Oregon CIS Receives Governor’s Designation

Governor’s Order establishes POCI and designates CIS as Oregon’s Career Information Delivery System

Governor John Kitzhaber recognizes the importance of career information. On June 15, 2001, by signing Executive Oregon No. 01-08, he formally designated Oregon Career Information System (CIS) as Oregon’s career information delivery system. It establishes Oregon’s Partnership for Occupational and Career Information (POCI) comprised of representatives from the Oregon Employment Department, Oregon Career Information System, Oregon Department of Education, and the Department of Community College and Workforce Development. The Oregon Employment Department is the designated entity for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of occupational information and also coordinates the activities of the partnership.

The preamble to the order concisely states its intent: To address the need for quality career information, it is the policy of the state to coordinate and cooperate across the education and workforce systems to develop, disseminate, and effectively use the best occupational and career information products and services for Oregonians.

POCI representatives have been meeting at least quarterly for the past eighteen months. Resolution of common data concerns, support of school reform and workforce development, and integration of products have been some of the primary topics addressed.
Professional Development Institute Planned for March

The Oregon Career Development Association (OCDA) and Oregon CIS, co-sponsors of the Oregon Careers Conference for 10 years, have joined forces once again in the name of professional development. We are partnering with the Oregon Department of Education, the Oregon Employment Department, and the Partnership for Occupation and Career Information (POCI) to offer a Professional Development Institute (PDI) on March 1, 2002, at Clackamas Community College's Gregory Forum.

Cal Crow will present “Challenging Our Assumptions about Career Development: Can We Find Simple Solutions in a Complex World?” Cal, a dynamic and popular presenter, is the Program Director at the Center for Learning Connections in Washington. The center currently manages the National Training Support Center for America's Career Resource Network. Cal has been involved in career development since 1972 as a school counselor, a career education coordinator, a career counselor in private practice, a counselor educator, and a consultant.

Spend a day with Cal discovering how chaos, complexity, and the latest research on learning can improve your career development program. Develop new perspectives about diversity by examining the impact of “differences,” “initial conditions,” “variations” and “interactions” on the operation of a system, and the application of these concepts to career development. Learn how to help others understand career development. Generate fresh, innovative career development activities that can be used in any setting. And perhaps best of all—have fun!

Circle March 1 on your calendar now. This is an opportunity you won’t want to miss! The registration fee will be only $50 for this 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. event. (Brochures and registration materials will be distributed in early winter.)

CIS Best Practice /G3a

CIS, Backbone of St. Helen’s Career Education Program

This article is excerpted from the Winter 2001 edition of the intoCareers Journal. The full article can be found under News at the Oregon CIS website: http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/

Situated less than an hour’s drive north of Portland on the Oregon side of the Columbia River, St. Helen’s is a community of around 7,500 residents. Nineteen hundred of them are students at St. Helen’s High School.

According to Brian Waters, the high school’s career education instructor (and recipient of the CIS Board’s Les Adkins Award for Career Guidance Excellence in 1996), St. Helen’s High initially developed a career exploration program for its ninth-grade students. But recently it shifted the career education program to the junior year. “We run a semester career education class for the juniors,” Waters says. “Students must take the course to graduate. We base the course totally around CIS. For a student to pass the course, he or she must research a minimum of three careers.”

Using the school’s 15-computer career education lab, students typically begin by selecting three occupations they are interested in and use CIS to learn about each of those occupations. They then research related programs of study and schools. During the semester-long course “we also have them job shadow or interview three different people — people who are either all in the same career, or one person from each of their three different career choices,” Waters says. Waters also notes that he uses CIS’s Assessment Link to compliment the assessment testing materials the school utilizes. “Once the students get their results, they write an evaluation on each of their careers. They assess how well their career choices matched their strengths, abilities and personality traits,” Waters says.

“They put together an educational plan based on the information they gather. By the time they get done, they have a pretty comprehensive plan for the three different careers,” Waters says. “We get a lot of positive comments from the students about the benefits of CIS.”

Students wanting higher grades are encouraged to utilize other components of CIS, such as the scholarship, job search, or self-employment files, and to use resources outside the school. The students keep their research materials in a three-ring notebook, “which is pretty much filled by the time they get done,” Waters says.

“We’re quite heavily dependent upon the CIS program,” Waters notes, adding that CIS is also used in the school’s Youth Transition Program, where students do a modified project similar to the career education course. CIS is also used in the counseling department. “CIS is the backbone of our career education class. Without it I couldn’t see this class being anywhere near as successful.”
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Using CIS: ordering, shipments, training, technical tips, system enhancements, and CIS information

From the Order Corner

A CIS, we're here to assist you, our customers. If you are wondering about an order - if your order was received by us, when it will arrive, where it was sent - call. If you are in need of technical support, call. We provide technical support at no charge.

