

CONNECT

WINTER 2013 • ECPI University

Information • Education • Community



ADVANCED LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

**How ECPI University is Accelerating
Educational Access**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2013 will be a great year to see the accelerating impact of technology in the classroom or virtual classroom. More and more, "apps" are making learning exciting and bringing information to mobile devices for a better student outcome. This revolution in education – using technology and mobility to allow you to learn anywhere, anytime, and at your own pace – will be part of your ECPI experience. With access to the internet, subjects can include rich media and transform the traditional lecture-based instruction that has been around since Socrates.

ECPI University is committed to being your mobile education university. As such, we are working closely with Apple to develop a platform to enable your learning to be richer and more exciting. Look for developments on this in 2013. By charting a bold course, ECPI University is making geography less relevant and helping deliver quality education anywhere and to anyone in the world.

Sincerely,
Mark Dreyfus



◀ Focus on Faculty



Name: Mindy Wray

Title/Department: Program Director, Medical Assisting

Education: MA from East Carolina University in Health Education and Promotion; BS from University of North Carolina at Greensboro in Exercise Physiology

Date of Hire: March 2006

What did you do prior to joining ECPI University? I was the Pacemaker and Defibrillator Clinic Coordinator for Eagle Cardiology.

Most Rewarding Experience: Working with the Greensboro Cardiac Rehabilitation Program for about 10 years part-time from 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM three days a week in conjunction with my full-time job.

Greatest Accomplishment: Completed my Master's while working full time; served as the President of the Greensboro Chapter of the American Association of Medical Assistants, served as the Secretary for the North Carolina Chapter of the American Association of Medical Assistants.

Favorite Book: *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder – I am a huge fan of Dr. Paul Farmer and the work he has done in Haiti and across the world with TB prevention and other communicable disease prevention strategies.

Biggest Pet Peeve: When someone says, "everybody says" or "everybody thinks." I wish people would have the courage to think and speak for themselves.

Hobbies: Roller derby, taking continuing education classes through multiple outlets. Yes, I am a geek. I have taken classes through Coursera on Greek and Roman mythology, and Economics of Obesity. I am currently taking a course on Drugs and the Brain as well as one called Think Again: How to Reason and Argue. I am starting a Calculus One class in the middle of January, just a refresher on the calculus that I had in undergrad. I also like to travel and watch the Food Network. I follow Bobby Flay, Paula Deen and Aaron Sanchez on Twitter. I also go to every Bruce Springsteen concert when he comes to Greensboro.

Favorite Food: Eggplant Parmesan – oh, and chocolate... good Belgium chocolate!

My Most Treasured Possession: I don't think of things as possessions.

A Talent I Wish I Had: I wish I could sing well enough to be a backup singer for Bruce Springsteen and be a part of the E Street Band.

Looking ahead to 2013, I plan to... Make the cut for one of the Greensboro Roller Derby teams, go snorkeling in the Caribbean, and continue my memberships in the professional organizations that I belong to: AAMA and AMT.

Carmen and John Harris – Columbia’s Mother/Son Duo

While going back to school requires a certain amount of support and motivation, John Harris does not need to look very far for either. His study buddy is a retired Army Staff Sergeant. She’s also his mom.

John and his mother, Carmen, are currently working toward medical assisting degrees at the Columbia campus. At first, however, John needed some convincing since school was not always his top priority. “Mom was a big reason that I actually finished high school. I really didn’t like being there, but she pushed me to finish,” says John.

“I told John that if he set his mind to it, he could do anything,” says Carmen. “He’s very smart and he’s been on the president’s list the whole time.” John soon came around. “I realized that college has so much more to offer. I am really looking forward to completing my degree and becoming a medical professional in the army.”

It’s clear that Carmen is her son’s biggest

supporter and John is well aware that he is very lucky to have her by his side. “When you have 14 rigorous months to complete a degree program, you need all the support you can get,” says John.

So, with the discipline of a career soldier, Carmen makes sure study sessions march forward, step by step. “The night before an exam, I read one chapter, and he reads one chapter, then I do another, then he does another,” she says. “I’m also in charge of doing index cards.” John noted that while it may be difficult at times to be in class with your mother, he has to admit that when exam time comes around, he is always well prepared.



John’s advice for those who don’t have someone working with them every step of the way: “Be positive and seek support. Use your resources on campus. I can tell you that there are people here who care and are willing to help.”

Roberto Sanchez: Charleston’s Big “App Man” on Campus

Ask most any coach, and they’ll tell you that the most valuable player is the one who makes their teammates better. You could say the same about Network Security student Roberto “Nory” Sanchez. A familiar sight on the Charleston campus, he’s always volunteering his time and energy to help faculty and students make the most of their educational experience.

Recently, Sanchez was recognized for creating two web-based apps that faculty members plan to integrate into their curriculum. The first is a quiz-show program in the style of Jeopardy! Although faculty has access to PowerPoint templates of the game, the new app includes features like scorekeeping, a randomly-generated double-point question, and is also easier to edit for content since it relies on an Excel spreadsheet for data input.

Sanchez’s other app helps students prepare for externships. Among other things, it encourages users to choose appropriate clothing for an interview, using a drag-

and-drop motion. According to Career Orientation teacher Lisa Rogers, “Nory’s app is going to be a great addition to the course. It will add an interactive element that will allow me to observe the students’ competency in the necessary skill of interviewing.”

These new applications are just a few in a long line of programs and educational tools that Sanchez has developed. He also wrote a speech-to-text application for members of his church and several other small apps for both mobile and web platforms.

Sanchez’ advice for students interested in developing apps: “Start simple. Make an HTML web page using JavaScript or, if you are a Windows user, VBScript. It is easier to start learning a language by starting small and working your way up. My first program years ago was the ever popular ‘Hello World’ program which only does one thing – print ‘hello world’ to the screen. From there, anything is possible; the only restriction placed on you, the programmer, is how



creative you are at problem solving. Applications are written to solve a need or a problem, so find one and get started.”

