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Job Training Beats Unemployment

by Dick Hampton

At a time when our region is experiencing the highest unemployment in years, one Northwest company is beating the statistics. Business Computer Training Institute (BCTI) trains people who are in transition to get the jobs which are available.

"The majority of office jobs have been held by women, but we're seeing more and more men enrolling for training," says Karyn Müller, Executive Director at the company's Vancouver school. The site specializes in Office Automation and basic computer training. According to Müller, though clerical and office jobs may not be perceived as being typically for men, many who are out of work are supplementing their experience with some office training.

At BCTI's Beaverton site, the curriculum revolves around medical terminology, anatomy and physiology coupled with computer training. Daroll Nicholson, Executive Director of the site, says that in spite of Oregon's highest unemployment rate in eight years, medical related job opportunities remain steady. "All you have to do is look in the paper," he said. "In the Oregonian, three or four out of seven or eight pages of employment ads are medical related."

Nicholson is a former member of Oregon's Advisory Board of Proprietary Education, and one-time president of the Oregon Private School Association. For BCTI, the proof of the pudding," he said, "is how many students are getting jobs."

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