TIM E O U T REM IN DER

When re-ordering CIS for Fall 2001, please remember that the license for your current version of CIS for Windows, Job W O R K S, and SKILLS expires on September 30, 2001. The CIS programs will stop operating on October 15, 2001. This means that you will not be able to use CIS after that date.

Once your order is received for the new Fall 2001 CIS packages, we will prepare your shipment. Our CD's will be ready to send on or before October 1, and we will be shipping in order of date received. You can also request access to a protected area on our web site to download the new version of the software if you need immediate help.

A complete Q u e s t i o n s and A n s w e r s document concerning the software timeout is available on our web site at http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/timeout_faq.htm.

We don't want you to be inconvenienced by not having the newest CIS loaded and ready to go when our current software expires October 15. So send in your order right away, either by fax or phone. The process is easy — just have a purchase order number ready. In fact if you're reading this and you haven't placed an order, you may want to hurry.

If you have any concerns and/or special needs, please contact Oregon CIS at 800.495.1266, or via e-mail at chawkins@orcis.uoregon.edu.

REGISTERING FOR ONLINE SERVICES

Oregon CIS is actively reworking our Internet presence to provide better customer support and additional product offerings. To assist us with this endeavor, please take time to register at our web site when you receive your Fall 2001 products. Instructions on how to register will be included with your order.

Registration will give you access to our private mailing lists, protected download areas for software installation and updates, training materials, the online high school curriculum, and additional support documents. You will also have the opportunity to sign up for CIS for Internet and the Career-Related Learning Experiences (CRLE) Plan Writer.

Because of the changes in CIS, CIS Jr, and SKILLS, make sure you order new materials for the upcoming year. Your Career Search workbooks, SKILLS Cards (English and Spanish versions available), and SKILLS Worksheets are all materials that have been revised.

DON'T FORGET

Two familiar faces have left Oregon CIS. Cheryl H ankisson, User Services Representative for Northern and Eastern Oregon, left for new challenges at the beginning of July. Joanna deFelice, Publications Specialist and editor of this newsletter, departed later in July. We wish them both well in their new endeavors.

A GOOD-BYE NOTE FROM OUR PAST EDITOR

It is with some sadness that I write this note of farewell. As of Friday, July 19, I'll no longer be with the Oregon CIS team. I will be moving to Molecular Probes, a company that makes fluorescent dyes for biomedical research, where I will be responsible for the production of BioProbes, a 32-page quarterly product catalog, full of graphs and tables and some pretty amazing microscopic photographs.

I have enjoyed my time here at CIS and enjoyed meeting many of you, whether it was by phone, e-mail, or in person. I will miss those encounters. You are a dedicated group of professionals, with a great deal of enthusiasm for what you do. Thank you for the opportunity to work with you these last three plus years.

-Joanna deFelice

MORE CIS TRAVELERS HOP ABOARD

As the new school year approaches, we'd like to welcome aboard our newest school districts. Canby School District is the most recent district to go "Full Use" by delivering CIS to all of their schools, elementary through high school.

We have also received order commitments from many new sites including Northwest Christian College, Sam Barlow High School, Gresham High School, Estacada High School, Willamette High School, Triangle Lake High School, Outdoor High School, Turn A round School, The Opportunity Center, Perrydale High School, and the Buckman House (a Janus Youth Program). Welcome aboard!
Oregon CIS Fall Workshops Planned

“CIS is more than information. It's a world of possibilities.”

CIS workshops are regional gatherings for career professionals that feature CIS tools for career development. Our presentations are tailored to provide you with curriculum ideas, program strategies, and suggestions for CIS use.

- Learn how to use new and enhanced CIS products, with this year’s focus on CIS, SKILLS, Career-Related Learning Experience Plan Writer, Discovery and Passage Online Curriculum, CIS for Internet, and the Financial Aid Sort Tutorial.
- Become informed about ways to implement state educational standards by using CIS.
- Learn information that helps to address re-employment issues through using CIS.
- Interact with career professionals in a small group setting.
- Network with peers to share methods and innovative ideas.

Each regional workshop will provide hands-on experience in using CIS software, emphasizing enhancements and explaining how to access and use new features. Each workshop has two sessions — a “CIS Basics” session offered in the morning for new users and experienced people who would like a refresher, and a “CIS Enhancements and New Features” session for experienced users offered in the afternoon. CIS staff will provide information needed to use the newest versions of CIS products and apply them in workforce and educational programs.

Register for ½ day or the full day workshop. Early registration is encouraged, as participation will be limited to the number of computers available. For online registration, or to view our workshop schedule, go to our web site at http://oregoncis.uoregon.edu/

For more information, contact Cheryle Hawkins or Romella Lee at 541.346.3823, 800.495.1266, or e-mail: chawkins@orcis.uoregon.edu