

IT PROGRAMS HELPING PAST, EXPANDING IN FUTURE WITH TWO NEW PROGRAMS

Moraine Park Technical College will soon be offering two new IT associate degree programs, and both can be earned together in as little as five semesters.

The two new associate degree programs will be IT Web Development and Design Specialist and the IT Mobile Applications Developer, available at Moraine Park starting in fall 2016.

“There’s a growing need for IT professionals, and we hope that these opportunities will provide students the necessary skills needed to compete in the IT field. These programs were developed with local Business and Industry support in hopes to bridge the skills gap in this area,” said Lisa Pollard, Moraine Park’s associate dean of business and IT.

The IT Web Development and Design Specialist program will give the student skills to design and maintain professional, high-quality responsive designed websites. The IT Mobile Applications Developer program teaches students skills to use a variety of specialized development kits for popular mobile platforms.

Because these two programs are similar in content, students can achieve both associate degree programs in five semesters if they choose. This option would provide students with additional skills and enhance their value in the labor market.

While these new programs will create exciting new possibilities for students in the future, Moraine Park’s IT Club members have been giving special focus to the past as well.

Learning new technology can be a daunting task for some seniors, but a collaboration between Moraine Park Technical College and the Fond du Lac Senior Center, has created one-on-one help for anyone struggling with or just looking to get the most out of their electronic devices.



At a recent help session at the Fond du Lac Senior Center, Moraine Park Technical College IT Club President Mitch Sheer (left) gives tips and advice to Janet Vermeer on how to perform various functions on her tablet.

The program started in December and continued into the spring semester.

At these sessions, seniors brought in their devices of any kind for any issue, and IT Club members sat down with them personally to address their individual, specific questions.

Not only has the program benefited seniors, the sessions have been an asset to Moraine Park's IT students as well.

"Obviously it's very, very helpful for them and a great opportunity to give back but, also, we learn a lot, too," Sheer said. "One woman said to me, 'I don't know how you know so much about this.' I told her I'd never even touched this specific tablet she had before. But that's what we're taught mostly in IT. The answers are right in front of you. You just need to be willing to poke around a lot ... So it's just a constant learning experience for us, too."

To learn more about all the IT programs Moraine Park has to offer, visit morainepark.edu/programs.