

Employers Sponsor Nontraditional Employment for Women

Nearly 100 high school girls were introduced to nontraditional career paths at the second Nontraditional Employment for Women (NEW) event at Sierra College in October. Keynote speaker Gina Lujan, Founder of the Sacramento Hacker Lab and a panel of three entrepreneurial women inspired the girls by describing their unique journeys. Then girls made hands-on projects in the Welding, Mechatronics, Engineering, Photography, Drafting & Engineering Support, Construction and Energy Technology, and Applied Art & Design labs. During lunch, business representatives rotated to small groups of girls to explain opportunities in their industries.



The Sierra College NEW event was sponsored by the North Far North Regional Consortium, Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, Intel®, Valley IT Support, Parallax Inc., Union Pacific, AAUW Roseville-South Placer, RuffStuff Specialties, SME Sacramento Valley Chapter, SMUD, Hacker Lab and the California Community Colleges Special Populations Collaborative.

SME designates Rocklin High as PRIME site

The SME Education Foundation announced on Manufacturing Day that Rocklin High School is one of six newly designated high schools in the nation selected for the Partnership Response In Manufacturing Education (PRIME) program. The objective of PRIME is to provide students, teachers and schools access to real-life manufacturing education and tools, as well as building partnerships with local manufacturing companies. Teacher Dan Frank has developed the lab and program with support from the Sierra College STEM Collaborative and SME Sacramento Valley Chapter #145. The PRIME grant will enhance the design, machining and pre-engineering program.



Hacker Lab Coming to Rocklin

To inspire innovation, support start-ups and establish a co-working and maker space, Sierra College is partnering with Hacker Lab to open a Rocklin location this spring. It will provide opportunities for businesses, entrepreneurs, faculty, students and community members to connect, create, learn and share skills. In addition to co-working space, the Rocklin site expects to have electronics, industrial sewing, 3D printing, laser cutters, a computer lab and more.

The first of several meet-ups to get community input was held on campus in December. To become a member, be notified of meet-ups, help plan the space, donate equipment, learn about upcoming classes and sign up for the newsletter, go to <http://hackerlab.org/> or contact Eric Ullrich at: eric@hackerlab.org.

2015 Lean Training

Workplace Organization

January 14 & 28

Lean Principles

March 11

Current State Mapping

May 6 & 20

Workplace Organization

June 10 & 24

Lean Principles

August 5

Project Management

August 26, September 9 & 23

Current State Mapping

October 7 & 21

Practical Problem Solving

November 4 & 18

Sierra College Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT) provides training with the Continuous Improvement Network (CIN). Register at cacinetwork.com.

Manufacturing Day Impacts Students

In partnership with the Sacramento Valley Chapter of SME (sacvalleysme.org), Sierra College CACT connected students and businesses for National Manufacturing Day events throughout the region.



Colfax High School students visited Schilling Robotics and the tour demonstrated how work-based experiences impact students. After the tour, students reported: "it got me even more interested in engineering, and how our world is advancing," "made me really want to go into manufacturing," and "it influenced me to start learning about mechanical engineering."

Students also saw how their classwork prepares them for careers. Students said that the tour: "emphasized the importance of planning out your design and testing it before releasing it," "went over the design process and exemplified prototyping, which we do a lot," and "focused on designing and manufacturing, which is exactly what we learn in class."

See the tour at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zutqAw2SwNk>.

Continuous Improvement Forum

Thirty leaders from regional businesses and California State Departments learned how to apply a Lean Philosophy to increase efficiency at the "California Continuous Improvement Forum" on October 7 in Sacramento, sponsored by the Institute for Quality Public Services, Continuous Improvement Network, California Government Operations Agency and the Sierra College Center for Applied Competitive Technologies (CACT).

Speaker Jeff Fuchs, Director, Maryland World Class Consortia (mwcmmc.org), explained that Lean involves all employees in developing a culture that reduces waste and adds value for customers. "Lean can be described as 'everybody, everyday, systematically solving problems,'" said Fuchs.

Speakers showed how Lean has been applied to business and public agencies alike explained David Moore, President, Rex Moore Electrical Contractors.

"Too often Lean is associated only with manufacturing and individuals think they can not apply continuous improvement to their work since they are not manufacturers," said Moore. "The Forum reinforced that Lean concepts can be used anywhere there are processes being performed, services provided or products being created."



Customized Training

Since 1992, Sierra College has offered on-site employee training. Contact Carol Pepper-Kittredge at 916-660-7801 or training@sierracollege.edu.

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