So, what motivates Nory to do all he does? “I like to be helpful. Programmers are the new authors of the 21st century. Authors write to help improve the lives of others and that’s very satisfying.”

Advanced Learning Environments

How ECPI University is Accelerating Educational Access

By Thomas J. Trevethan, Dean of Curriculum Development

The Virtualization, Cloud, and Storage Technology Learning Environment (VCASTLE) platform is expanding to offer cyber security, virtualization, and storage technology labs to all campus CIS programs by the end of 2013. The initial pilot stage during the latter half of 2012 was very successful and many of the challenges associated with offering complex lab environments to our in-seat, hybrid, and online students have been addressed with innovative configuration design and faculty training.

The feedback from students who participated in the pilot has been nothing short of phenomenal. Our students understand that a hands-on learning environment is critical for preparing them to meet the everyday challenges they will ultimately experience in the work force. The opportunity to repeat and reinforce complex lab configuration tasks inside or outside the classroom – based on their schedule and availability – gives them the confidence needed to address real world problems associated with cyber security and advanced information systems.

This advanced technology is considered cutting edge in academic circles since it addresses the real challenges of offering complex operating system, router, switch, firewall, virtualization, and storage labs to students inside and outside the classroom. The benefit of learning “how to do something” rather than “what you know” is priceless since today’s employers want graduates who can hit the ground running in this fast-paced and dynamic industry.

VCASTLE is a combination of several technologies, including the Network Development Group (NDG) NETLAB+, VMWare ESXi, Microsoft and Linux Client/Server, Cisco UCS, Routers/Switches, ASA Firewalls, and EMC Storage/Disaster Recovery Systems.



NDG NETLAB+ enables Cisco Networking Academies to host real Cisco lab equipment and curriculum on the Internet for blended distance learning, remote Academy access, faculty-led training, and student equipment access. Resources can be scheduled, automated, and accessed remotely, allowing Academies to maximize their investment in equipment and software.

The system will also allow faculty to design and configure complex CIS lab environments and make them available to students anywhere in the world on a 24/7 basis. The student or faculty member simply logs into the device from a web browser and can schedule times and dates for lab access to their own equipment topologies. The greatest benefit in this scenario is that whatever the student configures on the equipment will be saved in a persistent environment throughout the duration of their class. (<http://www.netdevgroup.com/products/>)

Powerful Partnerships

NDG has recently formed a partnership with the VMWare IT Academy Program to enable NETLAB+ support of the VMWare vSphere Install, Configure, Manage (ICM) course. The use of NETLAB+ offers an enormous opportunity for educational organizations seeking a highly scalable, cost effective solution to offer access to the technology required for the VMWare IT Academy Program, which introduces students to VMWare technologies and equips them with valuable VMWare technical skills. (<http://www.netdevgroup.com/content/vmita/>)

NDG has formed an additional partnership with the EMC Academic Alliance to enable NETLAB+ support of the EMC Information Storage and Management (ISM) course. EMC was one of the first companies to offer open, vendor-agnostic cloud and data science training and certification, based on industry standards to address the lack of skilled professionals that is hampering widespread adoption of transformational technologies. (<http://www.netdevgroup.com/content/emc/>)

According to a recent study, *Managing Storage: Trends Challenges and Options 2012-2013*, the lack of professionals with the necessary technology skills was cited as a key impediment in the adoption of cloud technologies, with nearly 65% of respondents stating that reskilling of their staff was necessary and only 18% stating their staff had the necessary skills in cloud technology. To date, EMC training and

certifications in cloud architecture, data science, Big Data analytics, information storage and management, and backup and recovery have been aggressively adopted by hundreds of thousands of individuals worldwide, across both corporate and educational institutions, to help meet this need.

Meeting Demand

According to Mark Bowker, Senior Analyst, Enterprise Strategy Group, "in a November, 2012 survey of participants of cloud training/certification programs, conducted by ESG on behalf of EMC, 63% of all survey respondents said the most important technical skill for their personal career path over the next five years was cloud computing. Yet, there is a well-demonstrated need for more professionals to develop this needed and desired competency.

"EMC's vendor-neutral, industry-standard-based cloud education and certification programs meet these important criteria and provide a valuable means for IT professionals to expand their skill set and help organizations realize the benefits of cloud computing."

Mark Bowker, Senior Analyst,
Enterprise Strategy Group



"Training and certification programs are an important path to building these skills, and in our research, 92% of all respondents stated that vendor-agnostic training is critical, very important or important to this effort, and 90% said that it was very important or important to have course material based on industry standards. EMC's vendor-neutral, industry-standard-based cloud education and certification programs meet these important criteria and provide a valuable means for IT professionals to expand their skill set and help organizations realize the benefits of cloud computing. EMC has taken an aggressive position in providing education and certification programs that accelerate the adoption of leading-edge technologies."

POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

WakeMed Diversity Manager Leads Class in Raleigh

As WakeMed Health and Hospitals Manager of Employee Relations and Diversity, Anthony Newkirk has seen firsthand the benefits of a diverse and congenial workplace. "In some ways, the biggest obstacle is simply persuading employees to acknowledge the presence and importance of cultural differences," says Newkirk. "In some organizations, any perceived or real differences from dominant, mainstream culture are suppressed when they should, more often than not, be celebrated."

That was the essence of Newkirk's message when he led a recent discussion on the Raleigh campus. He says diversity training can enhance the way healthcare providers interact with their workforce, applicants, patients, visitors and vendors. As one of ECPI University's valued clinical partners,



WakeMed is keenly interested in sharing this message with students.

"While it's often commonplace to reduce diversity to race, there is a great deal more involved with creating a workplace that can accommodate all types of people," says Newkirk. "Age, gender, primary language, religion, sexual orientation, learning style, education... these are just some of the variables that can impact the

work environment. The goal is to create an environment that is conducive to respect, tolerance, acceptance and understanding."

