Regional Advisory Minutes

10-19-2018

Introduction

Santa Monica College, the lead of the California Cloud Workforce a Strong Workforce Project, conducted a regional gathering with industry, economic development organizations and partnering colleges to provide the framework for ongoing project scope development. Regional topics of cloud occupations, program alignment with industry and value of industry certifications. The input of the regional leadership was taken as the advisory for overall regional alignment. The material below was presented with questions and input provided to attendees listed below. These minutes are meant to provide record of the topics and responses.

Program Information

Program Title: Cloud Computing
Labor Market Information

A Los Angeles/Orange County regional labor market report was compiled September 2018 showing 10,305 total annual openings with 83, 010 total job postings with occupations directly impacted by cloud based technologies.[1] Specifically the skill set with Amazon Web Services (AWS) appears on 4,876 job posting within the region. On average, regional community colleges conferred 974 awards (associate degrees and certificates) annually in information and computing technology programs between 2014 and 2017.

TOP Code

0707.30 Computer Systems Analysis: Systems analysis and design, including the recognition, definition, and improvement of processes through the use of computer technology and methodologies.

Catalog Description

The Cloud Computing program prepares students to design solutions for Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) architectures by provisioning computing instances, establishing virtual private networks, managing databases and storage within a secure online environment. Students produce dynamic solutions responsive to information and computing technology workloads with on-demand pay-as-you-go pricing allowing flexibility for small business,

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[1] Cloud Computing - Amazon Web Services (AWS) Labor market supply and demand data. Center of Excellence, LA/OC Region. September 2018.

entreprenership and enterprise adoption. Industry certifications are embedded to prepare for occupations in Cloud Architect, Cloud Support Associate, Cloud Engineer or Cloud Technicians. Some preparation in information technology or computer programming is recommended.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Design Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) solutions by provisioning computing instances, establishing virtual private networks, managing databases and storage within a secure online environment.
- Analyze performance metrics of a cloud architecture to respond dynamically to information and computing technology workloads and optimize service costs.
- Collaborate in a team designing business solutions in an industry aligned project.

Program Requirements

Requirement	Semester 1		Semester 2
Core	Introduction to Cloud Computing	Compute Engines in Amazon Web Services	Database Essentials in Amazon Web Services Security in Amazon Web Services
Elective Topics	Computer programming language, operating systems, web development, Information and Communication Essentials, Business fundamentals, Customer Service		Systems Administrator, DevOps, Cybersecurity, Big Data, Serverless Architecture
Certifications	AWS Cloud Practitioner		AWS Solutions Architect - Associate

Onica: A unique and very exciting component of this project and consortium is that it brings together multiple systems including; high schools, community colleges, transfer institutions, and business partners – to develop a clear career pathway to cloud careers for students. Onica had an opportunity to collaborate with the Santa Monica College's cloud computing program -- Effective partnerships with a community college partner is important to do for Onica's strategic positioning.

The Center of Excellence recently developed a report that showed there were 83,010 job postings in the last 12 months for occupations associated with cloud computing in the Los Angeles/Orange County region – and a total of 4,876 job postings included "AWS" as a desired skill of employment. Yet, the community colleges in Los Angeles had only conferred 974 associate degrees and certificates in information technology programs. Using labor market data is essential when developing new programs or update current programs in the community college system.

AWS Educate: The ultimate goal for these students is to build a career in cloud computing. Tools like AWS Educate can help future graduates search for job opportunities that help build their cloud career.

Critical changes that the community colleges need to make in order to develop the cloud computing pathway for students begin with Faculty   with relevant skills is the biggest barrier, ensuring faculty to upskill – providing faculty with opportunity for continued professional development.   Developing methods for qualified faculty into our system. We redesign the student experience, we must also consider, onboarding relevant faculty with

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relevant experience. With all this focus on high wage, high skill workers – community colleges must build capacity to onboard faculty from industry and ensure that adjunct faculty are integrated into the system and that their knowledge resources are maximized.

Onica: Developed a new Cadet Program for internships and for the introduction of our company and how it works for finding best fit candidates.

Industry Panel

1. Why is it important to partner with a community college and this type of project?
   - Industry is transitioning from a data center to cloud technology and small businesses as well as entrepreneurship is tied to the cloud.
2. What are the biggest challenges facing cloud computing right now? Or employment in cloud computing?
   - Transitions in technology are breaking the traditional educational molds so working with industry and partners will be critical.
3. What are some critical changes we (industry and/or education) must make in order to meet the demand of the workforce?
   - Faculty will need to upgrade their skills and them being part of the conversation with industry and
4. What are some entry, intermediate, advanced level jobs within cloud computing?
   - Customer service and maintaining architecture are two methods of entry into existing companies, however it imperative to have a portfolio of a self-developed solution to begin connecting services.
5. What are the technical skills needed for these jobs?
   - Combination of IT, CS and business intelligence to develop solutions for today's companies.
6. What are the life/professional skills needed for these jobs?
   - Lifelong learning is relevant in this industry so maintaining a network of active participants is critical.
7. What type of training would best prepare students for these positions?
   - Certification training, bootcamp and self-training with initiative to create your own solutions helps to understand the thinking behind the development of solutions.
8. What unique characteristics does your company look for when hiring candidates?
   - Self-starters and critical thinking will always be needed, soft skills is something to always consider.
9. What are some critical changes that the HS/CC/CSU need to make in order to develop the cloud computing pathway for students?
   - Partner with local nonprofits to assist in the transition.
10. What are the structural changes currently happening within your institutions that align with the cloud computing pathway?
    - Use labor market information to guide development of programs
11. What role can integrated student supports services play to support students within and through the cloud computing pathway?

- Work based learning to assist students with job transition is a support towards completion.
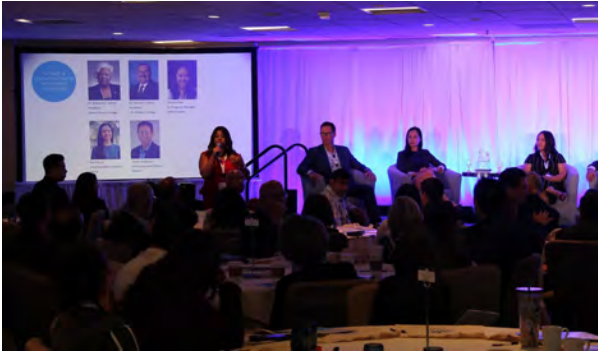
BE PART OF THE PARTNERSHIP

✓ **Create job opportunities**

✓ **Develop a talent pipeline for your organization**

✓ **Contribute to a better economy**

Does your company have an AWS cloud position that needs to be filled? Post the job opportunity on **awseducate.com/registration** to recruit skilled candidates.

CALIFORNIA
CLOUD
WORKFORCE

CAREER LADDERS PROJECT - CALIFORNIA CLOUD WORKFORCE LAUNCH

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