

PCC Degree Program in Web Design Started

Growing new skills for the job market

Portland Community College has offered classes in Web site development and design for many years, but students couldn't earn a two-year degree. All that will change this winter term.

The state of Oregon has approved the college's new Web Site Development and Design program as a two-year associate's degree in applied science. In addition to the degree, the program now offers a one-year certificate in Web site development and two short-term certificates.

"It's a great opportunity for students to get more in-depth training in an exciting and rapidly evolving technology," said Ron Bekey, instructor in Computer Applications and Office Systems. "It was time to create a degree that allowed students to pursue greater depth in their training and prepare themselves better for the job market."

The new degree program targets students and working pro-



Rushi Moraes gets advice from Ron Bekey, her Web Development instructor at Portland Community College

professionals who wish to specialize in Web site creation, design, programming and maintenance. The skills learned from these classes can apply to designing and building personal and busi-

ness Web sites.

After finishing the program, individuals will have the necessary skills to develop and manage Web sites and to work as developers, designers or entre-

preneurs.

Organizations of all kinds hire Web site developers and designers to design, implement and maintain their online presence and the demand is expected to

keep growing long into the future.

An ideal candidate working in Web site development or design has enthusiasm for the field and the ability to engage with

new and rapidly changing technologies.

"It's a great program for anyone with enthusiasm for the Internet or Web-related technologies," Bekey said. "It doesn't matter if they are more design-oriented or math-oriented; classes start out with the basics so all that is required to get started is a knowledge of basic computer applications."

Students will get the foundation of building dynamic professional Web sites in a hands-on environment. The state-of-the-art technology and software will help students learn the newest ways to create an accessible, interactive online experience.

"There are thousands of jobs related to the Web out there," Bekey said. "Following the recommendations of our advisory committee, we've structured the program so that everyone gets basic training in both development and design, and more in-depth training in one of these areas."

For more information, call 503-977-4393 and ask to set up an advising appointment or to get a brochure. Additional information is available on the PCC Web site at pcc.edu.

Clark College Helps Parents with Child Care

To help challenged students succeed

The Child and Family Studies department at Clark College has received nearly \$60,000 in renewed federal funding from the "Child Care Access Means Parents in School" program.

"The cost of child care services often is almost twice the cost of

tuition and books," said Laurie Cornelius, director of Services for Children and Families. "This grant allows us to offer a sliding fee scale to low-income student parents who are enrolled for six credits or more at Clark College."

The goals of the program are to

help keep students who are parents from dropping out.

"When we ask students why they are leaving, we've discovered that we can sometimes remove those barriers so the students can stay in school," Cornelius said. "Sometimes we try to take an individualized approach and build a plan together, such as

a payment plan for an old debt. We've also seen common themes emerge and have responded by offering workshops on dealing with stress and helping students find ways to balance their obligations at work, school and home."

She added, "When parents enter school, they often worry about the welfare of their children. By

partnering and developing close relationships with our families, we create a community where they belong, where they are listened to and where there is understanding of the complexities of being a parent in school. Simply having this shared experience gives them strength to continue their professional pathways."

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