To develop what he refers to as "cultural competence," Newkirk says organizations must:

- Value cultural differences
- Find ways to celebrate, encourage, and respond to differences
- Actively explore issues of equity, cultural history and knowledge, social justice, privilege and power relations
- Recognize culture as a resource

"I like to quote the civil rights leader, Roger Wilkins, who said 'the best hope of solving all of our problems lies in harnessing the diversity, the energy, and the creativity of all our people.'"



Virginia Beach Marine Veteran Remains Always Faithful



In 2003, David Likens did what every male member in his family has always done... he joined the military. Soon after enlisting in the Marine Corps, he discovered that his battlefield would lie in cyberspace. As an IT specialist, this Ohio native became fascinated with network security and defending the nation against hackers and cyber-terrorism. After nine years, he decided to return to civilian life, yet he wanted to continue the fight and began looking at colleges.

"Before coming to ECPI, I tried another school and it just wasn't for me," says Likens. "The classes were heavily focused on theory and that's just not how I learn. In the military, everything we learn is 'hands-on,' and that's why I decided to transfer to ECPI. Once I started, I knew I was in the right place. It was all about 'this is how you build it, this is how you make it secure.' ECPI really seems to understand the military mindset."

Not only was ECPI a good fit for David, David was a good fit as well. As an active member and former treasurer of the Virginia Beach Student Veterans of America chapter, he displayed the same leadership skills that he developed as a Marine. "David is a natural leader," says ECPI University Executive Director of Military Education Bob Larned. "Quiet and unassuming at times, but forceful and also very personable, he was extremely helpful in assisting us in getting the ECPI SVA Chapter off the ground."

Studying network security, David completed his associate's degree in April 2012 and was quickly hired by Hewlett-Packard. He continues to attend ECPI and expects to wrap up his bachelor's degree this spring. Recently, the U.S. Department of Defense hired him as an Incident Handling Specialist. "Whenever there's a security incident – whether it's a breach or a virus – we work with the command to make the problem go away and ensure that it does not come back," says David. "The work is interesting and always challenging. You really have to get inside the mind of a hacker and think like they do."

Now recently married, David is committed to a path of lifelong learning. He hopes to eventually become part of what's called a "penetration team," used to expose weaknesses in the nation's computer defenses. But no matter where he goes or what he does, he always embodies the motto of the Marines, Semper Fidelis – always faithful.

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

New Programs on Campus

Virginia Beach – ECPI University's School of Culinary Arts, Culinary Institute of Virginia, has added a new program in Bakery and Pastry Arts. Prospective students have the choice of a diploma program, which can be completed in 40 weeks, or an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Baking and Pastry Arts, which can be earned in less than 15 months.



In addition to many retail opportunities, graduates may also pursue careers as commercial bakers, commonly employed in manufacturing plants that produce breads and pastries. In these large facilities, bakers use high-volume mixing machines, ovens, conveyors and automated machines to mass produce standardized baked goods.

"Over the years, CIV has received an increasing number of job orders specific to the baking and pastry arts field, says

CIV Campus Provost Andy Gladstein. "The introduction of this program will allow us to better serve students passionate about this specialty within culinary arts while satisfying the needs of industry."

Virginia Beach and Charleston – Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer and Information Science with a concentration in Software Development. Curriculum emphasizes teaching students how to write and maintain source code and become knowledgeable in the planning and structured process involved with software development. They also learn how to develop efficient and scalable programs, mobile and web applications, and cloud-based software using languages and technologies such as Java, C#, Objective-C, Python, iOS, Android, jQuery, Google App Engine, BigTable, and MongoDB.

Charleston – Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer and Information Science with a concentration in Cloud Computing. Graduates are prepared to help organizations increase information technology agility, flexibility, and security while reducing the cost and complexity of managing legacy network infrastructures. Building upon



ECPI's tradition of providing an interactive, application-based education, graduates of this program learn to:

- Install and configure virtual servers
- Implement and manage data centers
- Use cloud services for storage and virtualization
- Design and secure fault-tolerant enterprise networks

Northern Virginia – Associate of Applied Science Degree in Dental Assisting. Students are educated in clinical, radiographic, and administrative procedures in a brand new laboratory. Hands-on course work includes learning how to impress teeth for pouring dental models, polishing teeth, exposing radiographs and using industry-standard equipment such as model trimmers, vacuum formers, and autoclaves.

Newport News Students Have an App for That!

Thanks to some hard-working, dedicated students on the Newport News campus, ECPI is gaining some well-deserved recognition for educating creative and entrepreneurial app developers.

Attracting Investors

Simulation and Gaming student Justin Norman just won a top 10 slot for Start Peninsula! Winners receive resources, professional mentoring, and Peninsula Technology Incubator access to grow an idea into reality. He won for his great concept of utilizing augmented reality for various applications.

In 90 days, Justin will be in the “hot seat” to pitch his concept to a board of angel investors and venture capitalists. He also plans to help organize and lead the Entrepreneur Club on campus, open to all students who want to learn how to take an idea and turn it into a successful business.



Club Wins App Development Competition with the Perfect Job Storm

The Software Development Club won first prize at the Charleston Defense Contractors Association’s 2nd Annual Mobile Application Development Competition. The app – *Job Storm* – acts as a day planner of sorts for job applicants. The goal is to make the job application process easier to

manage and maintain by allowing users to enter important notes, phone numbers to contact managers, the date that they can reapply, or check their application status. The student team received \$2,500 and the school, \$1,000.



Software Development Club members Lindsey Gibbs, Jeffrey Wheeless, Garrick Mason, Regina Leigh of Leigh Management Group, Marvin Newton, club sponsor Dr. Andrew Jung, and Thomas White.



