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New IT Degree Programs Address Huge Industry Staffing Needs

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NEW IT DEGREE PROGRAMS ADDRESS HUGE INDUSTRY STAFFING NEEDS

August 5, 2014

Symposium and Job Fair Scheduled for September 2.

At a time when the demand for information technology professionals is blossoming, Lindenwood University is adding a slate of new IT degrees in its accelerated evening program, LCIE. The new degree programs were approved in mid-July by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and will be available starting in the fall quarter of 2014, which begins September 29.

The new degrees include bachelor's degrees in business systems development, cyber security, information technology, and virtualization and cloud computing, and master's degrees in managing information security, managing information technology, and managing virtualization and cloud computing. The university has revised a post-bachelor certificate in information technology, intended for individuals who already have non-IT-related undergraduate degrees and would like to add skills in information technology.

Dr. Tom Cupples, director of Lindenwood's accelerated IT programs, said the industry is growing at an explosive rate, and skilled IT professionals are in high demand. Job search sites indicate approximately 3,000 IT jobs within a 50-mile radius of St. Louis, with more than 1,400 in information security, for instance.

"The recruiting and retaining of qualified IT job candidates for businesses in the St. Louis region has been a growing concern for many years and will continue to be a challenge for the foreseeable future," Cupples said. "The Lindenwood College for Individualized Education's accelerated evening degree programs (LCIE) has accepted the challenge of quickly preparing home-grown talent to the marketplace with the skills to fill these positions. With the introduction of these new degrees along with the addition of a state of the art virtualization lab, we believe we are poised to fulfill this challenge."

Lindenwood will hold an IT Symposium and Job Fair at 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 2 in the Lindenwood University Cultural Center (400 N. Kingshighway, St. Charles, Mo.), which will include presentations by industry experts Meghan Rapp, David Sandel, and Stephen Groppe, as well as booths from a variety of IT employers. The event is free and open to the public.

Sandel is an accomplished Gigabit City executive focused on leadership, planning, and the successful execution of Gigabit Community or Smart City economic development initiatives. As president of Sandel & Associates, he and his team work with cities, community organizations, and service providers to develop plans for the economic development of their Gigabit Communities or Smart Cities. He will speak at 6 p.m. on "The Future of IT in St. Louis: How to Get Involved."

Rapp is a St. Louis native and a supervisor for Technical Support Central for Bullhorn and Bullhorn Back Office, an international company that provides cloud-based software solutions designed for recruiters and the staffing industry. She will speak at 6:30 p.m. on "Using Social Media and Your Career."

Keynote speaker Groppe is Jet Aviation's IT director for the Americas. In this role, he plans, coordinates, and supervises all activities related to the design, development, and implementation of the organization's applications development and analysis function. He manages multiple development teams supporting different lines of businesses. He works closely with clients in order to map and support their operational

needs and is responsible for developing, distributing, supporting, enforcing, and integrating best practices and technology standards across the organization. He will speak at 7 p.m. on "LCIE and Your Career—Making it Happen"

For more information about the new IT degrees, call 636-949-4933 or visit www.lindenwood.edu; click on "Academics" and "Evening and Graduate Programs."

Employers who would like to participate in the job fair should contact Cupples at 636-949-4708 or tcupples@lindenwood.edu. Space is limited.

Related Items:

- Degree Programs - Evening & Graduate
- IT Symposium and Job Fair - RSVP

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A-Z Index │ A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

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