

GIS Connections

GIS Program Newsletter, Cayuga Community College, Auburn, NY

Fall 2016

2016 GIS grad accepts summer position at Parks and Recreation

GIS grad Ashleigh Grosso earned a job as a Public Educator and Watercraft Inspector with the Office of Parks and Recreation. Ash is very happy to secure the job even before going through the graduation ceremony at CCC.



Ashleigh's Story:

Graduating in May 2016, Ashleigh is the GIS Club president, the GIS lab assistant, and an intern for the Institute for the Application of Geospatial Technologies on the Auburn campus. Ashleigh chose the GIS degree program at CCC because of its applicability and usefulness in her hopes of becoming a natural resource manager. The articulation agreement that CCC has with ESF regarding these two programs is what really attracted Ashleigh to CCC in the first place. (Cont. page 2)

Hands-on learning is what attracts so many to the GIS program

Hands on learning is what makes GIS one of the most attractive degree programs to many college students. The GIS program at CCC is designed to offer a technology oriented program where students will get hands-on training with the cutting edge technology that is widely used in the fields of crime mapping, environmental monitoring, health and medical research, resource management, fire fighting, emergency management, and many other related fields.

Our track record shows, many of our GIS graduates have entered directly into the job market at the completion of their 2 year degree program while others continued their higher education at participating universities. The GIS degree program offered at Cayuga Community College is a proven pathway to outstanding bachelor's and postgraduate programs, both in the SUNY system and at elite private institutions. Following are just a few examples from Cayuga that show how a degree in GIS can be the beginning of a rewarding job or a path to high-paying career.

"The experience I had at Cayuga Community College was very rewarding and challenging. If you are a visual learner and want a challenging and rewarding work than GIS is the career path for you. I started my work at National Grid right after my graduation and I'm sure I had an edge because of my technical skills that I gained in my 2 years at CCC."

Ryan L, 2015

Why get a degree in GIS?

- GIS is one of the fastest growing fields in the US
- With a 2-year degree in GIS, you can obtain a starting salary of 35K to 40K
- After CCC, you can transfer to a 4-year degree program at SUNY colleges
- Learn GIS & GPS technologies and their applications
- Be part of a rapidly expanding high-demand field of geospatial industry

Ashleigh's Story: (continued from page 1)

“Not only will I be able to take my first two years of college at CCC, which is more affordable than a 4 year college, but I will have an A.S. degree in GIS before I transfer for my B.S. I believe this will give me the edge on other job seekers when it comes to finding a job after graduation,” she explains.

Zachary Johnson

The beginning of my college career was less than stellar. I was unaware of what I wanted to major in specifically, so I tried a few different things before finding Geographic Information Systems (GIS), here at Cayuga Community College. The program allowed for me to utilize all of my prior knowledge and skills. I have been immersed in a completely new learning environment that has taught me new innovations and technology within the field of study.



The thought of finishing a college degree was not a reality until attending Cayuga, for this I am grateful. After graduation this semester, I plan to relocate to Arizona to further my education and find a career using my new found skills.



Hands-on learning (continued from page 1)

“I received an A.S. from Cayuga Community College before enrolling in the B.S. program in Geographic Information Systems at SUNY Cortland. I went on to enter the M.S. Program in Geography at Binghamton University, and was awarded full funding for the master’s degree program.”

—William T. '10

“After I completed my degree in GIS at Cayuga, I worked on Earthscope in Colorado, in collaboration with IAGT and NASA. This project tracks U.S. tectonic plate activity. From there I became a student employee at the Cornell University Geographic Information Repository. I am completing my M.S. degree in Energy Policy at SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry, where I also work as a research associate. More than six years after I earned my degree at Cayuga, I am still using the skills I learned there to help those around me conduct better research.”

—Ajay G. '04



Mathew Raymond

I decided to pursue a degree in Geographic Information Systems at Cayuga Community College to help expand my knowledge and experience in G.I.S., so I can apply it to my position in The United States Army as a 12y Geospatial Engineer. My courses

at CCC have helped make me a vital asset to my team, and have won multiple awards for the outstanding work I have completed, including the Army Accommodation Medal and the Hero of the Battle Award.

GIS Day at CCC



GIS Day 2015 at Cayuga Community College



GPS field data collection by the GIS students



Guest speaker Ryan Lyndaker receiving his gift from GIS club president Ashleigh Grosso after speaking to the class of 2016.

For a GIS video presentation visit:

www.cayuga-cc.edu/academics/schools/stem/geographic-information-systems/

GIS Day 2015:

GIS Day 2015 was organized by CCC's GIS Club on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. A large number of students, teachers, and college employees took part in the GIS Day activities. A Geo Quiz was conducted and the winner received a \$100 VISA gift card and the second place winner received a \$50 VISA gift card.

GIS Day 2016 is on its way

November 16, 2016

For more information about GIS Day
Visit: www.gisday.com

Want to know more about GIS?
or if you would like to bring a group of students to participate in a GIS Day activity at CCC, please contact:

Dr. Abu Badruddin

Program Director

315.294.8610

email: badruddin@cayuga-cc.edu



State University of New York

197 Franklin Street
Auburn NY 13021
www.cayuga-cc.edu

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"We are impressed with the structure and content of the GIS program. In comparison to the material offered by many institutions of higher education at the BS or BA level, the material provided by the Cayuga's GIS Program is actually more comprehensive than those programs."

2015 External Program Review Committee