CIS Board seeks award nominations

Here is your opportunity to reward a person or organization that is making a difference through a career program. The Oregon CIS Board has been recognizing excellent practices, innovation, and leadership in career development for 19 years. Forty-five individuals or programs have been honored with one of the CIS Board Awards during that time. The Awards Committee is now seeking nominees for 2006, and they’ve made the nomination process as simple as possible.

There are two primary awards, one for direct service – the Les Adkins Award for Career Guidance Excellence – and one for leadership – the Nancy Hargis Award for Leadership in Career Development. Programs or individuals who deliver highly effective career development activities that integrate the use of CIS are considered for the Les Adkins Award. For the Nancy Hargis Award, the CIS Board looks for individuals, institutions, or organizations that actively support career guidance/career development services.

Nominations must be received no later than February 24, 2006. To learn more about each award and the nomination process, please visit our website at http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/cis_board_awards.html

Your feedback counts!

Is CIS easy to use? Are its components useful? How is our service? What can we improve to make your work with CIS easier?

Oregon CIS’ annual Service Survey provides us information about your use of CIS. It allows us to expand the input from sites, which we also collect through workshops and other communications. The information is used by CIS to better understand the strengths and limitations of CIS in providing occupational and educational information and exploration tools. School survey results are used to understand the impact of CIS components in meeting the state’s graduation requirements.

Our Goals

The CIS Service Survey covers several areas of interest to us, in particular:
• General use by type of site
• Specific component use
• Impact of enhancements and new features
• Suggestions for future materials, enhancements, and other features

Please Take the Survey

Let us know what you think by completing the 2006 CIS Service Survey. Oregon CIS appreciates both your ideas and constructive criticism.

To take the survey, please go to http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/survey

Our Thanks

This year’s survey was researched and developed by University of Oregon student, Natalia Buzina, as part of her internship at Oregon CIS in the Spring of 2005.

Look for the results of this survey online later on this year. For more information on the survey, please contact Romella Lee, CIS Services, at rlee@orcis.uoregon.edu or 800.495.1266.
Did you miss attending a fall workshop? Don’t fret! Plan to attend a CIS workshop this winter or spring. These workshops are aimed at giving you hands-on experience while focusing on the special needs of education, business, or agency sites.

Several CIS Workshops are planned at the UO Knight Library Computer Lab in Eugene. They are free! If you are interested in attending, please register online at http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/workshops.

FOR BUSINESSES AND AGENCIES
• March 8 from 8:00 a.m. to noon

The business and agency workshop session provides an overview of the CIS basics. Participants will receive hands-on experience with CIS and will learn how CIS components are organized. Participants will also review the assessments and sorts in CIS, with particular emphasis on SKILLS Assessment and Occupation Sort.

Special Opportunity OCDA Spring Professional Development Institute

John D. Krumboltz, Ph.D, Professor of Education and Psychology at Stanford University, will lead an extraordinary workshop at the annual Oregon Career Development Association’s Spring Professional Development Institute this year. The event will be held March 3, 2006, at Northwest Christian College in Eugene.

This is one of Dr. Krumboltz’s rare appearances in Oregon, and you will not want to miss his valuable insights. Find out about Social Learning and Planned Happenstance theories of career decision-making. Learn how to capitalize on those unplanned events or chance occurrences that often seem to determine life and career choices. This PDI will provide you a framework to work with clients and students to build accidental meetings, broken appointments, spontaneous vacations, temporary jobs, hobbies, or unwanted projects into career-related actions that have positive impact their long term career.

Join OCDA for a continental breakfast at Northwest Christian College’s Morse Event Center. Registration and networking will begin at 8:00 a.m. Registration is $50 for current OCDA members or $80 for non-members (the latter includes an annual OCCDA membership). Lunch will be provided. For additional information please contact OCDA Membership Coordinator, Carolyn Moravek, at cmoravek@uoregon.edu or print off brochure and registration at http://www.ocda.info.

FOR EDUCATORS
• January 31 from noon until 4:00 p.m.
• June 22 from noon until 4:00 p.m.

The educators’ workshop session also provides an overview of the CIS basics. Participants will receive hands-on experience with CIS and will learn how CIS components are organized. Participants will review and evaluate how the CIS career planning portfolio helps them meet the state’s career-related requirements for high school graduation. We look at My Plan, My CRLE Planner, and My Education and Work History as tools for building individual student education plans and profiles.

