For many, an economic recession means a gloomy outlook for job prospects. However, it is important to remember that it can mean gloomy weather in some jobs and growth in others. For students and others who plan to train for a career, immediate job prospects are not the only, or even the most important, indicator of future opportunities. To understand future job prospects, we must consider industry trends and likely changes within occupations on the demand side. We look at the number of people completing training programs for the occupations on the supply side.

Reading between the lines is what career counselors and employment analysts do best. It does not take a crystal ball as much as it takes experience with business cycles and close observation of business activity. Industry and employment growth was slowing in Oregon and the U.S. long before the history-changing events of September 11. State and national economies were near recession when people and markets were shocked by acts of terror in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. Related losses, personal and economic, pushed the nation’s employers and investment markets farther toward recession.

The outlook statements in the CIS files won’t reflect these changes right away. This means that those who help students and adults with short- and long-term career plans will need to “read between the lines.” Even with the recession as a normal part of the business cycle and additional losses from terrorist activities, the long-term picture includes population growth, retirements among current workers, and increasing demand for services and products. These all translate into occupational opportunities.

In fact, some occupations and industries experienced growth in the aftermath of September 11. Heavy equipment operation and various construction trades held highly visible roles in cleaning and restoring the damaged environments. Miscellaneous manufacturing got an unexpected boost when the public wanted to buy American flags, commemorative pins, and photographs of New York City and Washington D.C. (See chart on right for additional examples.)

Some of the current realities generate mixed messages. Transportation services and jobs that depend on airline travel sustained major losses. Airlines lost passengers, property, employees, and market share in the attacks. They lost riders when the public did not want to fly. At the same time, military reservists were called to duty and the military branches mobilized for war. Military activity favors industries that provide services and goods to maintain, shelter, and move troops.

Over time, markets average out periods of expansion and periods of recession. For now, it appears that slower and more measured growth is likely through the year 2010. In this environment, career planners consider opportunities that arise when people leave jobs due to retirement and other factors. Regardless of the career, success requires the willingness to build new knowledge and skills and readiness to apply them in different ways.

At a Glance ...
Many occupations received a boost in the aftermath of our nation’s tragedy. Attention turned to jobs in:
- communications
- counseling
- design (engineering and architecture)
- emergency management
- fire protection
- insurance (life and property)
- interpreters and translators
- law enforcement and security services
- media
- medical and funeral services
- military occupations such as combat special forces
- political occupations such as mayor and president
- religious leadership
- social work and social services
Recognizing Excellence

Nominations Sought for Annual Awards

Here is your opportunity to reward a person or program that is making a difference. The CIS Board is seeking nominations for one of its annual awards - the Les Adkins Award for Career Guidance Excellence. The Les Adkins Award focuses on excellence in direct service. Programs and individuals who deliver highly effective career development activities that integrate CIS use are considered. The recipient of the Board's second award, the Nancy Hargis Award for Leadership in Career Development, has already been determined, if you wish to nominate a person or organization in this category, the nomination will be held until 2003.

Details about each award, including a list of past recipients and the instructions for nomination, are provided at our website, http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/awards.htm. Nominations must be received no later than January 31, 2002.

New Board Members Elected to CIS Board

At its October meeting, the CIS Board welcomed three new members. These individuals bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the policy development and planning aspects of our organization.

Emilio Hernandez Jr. is the Director of the University of Oregon’s High School Equivalency Program. The primary goal of the program is to help migrant and seasonally-employed high school dropouts obtain their GED’s. He is also a state certified vocational consultant with experience using CIS in a variety of environments. He is involved in regional and national educational committees dealing with at-risk youth. He is currently serving on the Oregon State Board of Education.

Geoff Webb is the Branch Manager of the Lane Branch of the Department of Human Services, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (OVRS). He is also the acting District 2 Manager for OVRS, covering all of the Willamette Valley south of the Portland metropolitan area. Geoff is a certified rehabilitation counselor who has used CIS extensively throughout his career. In his capacity as Lane Branch Manager, he has been able to develop unique partnerships with numerous community organizations in order to promote the employment of persons with disabilities.