Team Building Mission Made Possible

The Software Development Club also developed a team-building app for a local employer, Leigh Management Group. Run off an Android platform, the club’s Mission Possible app can be tailored to specific corporate objectives. Each team’s

mission – *should they decide to accept it* – includes creative brainstorming, games of skill or chance, some light physical activity, and puzzle solving; all designed to keep the teams entertained and energized.

Reaching Out: ECPI

North Carolina

Charlotte – The Medical Professionals Club organized a “Stocking Stuffer” for young patients at Levine Children’s Hospital. Christmas stockings contained toys, candy, books, and other goodies.



Matthew Johnson, Tara Hartsell, Stephanie Mendez, Kathy Psaroudis (sitting), Kimetrica Carter, and Sara Plackmon



Raleigh – The Medical Club cleaned up a four-mile stretch of Pinecrest Road as part of ECPI’s commitment to the Adopt-a-Highway program.

Director of Student Affairs Gloria Hicks with students Alisha Anglin, Emily Hampden-Comrie, April Anglin, Samantha Anderson, and Amie Ceessay

Raleigh – Nearly 200 people attended this year’s Code Camp. Hosted by the Raleigh campus, the annual event allows developers to come and learn from their peers about platforms, programming languages and various disciplines.



Concord – More than 20 students, faculty and staff participated in the American Heart Association’s Heart Walk in Charlotte, raising more than \$2,000.

Concord – Students, faculty and staff collected more than 250 items for Toys for Tots and food for 2nd Harvest Food Bank.



Marsha Collins, Oscar Wooten IV, Denise Lucero, Beverly Bryan Nance, Arbe Arbelaez, Rose Cowan, and Kristy Cartwright

South Carolina

Columbia – For the second year in a row, Student Records Coordinator Michelle Bookhart arranged volunteers



for the Salvation Army’s Stuff-A-Bus event. Faculty, staff and students volunteered their time to help collect toys and food for local families in need.



Charleston – The IT Club hosted Cub Scout Pack 458, helping them earn their Computers Belt Loop and Pin. Scouts learned about computer components, personal safety rules on the internet, how to draw a picture in Paint, and how to type and print a letter. Pack members will return to meet at ECPI University once per quarter.

EET student Michael Brock with members of Cub Scout Troop #458.

Charleston – Classes competed to determine who could collect the most food for the Salvation Army during the CIS Club Food Drive. Dr. Hart’s Senior LPN class claimed top honors by donating 456 of the more than 1,200 items collected.



Charleston – The EET Department hosted an Electronics Boot Camp for Stall High School Students where they learned the basics of electrical theory and circuitry, including fundamentals of such topics as Ohm’s Law, series and parallel circuits, transformers, diodes, and conductors.



Charleston – Students and faculty joined the Coastal Community Foundation of South Carolina and the Lowcountry Senior Center to host a computer training session for senior citizens. More than 40 seniors learned about Google tools and how technology can help improve the way they live, play and keep in touch with family and friends.



Campus Director of IT Support Joshua Flaherty works with two attendees



Charleston – Students held a Toys for Tots drive and collected enough toys for 30 children and more than \$130 for Holiday Hope.

Lisa Rogers, Honour Society Co-Advisor; Greg Gomez, Honour Society Vice President; James Weaver, Campus President; Jennifer Bell, Honour Society Co-Advisor; Joan Rogers, Student Veterans of America (SVA) Club Vice President; and Ron Neil (CDA)

in the Community

Virginia



Emerywood – A team of students and faculty members answered phones, took pledges and helped staff the silent auction for the annual Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals Radiothon.

Campus Director of Health Information Management
Holly Plowman manning the phones

Moorefield – Massage Therapy students and faculty partnered with the Richmond Sportsbackers to provide massages to runners and walkers participating in the 2012 Anthem Richmond Marathon. Proceeds from the event benefited Kids Run RVA, which promotes a physically active lifestyle for all youth in the Richmond region.



Moorefield – Members of the Web Club raised \$950 participating in a nationwide 24 hour gaming marathon to benefit the Children’s Miracle Network.



Moorefield – Members of the campus’ Student Veterans of America chapter collected 542 pounds of food for the Central Virginia Food Bank.

Newport News – As part of the Angel Tree campaign, the Business Club raised \$225 in cash, \$150 in gift cards, and provided gifts to over 70 children (23 families). Club members also donated 42 winter coats to the Emanuel House and had a bake sale/raffle to raise \$150 to donate to Hurricane Sandy relief.



Newport News – The CIS Department hosted a “Girls GET IT” event to introduce female high school students to women working in the IT field with the goal of educating and encouraging them to pursue careers in information technology.



Northern Virginia – Members of the campus chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association collected 27 bags of clothes for the House of Mercy’s Hurricane Sandy relief effort.

Northern Virginia – Surgical Technology students participated in the 2012 Metropolitan DC Jingle Bell Run/Walk to benefit the Arthritis Foundation, raising more than \$500.



Northern Virginia – Criminal justice students, alongside Town of Dumfries police officers, provided help and guidance to children in need as they shopped for Christmas gifts at Wal-Mart. The students are members of Kappa Sigma Pi, the campus’ local chapter of The American Criminal Justice Association (ACJA).

Student Alyssa Franco helps a young lady select a gift

Virginia Beach – Student Services organized this year’s Angel Tree campaign for the Salvation Army, collecting enough clothing and gifts to bring Christmas to more than 50 children.

Tia McClenney, Martha Cerkez and Nadine Newhart



Virginia Beach – Student volunteers came in on their day off to prepare about 1,000 servings of food for at-risk children throughout Hampton Roads. Partnering with the Virginia Food Bank, they put together a holiday feast that included about 900 pounds of turkey.



Virginia Beach – The Criminal Justice Club collected nearly 100 toys for Toys for Tots.

Kit Bradshaw, Robert Balanon and Dorothy Knouse.



