



# Career Exploration Workshops



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# Agenda

This Workshop Is Designed to Provide a Hands-on Workshop Designed to Explore the Challenges, Opportunities and Pathways to Today's Jobs in Technology

The Session Exercises Will Consist of:

- Exploring the Workforce Opportunities
- Exploring Student Self-Assessment Tools
- Exploring Specialization in Today's IT Professions
- Exploring Certifications and Academic Credentials
- Pathways and Personalizing Student Plans

# Session Objectives

- Describe the current workforce dilemmas in Information Technology
- Identify the challenges in recruiting students for IT programs
- Identify successfully orientation strategies
- Identify new age job search techniques
- Describe what skills students need to be successful in planning a career in Information Technology
- Describe the role of skills, certification and academic credentials in IT career planning
- Describe the tools and process needed to prepare an individualized student career plan in Information Technology

# Session Objectives

- Defining student success as part of orientation
- Explain the purpose and components of an effective student plan
- Describe how students can map professional goals to their student plan
- Identify student assessment and planning tools that can work for your students
- Demonstrate a web-based career and student interest assessment and planning tool

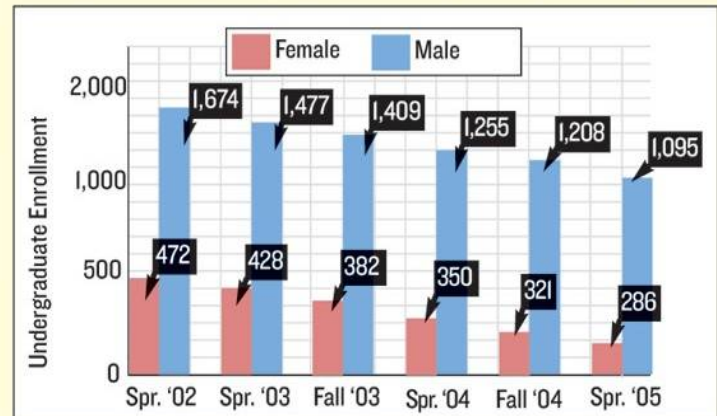
# The National Trend

- Enrollments are down in Computer Science and Information Technology across the board (HS, CC, 4-year University)
- At the same time the job market continues to grow
- This will ultimately lead to a slowdown in the Technology Sector and the overall economy

[Duda, K., Lazar A., & Popio, L. 2005](#)

## Enrollment in Comp-Sci

Enrollment in the Computer Science Department has declined about 33 percent since 2002. The department is actively recruiting students.



SOURCE: UMCP Office of Institutional Research and Planning

# Where Are the Shortages?

This Shortage Represents the Entire IT Sector However There Are Specializations That Represent Severe Gaps Between Qualified Applicants and the Need for Skills Workers:

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**System Integrators** (Smart Systems)

**Remote Services** (Medical, Financial, Law Enforcement, Science)

**Voice Over IP Specialist**

**Wireless Network Specialist**

**Information Security Specialist** (DR, BC, Risk Analysis, Policy)

**Network Security Specialist** (VPNs, IDS, Firewalls)

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# Example

## Voice Over IP Specialist

- VoIP service is on a fast track to becoming a major force in the business world
- According to a recent report released by Yankee Group business VoIP market will leap to almost \$3.3 billion by 2010, from \$1.6 billion by the end of 2007
- In a move further signaling that VoIP is now serious business, Microsoft ([News](#)—[Alert](#)) announced at the VoiceCon Spring 2007 conference it would enter the booming VoIP market, and release a public beta of its VoIP [server](#) software by the end of March

# Example

## Information Security Specialist

- Security is the hottest area of enterprise IT
- Every aspect of enterprise computing and connectivity depend on secure access and applications
- All existing and emerging technologies are being re-tooled to reflect new and more rigorous security standards

Information Auditing

Risk Assessment

Monitoring and Recovery Specialist

DR and BC Specialist

# Example

## Wireless Specialist

- Seventy-nine percent of all U.S. businesses now use at least one wireless data application, according to researcher In-Stat ([Reference](#))
- According to IDC, the growth in mobile data applications is just getting started
- The Framingham firm is predicting that the market for mobile enterprise data applications will nearly triple by the end of the decade, from \$1.2 billion in 2007 to \$3.5 billion in 2010
- Wireless technology will be integrated into everyday life; cars, televisions, phones, cameras, every student
- The sale of laptop has exceeded the sale of desktops

# Focus on Credentials

- Emphasize diverse credentials
- Academics
- Certifications
- Portfolios
- Knowledge and skills
- Writing and communications
- Create certificates
- Set and track goals



# Kuder Self-Interest Survey

- [ll.kuder.com](http://ll.kuder.com)
- Create a new account (login)
- Take Assessment
- Key = I745363TKS



*Do you know where you are going?*

# This Could Be Your Life Game!

- This is an online role model game; take this interactive journey to see the impact of the choice you make in life
- <http://ctbyl.icsps.ilstu.edu/illinoisntc//index.asp>
- Or just go to Google.com  
And search for  
“This could be your life”
- It is the first link
- Play the game
- Complete the questionnaire



# Certification Matrix Challenge

- Break up into two-person teams
- Download the certification matrix
- Use the computer to find as many facts as possible about the top five certifications: A+, CCENT, CCNA, Security+ and CWNA
- After five minutes you will have a questionnaire to complete
- Winner wins something!



# Job Search Challenge

- Connect to the Job Search URL
- Find ten IT jobs you are interested in
- Complete as many sections about the jobs as possible
- We will tally the scores
- Open discussion (job titles, skills, knowledge, salaries, qualifications)
- Winner wins something!



# Student Goals and Academic Planning Worksheet

- Download the sample MVCC IT Student plan
- Download the generic student goals and academic planning worksheet
- Complete goals
- We will tally the scores
- Open discussion (job titles, skills, knowledge, salaries, qualifications)
- Winner wins something!



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