



GET REAL

Explore Computer Science!

Real People

Real Work

A Real Future

Amanda Hosler
University of Oregon senior
Computer Science major

IMAGINE

Have a fun, creative job

Take technology in cutting edge directions

Collaborate with smart people across the globe





Make a solid living

Tackle puzzling questions



Solve "real world" problems

Innovate for contemporary life



WHY I AM HERE



- To talk to you about myths and realities of computer science careers
- To answer your questions, so feel free to ask!



~~MYTH #1: Computer people only care about computers.~~

REAL
PEOPLE
TALK



REALITY:

“In high school, I watched way too many movies that showed one-dimensional computer scientists as pocket protecting geeks. It turns out you can have other interests and be good at computer science.

Programmers have real lives, are real people, many in their 20’s and 30’s, who go snowboarding, have families, have interests.”

Kristen Accardi, Linux Programmer, Intel

~~MYTH #2: I'd be sitting at a desk all day staring at a screen.~~



REAL PEOPLE
TALK

REALITY:

“A lot of computer firms try to create a relaxed atmosphere for creative minds so there are a lot of little perks to keep the mind creative. You don't clock in right at 8 or 9. Here we have a large game room. We also have yoga and karate classes at lunchtime, and any time we want to we can take a break. We live in our minds and sometimes we need a break from our minds.”

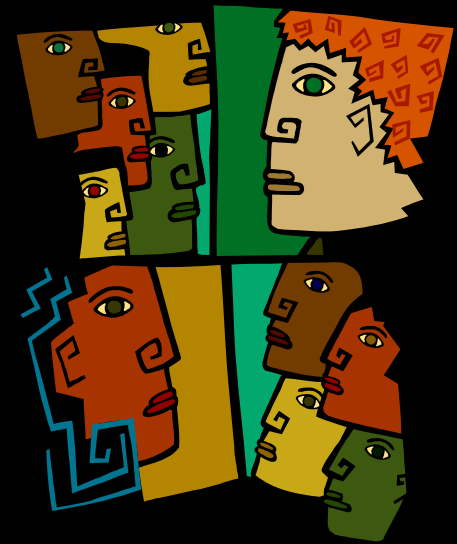
Robert Down, Manager, Plexis System Healthcare

~~MYTH # 2: I'd be sitting at a desk all day staring at a screen~~

REALITY:

Wide variety of specialties within field
Suited to many different types
of talents, personalities, interests

People with creative talent,
people who like to solve complex puzzles,
people with good business sense,
good leaders and managers,
and more...



~~MYTH # 2: I'd be sitting at a desk all day staring at a screen~~

REALITY:

- * Create new, theoretical and applied knowledge at the forefront of technology
- * Design computer software that keeps everything moving, from computer games to the Space Shuttle
- * Create and maintain computer networks that keep people connected
- * Construct elegant, organized systems out of million pieces of data
- * Be a coach who recommends technologies and systems for the best productivity and health of an organization
- * Write the instructions or “mind maps” computers need to come alive and begin solving problems

~~MYTH #2: I'd be sitting at a desk all day staring at a screen.~~



Flexible lifestyle

- Independent work
- Many work at home, in a coffee shop, on an airplane

Many types
of people
benefit from
flexibility



~~MYTH #2: I'd be sitting at a desk all day staring at a screen.~~

Bangkok for a week? London for a day?

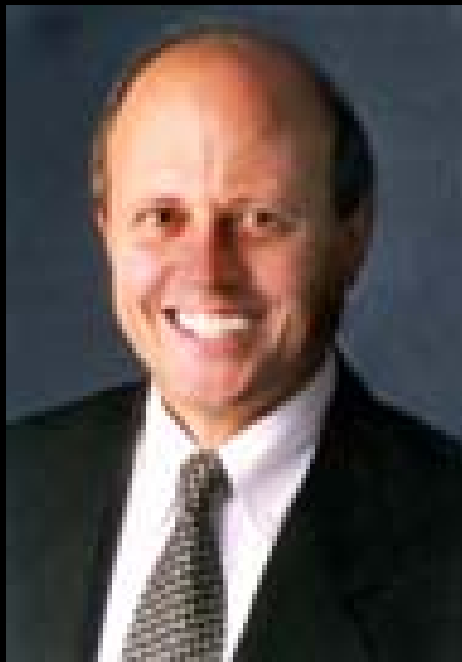
Travel the world
literally or virtually

- A global market
- A global workforce
- “Virtual” teams



~~MYTH #3: There aren't any jobs in
Oregon in Computer Science.~~

REAL PEOPLE TALK



REALITY:

“We always have a shortage of really good people. We actually have to hire more than half our engineers from out of state, just because of supply and demand. We would prefer to hire them from Oregon because people are more likely to accept offers and become long term employees.”