Charleston Campus Leads University-Wide Campaign to Fight Breast Cancer

Students, faculty and staff mounted a sustained effort during Breast Cancer Awareness month to raise money to fight a disease that has sadly touched far too many lives. Leading the pack: the Charleston campus.

Through sales of pink ribbon pins, "Pink Day" on campus, and bake sales, the Heroes of Health Sciences Club and Career Services raised a whopping \$874 out of the

more than \$3,500 collected across all campuses.

Thank you to everyone who participated and to Vicki Cope for coming up with the idea, getting the pins, and helping make this happen!



Exploring Prepares Students for College and Career

Computer programming from scratch; disassembling and reassembling a computer; building a basic robot; experiencing computer-generated weather conditions from inside a hovercraft...these are just some of the topics and activities available to Virginia Beach area high school students through Exploring, an after-school program that provides hands-on experience to help young people prepare for college and careers.

The program is sponsored by the Learning for Life division of the Boy Scouts, and open to both boys and girls ages 14-20 who have completed the eighth grade. ECPI University is among the institutions and agencies that host the program. Classes are held at the Virginia Beach campus on the first Thursday of each month from September through May.

This year's instruction, led by Greg Patrick, Ph.D., head of ECPI University's master's program, focuses on computer

programming, where students learn to construct a program from the ground up. The subject matter received a lot of interest from students and filled up early.

"The program is helping me learn a lot more about computers with each class," says Jasmin Miguel, who attends Grassfield High School in Chesapeake. "Each time I come and learn something new, I feel one step closer to deciding on a career in the technology or computer field."

ECPI University has offered the Exploring program for more than five years, and won the 2011 National Award for Excellence from the Boy Scouts. "Our faculty and administrators instruct and work with students to give them an inside look and



Dr. Greg Patrick teaches Explorers how to make a video game.

familiarity with computers, electronics and robotics as they apply in both collegiate and real world business settings," says Glenn F. Corillo, Ph.D., communications faculty and advisor for the program at ECPI University in Virginia Beach. "We are very proud to be a part of this program."

MAKING THEIR MARK

Greensboro Medical Assisting Student Saves a Life

ECPI Greensboro Medical Assisting Student Meshell Hampton recently came to the aid of a woman who was choking at a restaurant. Meshell was eating with her mother after class when they noticed a woman gasping for air. Meshell ran over to help, quickly introduced herself and asked if she could perform the Heimlich maneuver. In three strokes, the food the woman was choking on was released. Meshell then asked her mother to retrieve

her blood pressure cuff and stethoscope. When paramedics arrived Meshell was able to provide the patient's basic vital stats and then stepped aside so the paramedics could take over. Meshell received a round of applause from the restaurant's employees and a heart-felt thank you from the woman. Meshell says, "I felt so good afterward. I just felt like God put me in the right place at the right time."



1967 Graduate Looks Back at an Exciting Career

The year was 1966, a memorable one for both William "Pete" Fratus and a new school he was about to attend. After graduating from high school, Pete went to work for General Electric but soon realized his prospects were limited. He was looking for something new and different. A friend had an uncle who had just started working for a new school in Norfolk and wanted to practice his admissions presentation on some recent graduates. Pete agreed and soon learned about the Electronic Computer Programming Institute of Tidewater, Virginia.

Before the presentation had even ended, Pete realized this is what he had been looking for. He enrolled in Course #907 – IBM Data Processing and Computer Programming, finished in three and a half months and emerged full of optimism. A lot has changed in the ensuing 46 years. Pete is a highly successful software architect with Experis in Richmond and that little school is now ECPI University, with 18 locations in three states.

"It's really amazing when I look back to my very first class," says Pete. "We were learning about things that seem so simple now...key and unit record equipment, sorters, reproducing punches. We were working on plug board machines, connecting wires to create the logic. Using an early IBM programming language, we would create punch cards and then go to a nearby IBM office to run them on an IBM 1401, a machine which, incidentally, only had 4KB of memory!"

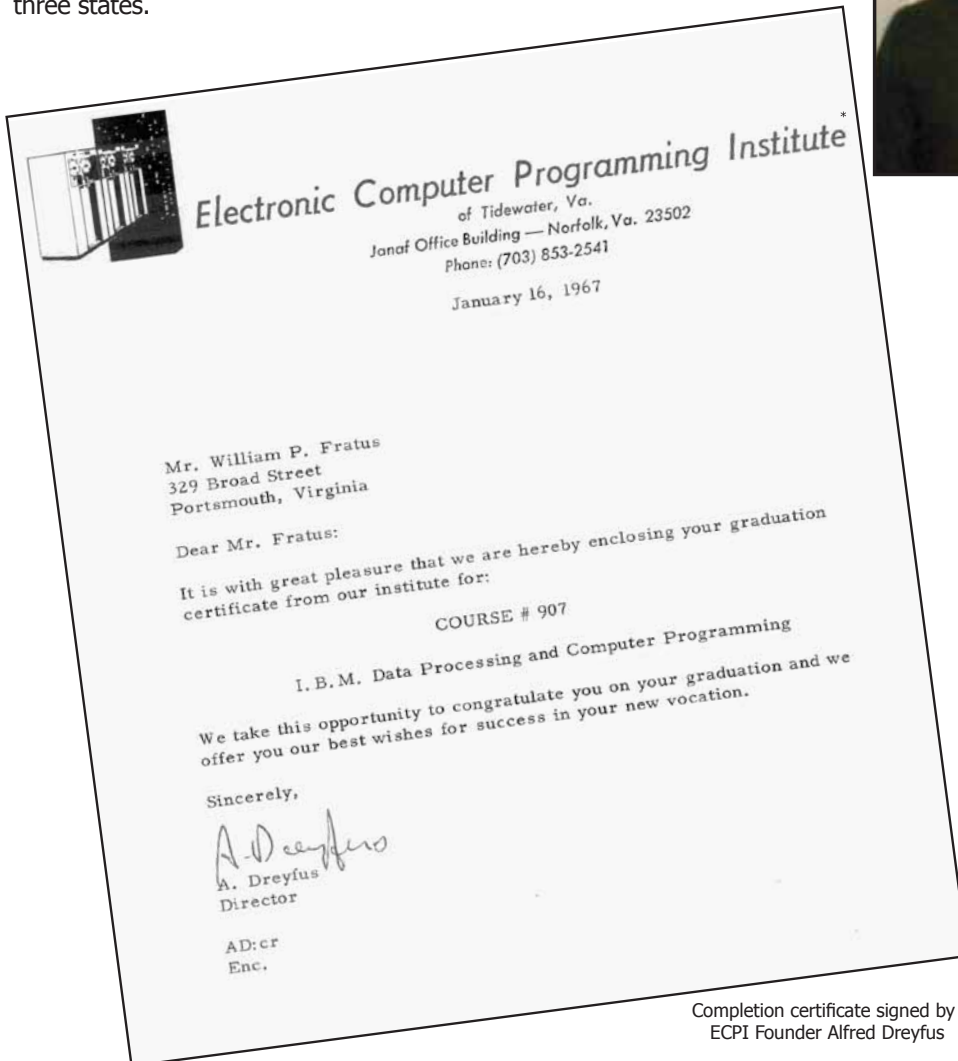
Pete then joined the Navy, started learning



