make it easy for the employer to access you and your skills. For example, if you learned about an IT internship or job opportunity through a networking contact, you should follow-up with your employer referral within 24-48 hours after the submitting your application or resume. Did you receive a call from an employer who wants to offer you an interview? A response within 2-3 hours is best but don't let 24 hours go by or else you can miss the opportunity. Resumes and cover letters should have a cell phone number or indicate the best way to get in touch with you. Whether the opportunity is a paid internship or a full/part-time job, employers in the IT industry want to fill their position quickly and efficiently while seeking out the best candidates. Students who learn how to "think like the employer" and un-

derstand the employer's timeline will do best in the job/internship hunting process, especially if the student chooses to demonstrate to the employer that he/she knows how and when to follow-up.

Related Web Articles

Top Ten Tips for Effective Follow-Up
<http://www.libgig.com/followup>

The Follow-Up Phone Call Etiquette for Job Interviews: <http://www.ehow.com>

YouTube Career pick: next time you are on You Tube, search for the following career video!

"Tips for Job Seekers: Interview Follow-Up pt. 2" by CareerBuilder.com <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKwrUbqDDa0>

If you are a BHCC IT major looking for career coaching, please contact Malakia Silcott at msilcott@bhcc.mass.edu.

"IT" IN THE COMMUNITY

New England Center for Homeless Veterans (NECHV)

[The New England Center for Homeless Veterans](#) (NECHV) has teamed up with NISGTC and the Veterans Center at BHCC to work with veterans in advancing their careers.

NECHV, a center in its 30th year of service, assists Veterans who are facing or at-risk of homelessness. One of the missions of the Center is to provide programs that aid veterans in training for and securing employment opportunities.

As of now, 14 veteran students have taken eight BHCC courses in total to reach their certificate completion goal.

"Veterans who have participated in the programs have benefitted from a team of BHCC faculty driven to see them succeed and who have done whatever they can to help them get started," states Professor Phil Kazanjian, who has been serving as instructor at NECHV since the inception of the program.

By hiring a veteran, employers benefit from knowing that they are hiring someone that is not only highly-skilled and responsible, but who is also well prepared to embrace any challenge.

If you are a veteran interested in IT at BHCC, feel free to contact the [BHCC Veteran's Center](#) or email NISGTC staff at itcareers@bhcc.mass.edu.

***"Veterans who have participated in the programs have benefitted from a team of BHCC faculty driven to see them succeed and will do anything to help them get started."
Professor Phil Kazanjian***

OPPORTUNITIES IN "IT"

BHCC has current opportunities for IT interns with area employers around the city. Currently internships exist in computer support, networking, Microsoft Apps and others.

For more information, contact Marcea Taylor, Internship Planning Coordinator at mdtaylor@bhcc.mass.edu.

The [Learn and Earn](#) program offers qualified BHCC students excellent internship opportunities, including the IT Leadership Program at EMC in Hopkinton, the Business Process Analyst position at BJ'S Wholesale in Westborough, or the Corporate IT position at Raytheon in Waltham. All of the mentioned positions are accessible via commuter rail/shuttle bus and all

receive at \$500 travel stipend for the semester. There are a total of nine company partners who offer internships. These paid (\$15/hr.) internships are meant to take you to the next step in reaching your career goal. Deadline for Spring is October 31st!

To learn more, please contact Cora Miller at ctmiller@bhcc.mass.edu.

FOCUS ON FACULTY



Jefferson Fernandes, current CIT faculty, was among the first group of students in the now widely successful BATEC Tech Apprentice program.

Jefferson attended Madison Park High School in Boston, MA., where he has fond memories of his budding interest in IT. He recollects working on AS-400 (mini computer) in his data processing class with Ms. McCallum—an experience that help to lay out his future path in IT.

After high school, he worked for BPS as manager of tech operations. At BPS, he trained teachers on how to use various technical tools. While he started to learn how to work with people, in this role, his passion remained focused on technology. After the position at BPS, Jefferson worked at a law firm doing hardware, software, and server maintenance. All of this while attending Northeastern University, majoring in Computer Engineering

He became a professor when

BHCC needed someone with a Linux background to teach a Linux administration course. The request went viral and — Felicia Vargas, director of the Tech Boston Program forwarded the email and that’s when he applied to BHCC as adjunct professor.

He loves his job. He trains students on how to do tasks in the workplace.

Word of advice to his students: pay attention to what’s being asked of you, if you don’t know, first research the problem, then ask questions.

TECH TALK

Funding from the Department of Labor through the Consortium has enabled BHCC to purchase a Virtual Laboratory. The Virtual Lab enables students to remotely access course materials and software 24/7 from any computer.

The courses that are currently supported are as follows:

- Networking Security
- Ethical Hacking
- Information Assurance

The structure is fairly simple for the virtual environment, - interfacing is possible with an appliance called Netlab. This appliance acts as a gateway, or proxy, for the students or instructors to access the learning environment that is described as POD.

