



GΣΣK 2 GΣΣK



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WHAT A TANGLED WEB WE WEAWE...



Carl Wood, a student in the Computer Information Systems program, has volunteered to re-energize our CIS Web site.

<https://cis.uma.edu>

One of his first coding projects will be to develop a PHP-powered search engine and site map. In the Web design and development area, Carl has taken CIS131 Web Applications and Development, CIS231 JavaScript, CIS333

Programming: PHP, and is currently enrolled in CIS433 Programming: XML.

As a final project for the PHP class, Carl, along with two of his classmates, Shawn Brann and Amanda Zayac, streamlined the process of applying for a CIS internship. Applying XHTML, CSS, MySQL, and PHP, the students updated the application so it can now be submitted online and digitally signed at each step in the approval process.

In his current position as an intern for the Department of Transportation, Carl is currently expanding his knowledge of client-side scripting – focusing his energies on AJAX (asynchronous JavaScript and XML) applications.

Put your hands together and join me in welcoming Carl to our Web development team.

GΣΣK-Ω-METER

You may be a computer geek

```
if
{
```

You send out Valentine cards with a quote from Pascal

```

You take notes in class using text messaging lingo
}
```

You were disappointed when this conditional statement was not followed by an else

*"The heart has its reasons,
which reason
knows nothing of."*

-- Blaise Pascal (1670)

To convert words to text messaging, visit

<http://www.lingo2word.com/translatetxt.php>



GEEZERS TO GEEKS . . .

. . . in four short weeks

Geek Gods and Goddesses



Winners of the Internet Scavenger Hunt

“A GEE XOR is a derivative of GEEZER (as in old geezer) and GEEK (used to describe any ‘old’ person engaging in nerdy activities).”

CIS students, Kimberly Baker, Diana Lavoie, and Shelly Hanscom, are volunteering for the Geezer to Geek senior literacy program sponsored by the Computer Information Systems program at the Bangor campus.

Each Friday morning in February, 20+ senior citizens (affectionately called geezers) participate in a hands-on computer training that introduces the basics of

Windows®, WordPad®, Internet, and e-mail. These would be geexors gain life-enriching computer skills that will enable them to access medical information, research their family tree, view the stock market in real time, monitor personal finances, shop online, and communicate with family and friends .

Thanks to the support of local merchants, the winners

of reinforcement activities such as Windows Jeopardy, WordPad Bingo, and the Internet Scavenger Hunt receive computer-related prizes and enjoy a well-deserved refreshment break.

The workshops will end on February 22 with a geexor graduation, but for many this is just the start of a technology revolution where every participant is a winner.

RESEARCH PAPER PHOBIA

So you have a research paper to write for your English class, and you took one look at the new user interface in Word 2007® and it propelled you into an instant panic mode. Relax! Word 2007® has made organizing and formatting your paper so easy that **Word® would have typed it for you if it could.**

Visit <https://cis.uma.edu>

Click on the **Tips and Tools** button for a step-by-step tutorial on selecting a research paper style, inserting citations and footnotes, creating an index

and table of contents, organizing and formatting your bibliography or works cited, and creating a professional cover page.



Martin W. Webb



MEMORIES OF MARTY

Martin Webb (known by his fellow CIS students as Marty) passed away unexpectedly on December 26, 2007.

His love and support of UMA (specifically the Bangor campus) was no

secret. He proudly displayed his latest tattoo (the UMA moose).

Marty, a member of the graduating class of 2008 looked forward to a successful career in the

Information Technology field.

As we proudly accept our diplomas in May, we will remember our friend and classmate, Marty Webb.



WANTED

IT PROFESSIONALS



Sarah Conroy, Human Resource Director of Penobscot Bay Media, an entrepreneurial technology firm in Camden, Maine, is courting CIS May graduates to fill IT positions within the company.

According to its Web site, "Penobscot Bay Media LLC is a professional services firm specializing in the development and application of 'information visualization' solutions using geographic information systems, spatially intelligent robotics, interactive distance learning, application interface design, and custom desktop,

web and thin client applications. "

Director Conroy has set up a *mini job fair* for Wednesday, March 19 from 12 – 1 in the Small Conference Room in the Student Technology Center to recruit CIS students.

If you expect your tassel in May or simply want to hear a technology leader describe the career prospects in the IT sector, you are invited to participate.

KOKOSKA

TO SPEAK IN NASHVILLE

Following her speaking engagement in Las Vegas in October, Instructor Kokoska has been invited as a guest speaker at the 2008 Cengage Learning (formerly Course Technology) Spring Technology Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, from March 11 – March 15.

Her hands-on lab session will introduce the intuitive new user interface in PowerPoint 2007 and present design and formatting features including design templates, combining presentations, SmartArt® designer graphics, Picture Enhancements, Multiple File Formats and Presenter View.

According to Instructor Kokoska, this is a real honor.



"Cengage Learning is actually paying me to speak; at UMA, I usually get paid to stop talking."



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INTERNSHIPS

During the past academic year, students have enjoyed diverse internship experiences while applying information technology skills in Maine firms.

Amanda Zayac participated in a CIS380 internship experience under the organizational mentorship of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Supportive Services (DBE), a program sponsored by Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC) to assist woman-owned and minority businesses become more competitive in bidding on MDOT contracts.

Amanda's efforts resulted in an interactive Web presence for Maine Rebar Services in Windham, Maine. According to the DBS Supportive Service Project Manager, Amy Stewart, "Amanda has demonstrated a high level of creativity, professionalism and attention to detail. The website Amanda designed and created for Maine Rebar Services is sure to assist the business in its marketing and education efforts with regard to both current and potential customers. "

Bridgette Murray applied her highly-developed Web design and development skills to promote the services of Portland Air Conditioning located in Scarborough, Maine. DBE was also the organizational sponsor of this internship.

Through integration of XHTML, CSS, and PHP, Bridgette developed a *Brochure Site* to expand the business' sales and marketing efforts. Bridgette focused on building a prototype and establishing a system architecture using technologies that could easily be updated and extended.

Communication between Bridgette and her sponsor was primarily via e-mail. The site is scheduled to *go live* within the next few weeks, and Bridgette has been asked to submit a proposal to maintain the site once it is published.

Nghia Ha, a December 2007 graduate of the Bachelor of Science program in Computer Information Systems, enjoyed a successful CIS480 internship experience at NewPage Corporation, the operators of the Rumford Paper Mill.

Under the professional tutelage of Tim Barclay, Senior Information Systems Analyst, Nghia had an opportunity to apply IT skills in "Web Applications (interfacing), Hardware and Software (systems capability), Programming Concepts (configuration of hardware), Networking Concepts (network monitoring), and all of her management classes for sound decision making."

Senior Analyst Barclay attributes Nghia's "*initiative, motivation, and ability to work with minimal direction*" for her offer of employment at the Information Technology department at the Rumford Mill.