Pete visiting ECPI University's Innsbrook campus in Richmond



Pete in 1967



Completion certificate signed by ECPI Founder Alfred Dreyfus

*ECPI University's name when it was founded in 1966.

programming and was later stationed at the Pentagon. After seven years, he began a civilian career that has taken him to Texas, Colorado, Washington State, Puerto Rico and the Silicon Valley working for Hewlett-Packard. "I took a lot of classes along the way," says Pete, "but it all began at ECPI. I was so excited when I first walked into that classroom. Everything was all new and different, seeing things I had never seen before. We didn't have computers in high school. Nobody at school even talked about them. It was all a big mystery.

"I am so glad ECPI opened its doors when it did. There really was nowhere else in town where I could have gone to learn those particular skills. Everything I learned, I used in the Navy and everything I learned in the Navy, I used to launch my civilian career. I have worked on some incredibly interesting projects through the years. Now I design systems and help other people develop them. It's always been an exciting career. I don't think I've ever been bored. I just feel very fortunate."

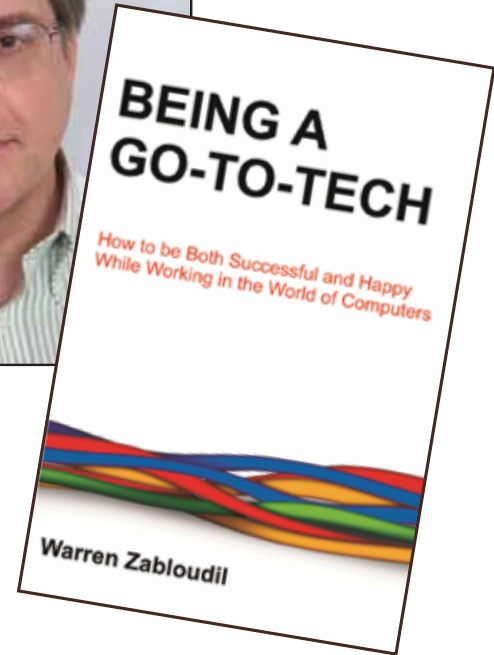
ECPI Graduate Pens Career Guide for IT Techs

Since Warren Zabloudil graduated from ECPI's Virginia Beach campus in 1988, he has seen just about everything in his well-traveled career. Now he's sharing those experiences in his new book, *Being a Go-To-Tech: How to be Both Successful and Happy While Working in the World of Computers*.

Being a Go-To-Tech provides insight into virtually everything a computer career involves and outlines how to rise to the top of the field while maintaining personal happiness. "This is not just another bone-dry technical guide, but an easily readable book that explains what you're going through and how to make it better," says Zabloudil.

Zabloudil says his book reminds readers that IT is an all or nothing career with high

expectations that the job be done well at all times. He says, "you need to rise to the occasion and become complete in the quest to deliver the highest quality workmanship possible. My book covers all those things that keep techs awake at night and offers advice on how to work around stress, work easier and faster, deal with problematic personalities, and, ultimately, how to stay competitive in your career for a long, long time."



Greenville Graduate's Career Hits the Fast Lane at BMW

Ten years after Carl Drakeford graduated from high school, he saw himself at the crossroads. Having worked various warehouse jobs, he felt he was meant to do more. Seeing the birth of his first child only reinforced that feeling. "I saw a commercial on TV for ECPI and it got me to thinking," says Carl. "After the very first visit, I knew I was going to enroll."

Carl's only hesitation: "I knew I wanted to study network security, but I had so little computer knowledge, I was concerned about keeping up in class." Carl soon realized that would not be a problem. "Anytime one of my teachers saw me struggling, they were right there making sure I understood the concepts," he says. "I would stay after class and they would stay and work with me no matter how long it took."

After receiving his associate's degree, Carl immediately began working toward his Bachelor's Degree in Computer and Information Science with a concentration in Network Security, and graduated in February 2011. Not long after, he was offered a position in IT services at BMW's manufacturing plant in Greenville.



"It's an exciting time to be working at BMW," says Carl. "Right now, we have a workforce of 7,000 people, but we expect to grow to 10,000 by 2015. There will be plenty of work for me to do as we set up new servers and systems to accommodate growth. I cannot believe how much I am learning, and I know I could not be doing

this without ECPI. It was there where I 'learned how to learn' which is really important because I have some big goals."

