



Oklahoma Student and Graduate Profile

Otis Surratt Jr. can remember being interested in computers as far back as the age of six. So it wasn't much of a surprise to learn that by his sophomore year in high school, he had started and is now running his own Internet service provider (ISP), OCOSA Communication, LLC that services clients in both the United States and India. By the time Otis graduated from high school, he had completed two Cisco® Networking Academy® courses of study, Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA®) and Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP®), and had started an internship program for Networking Academy students at his company.

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While attending Booker T. Washington High School, Otis enrolled in and completed both the CCNA and CCNP courses at Tulsa Technology Center where he earned dual credit for his Networking Academy coursework. Somehow Otis also found time to participate in the SkillsUSA competitions, and during his senior year he placed first at the Oklahoma state Internetworking competition.

Otis realized that it was also important for him to give back to his local academy, so he organized an opportunity for students in the program to intern at his company. Students worked with live networks, participated in customer interactions, and shadowed employees.

Although Otis' greatest challenge was managing his ISP while going to school, he says he would not trade this experience, as it set him up for his success. Otis credits the Networking Academy for training him on the use of Cisco equipment, which he uses on a daily basis while managing his ISP.

Otis is currently a sophomore attending the University of Tulsa and plans to obtain his CCNA and CCNP certifications and earn his bachelor of science in information systems technology. He works full time as the Director of Operations for his ISP company and has aspires to start a new telecommunications company, OCOSA TeleCom, LLC.



For more information on the Networking Academy at Tulsa Technology Center, visit:
http://www.tulsatech.com/bcd_econ_dev_tip.htm



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