Vickie Fleming is Director of the Mid-Willamette Education Consortium, a regional alliance housed at Chemeketa Community College. As director, she also acts as Regional Coordinator for Professional Technical Education, manages Workforce Investment Act youth programs, and College Credit Now!, the regional dual credit articulation. Other career experiences include managing the schools at Hillcrest and MacLaren Youth Corrections Facilities, ESD special programs, and early childhood work for the Commission on Children and Families (formerly OCCYSC). Oregon CIS is excited to have these knowledgeable and enthusiastic new board members!
Using CIS: ordering, shipments, training, technical tips, system enhancements, and CIS information

**CIS Fall Workshops Are Chock Full!**

Our annual workshops were filled to capacity with attendees and information! Over 325 people attended seventeen workshops around the state during September and October. The one-day, two-session workshops addressed the needs of those with no previous experience with CIS and of those updating their CIS skills.

The morning sessions covering CIS Basics drew the most participants. They became more familiar with CIS, SKILLS, and Job WORKS. The afternoon session participants reviewed the Fall 2001 enhancements to CIS and SKILLS and ventured onto CIS’ new online products and services.

The resounding feedback from those present was “a great workshop!” and “so much information, so little time!” If you were unable to attend and would like to learn about other available workshops, call CIS at 800.495.1266 or go to our website at http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/.

During the fall, we processed orders for many new CIS sites. Nyssa, Alsea, Harrisburg, Santiam, Fossil and Sherman School Districts are our most recent “full use” districts, delivering CIS to all of their schools, elementary through high school.

We received orders from new and returning sites as well, including Glide High School, Riddle High School, Sherwood High School, Joseph High School, Powder Valley High School, Yoncalla Middle School, Multnomah School, Steps to Success North - Goalpost, DIRECTION for Employee Assistance, and Southern Oregon University.

Beaverton School District acquired CIS for their middle schoolers at Cedar Park Intermediate School, Conestoga Middle School, Five Oaks Middle School, Highland Park Middle School, Meadow Park Intermediate School, Mountain View Middle School, Stoller Middle School, and Whitford Intermediate School.

The Youth Corrections Program through the Oregon Department of Education provided CIS to the following juvenile detention centers: Coos County, Deschutes County, Douglas County, Jackson County, Josephine County, Lane County, Lincoln County, Marion County, Umatilla County and Yamhill County. CIS is also new at NORCOR and the two new Coffee Creek Correctional Facilities.

Welcome aboard!

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**More CIS Travelers Hop Aboard**

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**Minor Updates on the Way**

In January, Oregon CIS will be releasing minor updates to both our stand-alone CIS software and our Internet applications. Included in the stand-alone updates will be minor fixes to the CIS and CIS Jr programs, the CIS Site File Editor, and small revisions to several of the CIS information files. These updates are completely optional. If you extensively use any of the parts of CIS that are being revised, you will want to consider installing the updates on your system. CIS for Internet will also be updated with the latest information.

If you have registered for CIS for Internet, and you have signed up for our mailing lists, you will automatically be notified when updates become available. Mailing list signup is also available at http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/signup.

Please visit the Service & Support section of our website for more information.

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**Building Your 2002-03 Budget?**

We do not expect any major changes to Oregon CIS fees for next year. Use this year’s costs in estimating your fees for next year. If you are at a school district or college that has experienced dramatic increases or decreases in enrollment, you may want to factor these changes in. Feel free to call us if you need assistance.
March 1, 2002 - Mark this Date!

On March 1, 2002, at Clackamas Community College’s Gregory Forum, the first Oregon Careers Professional Development Institute will offer a workshop with Dr. Cal Crow. His topic will be “Challenging Our Assumptions about Career Development: Can We Find Simple Solutions in a Complex World?”

Have you ever wondered why so many “foolproof” techniques for career planning and job hunting fail to deliver, or why we have trouble applying what we know? Cal’s workshop will help us discover how our assumptions affect our approaches to career development and will provide us some new tools that facilitate complex thinking and improved decision-making.

Mark March 1 on your calendar now. This is an opportunity you won’t want to miss! The registration fee is only $50 for this 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. event. Brochures with details will be arriving in early January. You can also check out the website at http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/pdi.