Wally Rhines, CEO, Mentor Graphics

~~MYTH #3: There aren't any jobs in Oregon in Computer Science.~~

REALITY:

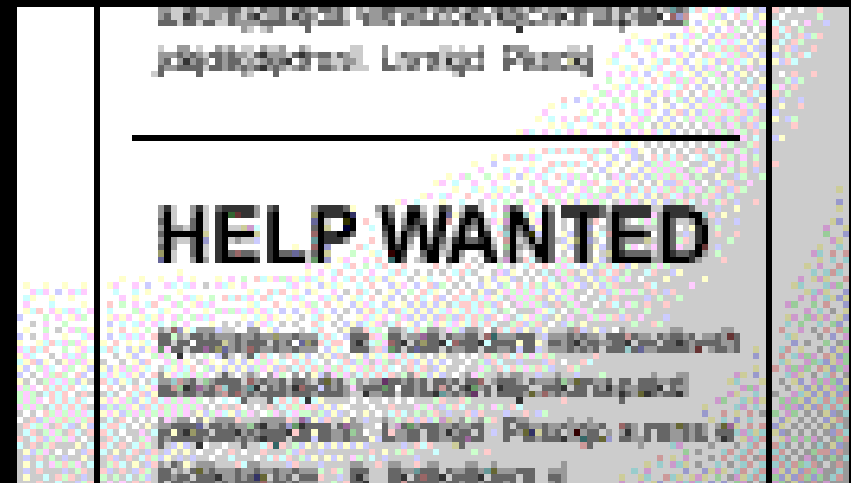
Jobs expected to increase

Nationwide

Here in Oregon

Colleges not keeping up

Why not you?



~~MYTH #3: There aren't any jobs in Oregon in Computer Science.~~

REALITY:

A GOOD LIVING

- Average 2005 starting salary for graduates with a BA degree:

\$50,820

- Average 2005 salary with doctoral degree:

\$93,050

Salaries vary depending on college degree, position, organization



~~MYTH #4: Computer Science is just for guys.~~

REAL PEOPLE TALK

REALITY:



"I would tell (young women) to go for it; I wonder why there are so few females in computer science. I have never had a problem with my classmates, or my professors, and I have never had a problem on the job. I was surprised that I was the only female. I played the same video games and read the same books as the other students in my classes."

Diana Carroll, Test Research Engineer, Intel

~~MYTH #4: Computer Science is just for guys.~~

WANTED Women and Minorities

- Unique important contributions
- Scholarships, opportunities, support systems



~~MYTH #5: Computer Science work is anti-social.~~

REAL PEOPLE TALK



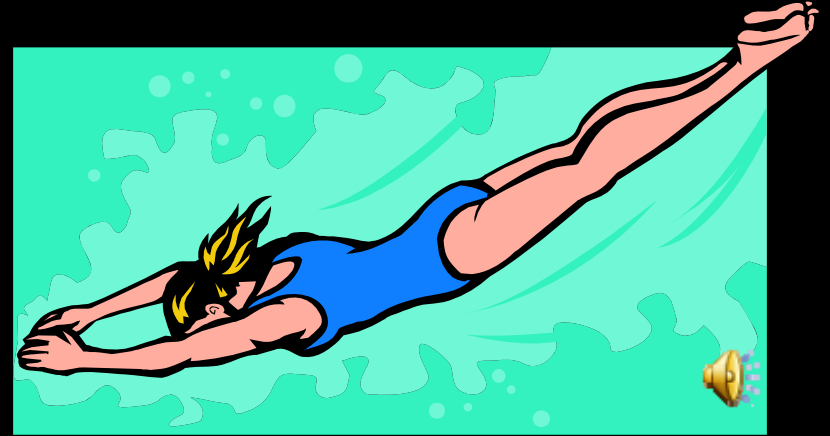
REALITY:



“Every project IBM develops has at least 2 if not 22 people working on it. So we’re looking for people who are team players. Many projects have teams that include members from all over the world.”

Jim Troisi, Business Alliances Manager, IBM

What's next?



Dive in now!

Explore and prepare **before college**

Foundation classes in high school

Mathematics: highest level

Chemistry or Physics

English

Resources outside of high school:

Weekend and summer classes

Apprenticeships

Camps

What's next?

Computer Science in College: At least a Bachelor's is required for most Computer Science fields.

Many Oregon options:

Oregon University System

Bachelor and graduate education

7 universities, diverse programs

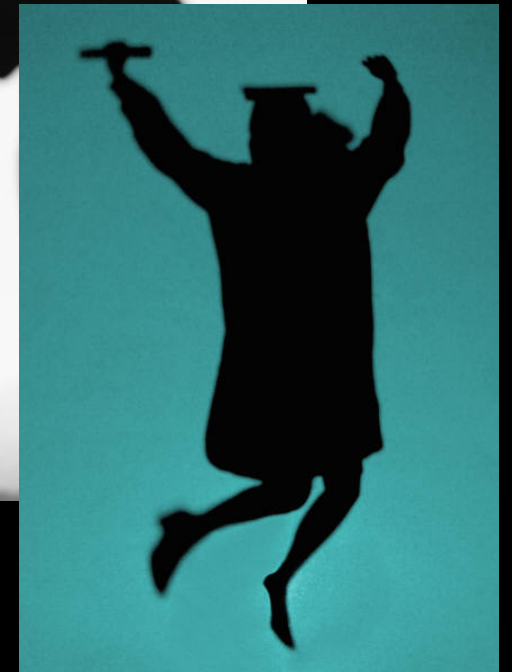
Oregon Community Colleges

Degree, certificate, and transfer programs

17 colleges throughout the state

Oregon Private Colleges

Bachelor and graduate education





GET REAL

For more info on
colleges, jobs, people in
computer science,
and more, visit:

GETREAL.OUS.EDU