Sites can also ask us to tailor a CIS workshop to assist you and your staff in implementing CIS in your school or agency. If you would like a special training at your site, call us to discuss your needs. We can provide a quote for the cost of your workshop and schedule a location, date, and time convenient for you and your staff. Contact Romella or Laura at 800.495.1266 or e-mail rlee@orcis.uoregon.edu or lauram@orcis.uoregon.edu.

Budget planning for 2006-2007?

Wondering what it will cost for CIS next year? If you need your site’s CIS fee information, call or e-mail Michael Ruell at 800.495.1266, michaelr@orcis.uoregon.edu. All fee quotes will be e-mailed or faxed directly to you at your request.

Want to be in the loop at CIS?

Join our electronic mail list - it is easy to sign up! This is a great way to be in the information loop at CIS. Learn about technical updates, upcoming CIS workshops and other timely information. To sign up, go to http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/signup/ and complete the online sign-up form. You will receive a confirmation e-mail once your name has been added to the list. It’s that simple.
In our New Year’s update, you will see numerous additions to CIS. We hope these changes will make the information in CIS more useful and complete. If you need help with navigation, or just want to give us your feedback, please contact LeeAnn at 800.495.1266 or 541.346.2339, or leeanns@orcis.uoregon.edu.

In Occupations, the wage topic has been updated to reflect the increase in Oregon’s minimum wage to $7.50 per hour. There is new content in selected overviews. We have also improved the Search keywords and alternate titles.

Financial Aid files have been updated with the most current Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) information. Be sure to notice the OSAC “Early Bird Scholarship.” OSAC applicants may be eligible to win if they turn in a completed application packet by February 15, 2006.

In Financial Aid Sort we improved coding for employers and organizations and you will find that your Financial Aid Sort lists will be improved for these categories.

In Oregon Schools two new career schools have been added to CIS in this update: Hallmark Real Estate School and Oregon Vehicle Dealer Association: Dealer Education School.

Programs of Study links to Oregon schools have been updated as new programs were approved since our fall release. Workforce Investment Act (WIA) approved programs have been updated in this latest CIS release to reflect WIA updates through December 2005.

The Glossary now includes definitions for frequently used acronyms.

Military occupational specialties (MOS) titles have been updated in Military Employment. We also added information to some of the Military FAQ’s.

The Resources topic in the Industries files has also been updated this fall.

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In fall 2006 Oregon CIS will discontinue the Windows and Macintosh versions of CIS and CIS Jr. In planning for a full transition to Internet delivery over the past two years, we surveyed as many sites as possible to determine their use of the CIS desktop version. If your site still uses the desktop system for any reason, please let us know. If you believe you will have problems with this change, please make sure your site is communicating with us so we can work toward solutions together. E-mail or call Garry Davlin, at 541.346.2341 or garryd@orcis.uoregon.edu.
Welcome new CIS sites

Oregon CIS would like to welcome our newest sites:
Albany Options, Amity High School, Columbia County Education Campus, Dayville School, John F. Kennedy High School, Long Creek School, Malheur Alternative Education Center, NW Christian College, Quest Adult School, Tillamook Bay Community College, Weston-McEwen High School, Azalea Middle School, Jackson Middle School, Seneca School, and Waldo Middle School.

Oregon CIS - a Valuable Tool to Search for Scholarships

Parents need all the help they can get in financing a college education. So they are particularly vulnerable to advertisements that promise thousands of dollars of scholarships with a money back guarantee. Certainly not all scholarship search companies engage in deceptive business practices. However, before parents and students decide to spend any money, they should know that you have an excellent resource through your school or program, available for free — Oregon CIS!

Although the vast majority of financial aid students will receive will come directly from the schools to which they apply, aid is also available through many other sources. CIS Financial Aid components provide information about many of these sources.

The financial aid information in CIS includes:

FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions) to give you answers about the various types of financial aid as well as how to apply for financial aid.

National awards totalling hundreds of millions of dollars of college funding from a wide variety of sources.

State and local awards that include:
* Scholarships administered by the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) and the Oregon Community Foundation.
* Local awards submitted by Oregon high schools from around the state. (Your school can also submit local awards to be included.)
* Scholarships offered through Oregon colleges requiring unique application process.

Students can locate awards in CIS that apply to their needs by:

Sorting the awards using Financial Aid Sort's 11 categories to help them individualize their lists.

Browsing the entire file of awards, clustered to help them isolate awards related to their interests and characteristics.

Viewing all of the awards in CIS by organizing the information by title.

Above all, make sure your students are completing the FAFSA's and school and OSAC scholarship applications!