

December 9, 2004

05-042

AUTHORITY TO APPLY TO THE STATE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE  
FOLLOWING DEGREE PROGRAM OPTION:  
COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS: AAS  
DEGREE NETWORK ADMINISTRATION

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REPORT:

This degree option will provide students with the opportunity to pursue a degree specialization in network administration. Employability in systems/network administration will be more viable if students are able to earn a degree in Network Administration rather than the more generic degree in Computer Information Systems. Adding the degree option would officially recognize what the Computer Technology Subject Area Committee is already offering and make it clear to employers that PCC graduates are prepared to enter positions in network administration.

The Computer Technology Subject Area Committee is re-packaging existing courses, using electives, and has developed two new courses to design this option. Course work will prepare students for employment through comprehensive lab assignments and cooperative work experience. The 2002-2012 growth rate in Oregon for Network and Computer Systems Administrators is projected to be faster than average and total job openings are expected to be higher than average. The majority of the position openings are in the Portland-Metro area.

A degree option in Network Administration should increase enrollment in the CT program as well as improve retention.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the college be authorized to submit an application to the State Board of Education to add an AAS degree option in Network Administration to the existing Computer Information Systems program.