Carl says he wants to be a chief information officer one day and according to his many supporters on the Greenville campus, they have no doubt he will do so. "As a student, his desire for knowledge extended well beyond the classroom, and that clearly demonstrated his commitment to lifelong learning which is so crucial to success in work environments where technology changes

continually," says Greenville Campus Dean of Curriculum for Arts and Sciences Amy Hickman. "Carl also displays the level of soft skills we strive to foster in all of our graduates, in part because he took every opportunity available to be mentored by faculty, administration, and even his classmates."

Student Volunteers Help Restore Smiles of Uninsured

Growing up in a household without medical or dental insurance, ECPI alumnus Elizabeth Parsons saw the effort her parents made to obtain the care she and her three siblings needed, sometimes at clinics for the uninsured. They owned a small business and the cost of premiums was out of reach.

"My parents always made sure that my sisters, brother and I went to the dentist and the doctor, even though it meant putting their own health needs last," says Parsons. "So when the opportunity came up to help others, I said yes right away." That was two years ago, when she was attending ECPI University's School of Health Science, Medical Careers Institute. Although she has since graduated and works as a fulltime dental assistant, she continues to volunteer with ECPI.

Student participation in clinics for the needy has been part of the University's dental assisting program since its inception more than three years ago. "Medical



Careers Institute has a strong tradition of volunteerism and when we started the dental assisting program, we looked for ways that our students could use the skills they were learning to benefit the community," says Dental Assisting Program Director Vicki Brett.

Most recently, they assisted at a clinic held at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Virginia Beach. Over the course of two days, volunteers cared for more than 100 patients and provided more than \$100,000 in dental services. Students performed a wide range of duties, from helping with X-rays, cleanings, fillings and extractions to setting

up chairs, lights, suction apparatus and other equipment.

"Being able to serve others this way is such a powerful experience," Brett says. "For many of the patients, this is the first dental care they've had in a long time. Some are in pain when they come in and we are able to help relieve them of their pain. We are also able to have an impact on their overall well-being, because poor dental health can lead to other kinds of problems, including heart disease."

Elizabeth Parsons still remembers the first time she volunteered at a dental clinic for the homeless in Norfolk. "It was fast-paced, hundreds of patients and I was worn out, but knew I wanted to do more," she said. "Some people were missing front teeth and they were provided with what's called a 'flipper,' a device that makes it appear that they have teeth. It was very emotional. A few of them were so happy about this change in their appearance that they began to cry."

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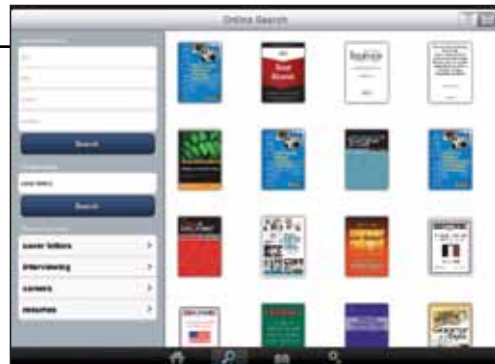
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For more information about these apps, please visit the ECPI Libraries newly redesigned website (ecpi.ent.sirsi.net) and visit the "Extra Help" section that accompanies the ebrary and Ebsco database links.

Study Abroad Students Gain New Appreciation for Other Cultures, as Well as Their Own

By Dr. Glenn Coillo –
Faculty Director, Study Abroad

Cheerio! Bonjour! The Study Abroad program at ECPI University is alive and well! Since 2000, our students have visited more than a dozen countries, four of the six inhabitable continents and both hemispheres. This past fall, the group traveled to England and France.

In London, we started off at Trafalgar Square, right in front of the National Gallery. The area is dedicated to exploits of British naval hero Lord Horatio Nelson who won the Battle of Trafalgar against the French but died in the process. We also visited the famous Covent Garden, Piccadilly Circus and wrapped up the day with an authentic Fish and Chips dinner.

While visiting Buckingham Palace, we noted that the flag above the royal residence indicated that the Queen was home, and we were very disappointed that she did not invite us in for tea. It was not the official English tea time (which is exactly at 4:00PM) so perhaps she can be forgiven for this oversight!

We met the Queen's official guards at the Tower of London. They are called Beefeaters but no one is quite sure why. There are only 17 of them and, for the first time, one is woman. They must have distinguished military careers just to be considered for an interview for this elite squad and all live with their families in the Tower of London.



We also took a Jack the Ripper tour... at night... following the same path as the famous serial killer from 1888. When one student found out that the actual killer was never found, they asked if it was safe to be out on those London streets after dark. As Jack would be near 150 years old now, I told the student to stay close to me as I was pretty sure I could take him down!

Next up, was a trip on the high speed Eurostar train through the Chunnel that travels between London and Paris at speeds in excess of 180 miles per hour.

Two big attractions in the city of lights are, of course, the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre.

Gustav Eiffel built the tower in 1889 as the entrance to a world exposition. Following the fair, some wanted to take the tower down as it had no function. Eiffel arranged to have a radio antenna placed on the top to make it "functional." Now, of course, it is a French icon that attracts more than 6 million visitors a year, including several from ECPI, two of whom got engaged at the Eiffel Tower.

The Louvre is the world's largest museum. Students were amazed at how small the Mona Lisa really is and how large is the statue of the Venus de Milo, the goddess of love and beauty from the first century BC.

The Study Abroad program also offers COM205, Culture and Diversity, in coordination with the trip. Curriculum includes the journey as part of the class. Students go to school for two weeks, travel overseas for up to two weeks, and return to class for the last week of the term.

The experience concentrates on the culture and diversity of the countries visited, focusing on the people's language, food, art, architecture, dress, dance and music. Students consider the trip eye-opening and – perhaps most importantly – always come back with a whole new appreciation of their own country and its culture.

We are looking at a journey to South America in 2013. Watch your email for details.

INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE

Virginia Beach Faculty Member Co-Authors Distance Education Book

Dr. Deborah Clark, BSN Program Director at ECPI's School of Health Science, Medical Careers Institute in Virginia Beach, has co-authored *Distance Education in Nursing*. The book integrates new, successful digital teaching strategies with current distance education practices and outlines what's required to facilitate the planning, design, implementation,

and evaluation of distance curriculum in undergraduate and graduate programs.

