Greetings from the Center of Excellence for Information and Computing Technology (coeforict.org). We hope everyone is excited for the start of a new year as we welcome in 2013! The Center has mapped out many familiar and new projects, events, initiatives, resources, and services for you this year.

What’s New?

The WA State Community/Technical College & University ICT Program Directory Goes Online!

The Washington State Directory of Community and Technical College (CTC) Information and Technology Programs (2013 Edition) is now available as a searchable database. The new IT and CS degree and certificate directory is housed in the YourFuturein.IT site. The Center of Excellence funded that development piece of that new website, but it can also be found on the Center’s website. So, no longer do you have to thumb through a document to find a degree or certificate from both 2- and 4-year colleges and universities. By typing in, for example, "web design" you can pull up all the degrees and certificates offered with that two-word search. This also enables colleges and universities to notify the Center (who will be reviewing links every quarter to make sure they are up-to-date) out of cycle if the link is either broken or has changed. Please contact the Center with any feedback on this new searchable IT or CS degree and certificate database.
Review of IT/CS CTC Programs (Degrees & Certificates) by Industry Professionals Spring Quarter 2013

The Center works with its IT/CS industry professionals (from multiple career pathways – web programming, programming, development, engineers, networking, systems, database, hardware/software technicians, and gaming, etc.) to review up to 12 Washington state CTC IT/CS program degrees and certificates each year that are currently in place (one degree or certificate per college). The Center is now accepting applications for its Spring Quarter 2013 review session at no charge. **The deadline for the fall review session is Friday, May 3, 2013.**

Since 2010, the Center has performed 25 ICT degree/certificate reviews at no charge for 27 Washington State community and technical colleges. After each review by industry professionals, a custom report summarizing the recommendations made by the industry review team, as well as provide a high-level workforce trend scan, employment trends if applicable, and possibilities for emerging trends that might impact curricular changes or developments, is issued to each college that submitted an IT degree or certificate. **Interested in having your program reviewed? Complete our online application!**

Mark Your Calendars For...

**Register Now for Careers in IT: The Real Story, happening on Wednesday, April 17, 2013**

Careers in IT: The Real Story will be taking place on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, in the Carlson Theater at Bellevue College. Registration is now open.

If you missed last year’s event, you can watch the industry professional panelists, and hear what they have to say about majoring in computer science; what it’s like to work in the gaming industry; what does a data analyst do; and, more...

**About Careers in IT: The Real Story** Are your students curious about Information Technology (IT) or do they think IT is only for geeks? Do they think offshore outsourcing has eliminated all high paying technology jobs in the United States? Do your students believe they don’t have the computer skills, technical competence or aptitude to do well in the information technology sector? Tell them to think again! Note: Clock hours are available for our K-12 educators.

**Look for more news and updates coming your way in February 2013!**

Contact the Center at maureen.majury@bellevuecollege.edu with news you want to share or questions.