HF**OS**S @ BCC

Humanitarian Free and Open-Source Software Workshop at Bergen Community College
Saturday, April 2, 2011 – 8:00am – 1:00pm
400 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ 07652 – Technology Education Center – Room 128

Join us for a half-day at Bergen Community College where we will explore the Open-Source world and share experiences getting students involved in real-world software projects that often have humanitarian goals in mind.

What you will gain from this workshop:

- A set of take-away open-source lesson plans you can use right away that get your students using and, perhaps, contributing to and/or creating open-source software projects.
- Exposure to App Inventor, Google's visually-oriented open-source product for developing applications for Android smart phones.
- An introduction to what Open-Source is all about: history, goals, accomplishments
- Practical ideas for exploring open-source products, especially in environments with limited resources and/or heavy security restrictions
- Testimonials from colleagues and students who are using and/or working on real-world open-source software projects

Explore this fascinating world of freely available products and platforms that will excite and engage your students. The Open-Source software movement has been thriving for close to 30 years and in the last 10 years has emerged as an important enterprise-level player, providing solutions to business, industry, education and government across a wide variety of platforms and environments.

Guest speakers include:

- Prof. Ralph Morelli, Trinity College, Hartford, CT; founding member of the HFOSS project.
- Prof. Heidi Ellis, Western New England College; founding member of the HFOSS project.
- Prof. Greg Hislop, iSchool, Drexel University

See the attached agenda for details.

For more information and details, please contact us:

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Technology Education Center, Room TEC-128

AGENDA

8:00-8:30	Registration / Coffee
8:30-8:45	**Welcome to Bergen Community College and the Open Source Workshop** Evan Kobolakis, Chief Information Officer, Bergen Community College, Paramus, NJ Anita Verno, Associate Professor, Information Technology, Bergen Community College; CSTA Advisory Council; Northern NJ CSTA Board Member
8:45-9:15	**What is Open Source and Why is it important?** Greg Hislop, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA **Description**: Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) has become a significant industry segment and represents a significantly different model for knowledge creation. This talk will provide a definition and brief history of FOSS. It will also survey the landscape of FOSS today. The presentation will end with considerations for educators and pointers to resources for additional learning.
9:15-10:15	**App Inventor** Ralph Morelli, Trinity College, Hartford, CT App Inventor is a visual, web-based programming environment that makes it possible for non-programmers to develop apps for their mobile phones. The talk will demonstrate how to create a simple mobile phone app and will discuss the potential that App Inventor holds for K-14 computing education.
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:00	**Open Source Web Resources** Bill Madden, Bergen Community College, Paramus, NJ **Description:** This talk will focus on the great variety of products, tools and services that are available in the public domain. No matter what your particular interests are, 'there's an [open-source] app for that'. We will take a look at how to find what you are looking for.
11:00-12:15	**Your Students Can Contribute Too!** **Ready for Prime Time: 6 Take-With HFOSS Lesson Plans.** Take these with you and use them right away. A series of lesson plans/activities that take your students from finding and using open source products through making active contributions to existing or new projects. Presented by Emily Vandalovsky, David Wang and Bill Madden, Bergen Community College. **Caribou Onscreen Keyboard**. Caribou is a a GNOME project that provides an onscreen keyboard for folks who have difficulty or cannot use a hardware keybaord. Students at Western New England College worked on this project during Summer 2010. Presented by Heidi Ellis, Associate Professor, Wester New England College. **Trinity Programs**. This presentation will focus on some of the programs faculty and staff at Trinity have used to get students engaged in open source software development projects. Presented by Ralph Morelli, Professor, Trinity College. **FOSS Field Trips.** Several take-away assignment examples that can be used to introduce students to the world of open source software by having them explore FOSS projects online. Presented by Greg Hislop, faculty member, iSchool, Drexel University.
11:00-12:15 (continued)	**FAST Project (Free Ambulance Services Technology).** Seven students at Bergen Community College became involved in an open-source Summer of Code 2010. They created a prototype for a mobile app incident reporting tool for use by Emergency Medical Service workers. Presented by Elias Chalhoub, Kostyantyn Cherkashyn and Beth Hall.
12:00-1:00	Lunch : CSTA General Membership meeting; CCCC business meeting

Presenters:

Elias Chalhoub is a second-year student at Bergen Community College, majoring in Computer Science.

Constantyn Cherkashyn is a second-year student at Bergen Community College, majoring in Information Technology.

Heidi Ellis is Associate Professor and Chair of the Computer Science and Information Technology department at Western New England College. She has a long-time interest in computing education and was a founding member of the HFOSS project. She has been supporting student participation in open source software since 2006.

Beth Mary Hall is an Information Technology graduate from Bergen Community College who has moved on to the New Jersey Institute of Technology where she is majoring in Medical Informatics.

Greg Hislop is a faculty member in the iSchool at Drexel University. He is exploring student participation in humanitarian FOSS for students in different computing degree programs through several NSF-funded projects.

Bill Madden is an Associate Professor at Bergen Community College where he has been very active promoting the use of open-source products on campus since 2004. This past summer he served as coordinator for Bergen's Summer of Code Open-Source project.

Ralph Morelli is a Professor of Computer Science at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. He is one of the Principal Investigators of the Humanitarian Free and Open Source Software Project (HFOSS), an NSF-funded effort to engage undergraduate computing students in building FOSS that serves the public good.

Emily Vandalovsky is an Instructor at Bergen Community College and served this past summer as a faculty mentor in Bergen's Summer of Code Open-Source project.

Anita Verno is an Associate Professor at Bergen Community College and has been very active over many years in K-14 computer science and technology curriculum development at the regional and national level. A founding member of the CSTA, she currently serves on the its Advisory Council. She has presented at the HFOSS National Symposium, representing community colleges.

David Wang is an Assistant Professor at Bergen Community College and served this past summer as a faculty mentor in Bergen's Summer of Code Open-Source project.