The CollegeCareerCorps Model

Laurie Craig, Manager
OnQ Property Management System
Hilton Hotels Corporation

Kevin Avent, Director
Testing Competency Center
Cook Systems International

Jeff Brittain,
Vice-President, Client Services Cook Systems International and
National Program Director, CollegeCareerCorps
JBrittain@cooks.com

Abstract

Universities across the nation report a significant decline in the number of students enrolling in Information Technology centric majors. According to a recent March 2007 study, this decline is approximately 50% as compared to the 2000/2001 academic year, with many departments reporting a 14% decline in the last year alone.

To help stem this decline locally, the FedEx Institute of Technology at the University of Memphis has teamed with Cook Systems International to create the CollegeCareerCorps model. While this issue will require a multifaceted approach, the CollegeCareerCorps model is one key tool now available to communities. This innovative model provides students with practical technology experiences, provides corporations and governments with cost-effective solutions, provides specific funding for additional scholarships and fellowships to STEP, and provides faculty with additional channels for research opportunities. In fact, the CollegeCareerCorps’ 2004 pilot effort at FedEx was an important catalyst in the actual creation of STEP.

One key client of the CollegeCareerCorps is Hilton Hotels Corporation. Hilton has been using the model for over a year to help test a set of Hilton’s key applications. Come hear from Laurie Craig, Manager at Hilton on how the CollegeCareerCorps enhances their software testing organization, processes, and results.