She and co-author, Dr. Karen Frith, also include information about mobile computing in distance education, faculty preparation, quality improvement, learning in context, clinical reasoning, ethical comportment, and writing skills.



VMA and ECPI Launch Manufacturing Skills Institute

Partnership to Position Southern Virginia as Internationally-Recognized Hub for Advanced Manufacturing Training and Education

As part of its ongoing partnership, the Virginia Manufacturers Association (VMA) and ECPI University have launched the Manufacturing Skills Institute™ (MSI). The MSI is a flexible education and workforce training system that aligns regional employer needs, industry-recognized credentials and economic development objectives.

The institute will provide education and training programs for both existing and emerging technology businesses within the Mid-Atlantic with the goal of making Southern Virginia an internationally-recognized hub for advanced manufacturing training and education. Additionally, ECPI is offering select advanced manufacturing skills certificates that translate into Advanced Standing.

“The system will be phased-in and will include a deep portfolio of world-class education and skills training that leads to competency-based, industry recognized and stackable credentials,” says Brett Vassey, VMA President and CEO.



The MSI will provide relevant education and skills training for careers in advanced manufacturing by offering targeted training programs delivered by MSI education partner institutions. Current MSI education partners include the: Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (SVHEC); Modeling & Simulation Center of Excellence at Riverstone Energy Center; National

Center for Coatings Application, Research and Education (C-CARE); and National Technology Transfer (NTT) at the Research & Development Center for Advanced Manufacturing & Energy Efficiency (R&D CAMEE) located in the SVHEC-Innovation Center.

“The move to establish the MSI is the next logical step in providing a focused source for manufacturing skills development,” says Kevin Paveglio, ECPI University Virginia Beach Campus President. “It is our vision to expand the MSI with additional value-added partners and become a recognized industry leader in skills training.”

The MSI is the realization of the VMA and ECPI University’s long-term commitment to the implementation of policies, processes and programs aligned with industry needs and standards to ensure a workforce pipeline capable of meeting existing and emerging employer requirements in advanced technology industries such as manufacturing.



INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE



ECPI Recognized for Excellence in Military-Friendly Education

For the fourth consecutive year, ECPI University has been recognized by Military Advanced Education in its 2013 *Guide to America's Top Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities*. Selected schools

have met rigorous criteria informed by education service officers from the U.S. Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

Innsbrook Students Assist with Counter-Surveillance Terror Drill

Criminal Justice students from the Innsbrook Campus played a vital role in testing the security at one of the largest shopping destinations in Richmond, Virginia. Working with the Virginia Crime Prevention program, students portrayed themselves as would-be terrorists casing Short Pump Town Center Mall.

Students were asked to engage in suspicious activity that could reveal themselves as terrorists with the intent to inflict maximum damage. Some of them inspected the access to doors, counted the number of security cameras, and noted the number of security officers at the mall. They counted the paces from a department store to the center square, sketched the outlay of the center square, and the layout of the mall.

Others went into stores and asked for a clothes box and shopping bag in order to give themselves the appearance of being actual shoppers. They conducted business with merchants throughout the mall and picked up additional information about locked doors, traffic in certain stores, and where the greater populations of people gathered, including the food court.

An under-cover surveillance team would then call back to the command center with descriptions of suspicious activities taking place. A separate team of students were tasked with keeping accurate accounts of what was being reported and the time of each call.

"This kind of partnership really benefits



Delani Thomas, Keinya Ellis, Jason Fontenot, Mr. Thomas Crotts, Misty Sauders, Briana Eldridge, and Amber Bailey.

everyone involved," says ECPI University Criminal Justice Faculty Member Tom Crotts. "I can talk theory all day long, but it really doesn't sink in until you apply it in a realistic setting. The students did a terrific job and they performed a great public service by helping mall security identify weaknesses, vulnerabilities, and potential targets."

New Education Partners

ECPI University is pleased to announce new members joining the Education Partnership Program (EPP). Through this initiative, companies are able to provide educational benefits to its employees with the goal of promoting professional growth and organizational effectiveness. The EPP was developed to promote higher education while fostering a relationship with proven leaders in the community.

Charleston Campus

Honeywell Technology Solutions is a Fortune 100 company that invents and manufactures technologies to address tough challenges linked to global macrotrends such as safety, security, and energy. With approximately 132,000 employees worldwide, including more than 19,000 engineers and scientists, they have an unrelenting focus on quality, delivery, value, and technology.

Virginia Beach Campus

InMotion Hosting is a leading provider of web hosting, VPS Hosting, and Dedicated Server solutions based on Linux and Unix operating systems. In addition to hosting, it offers sever support, web design and custom technology deployments. With 178 employees, it has locations in Virginia Beach and Los Angeles.

Gentiva has been a recognized leader for over 40 years in providing home health and hospice care to more than 350,000 patients from more than 420 community locations nationwide. Their mission is to improve quality of life for those they serve through delivery of clinical excellence, extraordinary service and compassionate care.

Westminster-Canterbury is a not-for-profit LifeCare retirement community sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia and The Presbytery of Eastern Virginia of the Presbyterian Church.

Greenville Campus

Greenville County Schools, located in Upstate South Carolina, is recognized as a school system of excellence, and was awarded district-wide National Accreditation from the AdvancED Accreditation Commission. It is considered the State leader in school choice, featuring schools of various sizes in urban, suburban and rural settings, and magnet academies offering specialized studies in areas such as communications, languages, the arts, science, and mathematics.

Columbia Campus

Synergy Business Park comprises eight buildings, 55 businesses and more than 1,100 employees. This business collaboration provides ECPI University the opportunity to positively influence business organizations within walking distance of the campus while enhancing careers for those in the community.

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