



THE NPU GLOBE



A BI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION

2013 – VOL. 1

NORTHWESTERN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

Kevin Oskovich

The Student Services and Information Affairs Office is proud to announce the Grand Opening of the NPU Center for Business and Technology (CBAT). The CBAT supports the mission of the University by bringing together students, faculty, and staff into a dynamic resource and practice environment to learn hands-on skills for professional development and career advancement.

CBAT Objectives:

- ◆ Provide tools, software packages, and hands-on practice
- ◆ Cultivate business IT job-related skills
- ◆ Assist in professional certification preparation

- ◆ Support faculty teaching of business IT applications
- ◆ Provide a forum for business and IT professional development

General categories of software for practice and drills:

- ◆ Cloud Computing
- ◆ Mobile Computing
- ◆ Business Applications
- ◆ Media and Design Applications
- ◆ Accounting and Finance
- ◆ Project Management
- ◆ Statistics and Analytics

The CBAT also has other services ready for you:

- ◆ TA Stations

- ◆ Counseling Services
- ◆ Extracurricular Services
- ◆ Information Affairs Office

Tours are available at the library services station, or just come by and meet with any of the staff!

See you at the CBAT!



SPOTLIGHT

The NPU Globe team interviewed Mr. Pranay Mistry, 2012 MSEE alumnus. Pranay is currently working at B&C Transit, Inc. as an Application Software Engineer for train control systems.

NPU Globe Team: What encouraged you to select NPU to pursue your higher studies?

Pranay: After completing my Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering, I wanted to continue my education in Embedded Systems with a concentration in hardware, so I started looking for universities in the U.S. that offered a Master's and Embedded Systems courses. Luckily, I found



NPU's curriculum had a concentration area with respect to

Embedded Systems and a great tuition fee structure. The faculty's profile was also impressive, which helped make up my mind to study at NPU. NPU is located in the heart of Silicon Valley, which was a great environment for me to search for my dream job.

NPU Globe Team: How did the program help you in your career, and does it meet the requirements for industry standards?

Pranay: I found all the courses at NPU practically oriented and very useful in my career. I benefited from different practicum labs. I am doing the same things that I did during my Embedded Systems lab course, so I find it easier to perform my duties. I am very thankful to NPU for that.

NPU Globe Team: What are your future goals?

Pranay: I'm working as a Junior Application Software Engineer. After

gaining more experience, I want to be a Senior Engineer and lead a team. If I get a chance to teach in the future, I want to extend my knowledge to other students as a professor. I want to mentor and develop more successful students using my knowledge and experience.

NPU Globe Team: Do you have any recommendations to current NPU students?

Pranay: Try to gain as much knowledge as you can during your student life. We will get many chances to earn money in the future, but we have only limited opportunities to gather the core knowledge during our student life. Keep yourself super active, utilize what you learn, and enjoy your time. Whatever you learn during your studies will be useful later in your career. As students we have an opportunity to strengthen ourselves, secure our career, and prepare to be successful professionals. Don't waste your opportunity.

RELIABILITY ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT

Stephen Hyatt

Dr. Stephen Hyatt, NPU instructor, gave a graduate student seminar on Reliability Engineering & Management at Santa Clara University. An excerpt of the abstract of Dr. Hyatt's presentation summarizes his philosophy about the field of reliability.

"Reliability engineering is a multidisciplinary engineering field. Reliability systems and management are inseparable and encompass all the activities subjugated by TQM - as reliability is often defined as quality over time".

Dr. Hyatt presented a flow chart of the Design Cycle for Reliability and Reliability Growth to convey to the students the continuous nature of reliability testing, prediction, and growth. With that in mind, he then addressed the topic of Design for Reliability (DfR); he stressed the importance of incorporating reliability planning early on in the design phase, since any attempt to improve reliability later is a reactive response to cascading problems and losses on warranties - an interesting statistic shows that "U.S.-based manufacturers spent \$24.7 billion

on claims in 2011, up from \$23.6 billion in 2010" (<http://www.warrantyweek.com/archive/ww20120312.html>). He then highlighted some foundation topics for reliability modeling, such as the reliability and hazard functions for a few failure distributions and their relation to the System Life Cycle, commonly known as the "Bathtub Curve". The presentation also covered different testing methods at the development and production phases, and the use of acceleration models. Dr. Hyatt concluded his seminar with a summary of the best practices of industry leaders.



NPU AND COMMUNITY

TIME TO QUIT

A group of MBA students, namely Chun-Wei Hsu, Fan Yang, Madhuri Padmanabhan, Debao Sun, Landai Ngo, Qian Hao, Ji Wu, Zhifu Yue, and Grace from the Green Business Management class taught by Dr. Nik Tehrani, worked on a course project about "How to Stop Smoking". They spread awareness using various methods, such as designing flyers, banners, surveying fellow students through questionnaires, and inviting teachers and students to make a promotional video. They used social

media sites such as Facebook to publicize the message on the hazards of smoking. As a result of the campaign, two of the group members quit smoking. The students learned that team spirit and every effort, big or small, can bring about a change in our lives and society as a whole.



FREMONT CITY OFFICIALS VISIT NPU

City Council member Vinnie Bacon, along with several key officers from the Office of Economic Development, visited NPU. The purpose of the visit was to forge closer ties between the City of Fremont and NPU. The delegation took a campus tour and discussed executive training for local businesses, event hosting, and local public school promotion opportunities.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The NPU Table Tennis Club came alive with students, faculty, and staff getting together for weekly practice. At the end of the semester they competed at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels of competition.



Trip to 17-Mile Drive – Cool, windy weather did not dampen the spirit of students visiting the beautiful California coast. The group also stopped at Carmel-by-the-Sea. It was a fun day for all!

Colorful dresses, music in the air, and a dance floor full of couples set the theme for the Valentine's Day party. The language of love is universal.



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