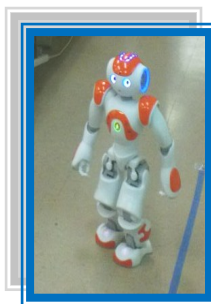
A POD can be a combination of several virtualized operating systems, to a single operating system, or a combination of physical devices and virtual operating systems.

The environment is currently capable of delivering PODs for leading industry certification courses, such as: EMC-Information Storage Management, VMWare-VSphere Icm, Cisco CCNA, and the option for our skilled instructors to generate custom POD for high demanding IT courses.

Another good feature is the instructor led POD reservation where the instructor and students access live equipment in real time.



THE FUTURE OF “IT”



Meet two state-of-the-art robots, Loki given by [Broadening Advanced Technological Education Connections \(BATEC\)](#) on behalf of National Science Foundation, and Niki purchased by BHCC with Perkins funding.

These robots are being used to give students hands on experience in an entry-level course (CIT-513) where students will use the robots to better understand programming, engineering

and related mathematical concepts. This past summer, in partnership with Suffolk University’s Veterans Program, eight BHCC and SU veteran’s learned math, engineering and programming from LOKI with help from Professors LaVine, Bzowski and Cronin. LOKI will be back this spring, joined by his pal, NIKI, providing students with a new approach to learning math. If you are planning on taking MAT097 or MAT099, look for LOKI’s Computers, Engineering and Robots course – math will never be the same!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tech Tuesdays

This year, the CIT department will offer a new event in order to showcase technology programs being offered at the college, new innovations in technology and opportunities in the IT industry.

This semester's Tech Tuesday series will feature demonstrations by BHCC faculty, a career coaching workshop, an industry panel and a kick off event featuring Microsoft!

Tech Tuesday include:

- Tech Tuesday Kick-off event with Microsoft!, September 17th, 1pm, D102
- Technology Rocks! - BHCC Faculty Jefferson Fernandes, October 1st, 1 pm, D102
- Finding Technology Employers in your Neighborhood: Uncovering Opportunities—Malakia Silcott, Career Coach, October 15th, 1pm, D102
- Our Experience in IT: A discussion with IT Professionals, November 5th, D117, 1pm, D102
- Robotics Technology featuring Loki and Niki - BHCC Faculty Bob Cronin, November 19th, 1pm, D117

Tech Tuesdays are open to the public. To RSVP for one of the events, please register at www.tinyurl.com/bhccchtechtuesdays

Bunker Hill Community College
250 New Rutherford Avenue
Boston, MA 02129
NISGTC email: itcareers@bhcc.mass.edu

NISGTC STAFF

- ⇒ **Jefferson Fernandes**
Virtual Lab Manager
- ⇒ **Wendolyn Lara**
Admin Assistant
- ⇒ **Tina Pablo**
Grants Assistant
- ⇒ **Mike Puopolo**
CBO Liaison
- ⇒ **Malakia Silcott**
Career Coach
- ⇒ **Beverley Steitz**
Career Coach
- ⇒ **Paula Velluto**
Team Lead
- ⇒ **Bogusia Wojciechowska**
Dean of Prof. Studies
- ⇒ **Dawn Zapata**
Project Director

RECENT EVENTS

BHCC/NISGTC Technology Internship Event



On May 10, 2013, NISGTC and BATEC sponsored a networking event for IT students and local employers. Over 15 students and 10 employers participated in a summer internship event where students

learned about potential opportunities and employer's IT needs. Companies in attendance represented financial institutions like Chelsea Bank to the automotive industry like Honda Cars of Boston. Companies expressed need in help desk operations, web development as well as help creating, managing and securing social media sites.

Employers in attendance were impressed by the quality and professionalism of the BHCC students and indicated a desire to be part of similar recruiting

events in the future. Prior to attending the event, students were required to attend three workshops: a Technical Resume Clinic, Employer Research and Speed Interviewing Strategies. In the fall semester, NISGTC plans to host a "mock" interview event with CIT alumni and other opportunities on campus for networking, computer support, database, and information technology students.



Bunker Hill Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on basis of race, creed, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, genetic information, maternity leave, and national origin in its education programs or employment pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 151B and 151C, Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Americans with Disabilities Act, and regulations promulgated thereunder, 34 C.F.R. Part 100 (Title VII), Part 106 (Title IX) and Part 104 (Section 504). All inquiries concerning application of the above should be directed to [Thomas L. Saltonstall](mailto:Thomas.L.Saltonstall@bhcc.mass.edu) Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Affirmative Action Officer, and Coordinator of Title IX and Section 504, at 617-228-3311, 250 New Rutherford Avenue, Room E236F, Boston, MA 02129.

"This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution 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."