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HOLY CORSAGES, BATMAN! THE TECH SUPER-HEROES AT NEUMONT UNIVERSITY ARE SHOWING OFF THEIR PROJECTS IN AN EVENT THAT'S PART SCIENCE FAIR, PART GEEK PROM.

Salt Lake City, March 22, 2011 – Last Friday, as spring time flirted with the Salt Lake Valley, it wasn't the sun brightening the futures of students from Utah's Neumont University; it was the hot job opportunities that come from real-world projects and the unique opportunity Neumont students have to showcase their impressive digital portfolios at Neumont's Spring Project Showcase. Friday, March 18th, 2011 Neumont University hosted its fifth Project Showcase, a student project review that allows Neumont's tech super stars to show-off what they've been working on all quarter. Think science fair meets geek prom, complete with DJ, punch, and black lights.

When asked to explain why Neumont hosts Project Showcase, Vice President of Academic Operations, Aaron Reed, stated: *"Neumont works with industry leaders to create a project-focused curriculum designed around the skills and technologies that are in demand. We couple that with an opportunity for students to work on real-world projects, in a situation that goes well beyond the traditional internship experience. This provides students with actual work experience, and gives our Industry Partners an opportunity to watch the students in action, on real projects, performing the actual tasks they will perform during their career. Showcase is an excellent opportunity to put all that learning together in a way that helps the students develop presentation skills and an ability to adjust on the fly – it's a continuation of the project focus that's central to our curriculum."*

Neumont offers an active learning curriculum that assigns students a challenge, using cutting-edge technologies, to build a project to showcase their mastery over a given subject (from Java to Japanese) designed to enhance subject retention in core and tech courses.

As students move through the program their projects become more complex, until their final quarters when they begin working on projects for real companies. All this project work then

culminates in Project Showcase which sets Neumont students against each other in a science fair-like competition with students, staff and faculty voting on project winners. At the Spring event, top honors were awarded as follows:

- **Andy Singer** (*Lintz, PA*), Year One category - Hazard Shield, a powerful anti-malware program with rootkit detecting real-time protection, self-protection and more.
- **Glen Watson** (*Johnson City, TN*) and **Tyrelle Alastair-Hunter** (*Rose Park, Utah*), Year Two category - Student Finance Tracker, a financial assistant for keeping track of fundraising activities and expenditures.
- **Joshua Klein** (*Grapevine, TX*), Independent project category - Dragon Sky, a Role Playing Game using XNA for Xbox.
- **REI Systems** (*Sterling, Virginia*), Enterprise Project category - consisting of students Matthew Rhoden (*Hilltop, WV*), Joseph Skeen (*Sandy, Utah*), Thomas Tighe (*Niceville, FL*), Adam Busssdieker (*Hidden Valley, CA*), David Kleriga (*Mexico City*), John Uy (*Honolulu, HI*), and TJ Hammons (*Bluffdale, UT*).

Neumont instructor, Jamie King, who teaches courses in Windows Development, commented: "Project Showcase is a great way to see what's happening at Neumont, and what's happening here is awesome! Software Development is a little like magic; adjust this, change that and poof! you've got a recipe to make things happen. I love how excited students get when they see that magic happen in their own projects."

Project Showcase is a biannual event, with the next Neumont University Project Showcase scheduled for Friday, September 9, 2011.

ABOUT NEUMONT UNIVERSITY

Neumont University has been recognized by industry leaders such as IBM, Microsoft, and the Department of Educationⁱ for an innovative, paradigm-shifting approach to computer science education. From day one, Neumont University students are immersed in an intense, 500 day series of increasingly complex real world, and enterprise-level projects for companies like IBM, eBay, and Nike. During their final quarters, students spend up to eight hours per day working in teams on Enterprise Projects and tackling varied project roles while building software solutions companies can use in daily operations.

Neumont University's accelerated, 30-month programs distinguish themselves with an applied curriculum, focused on the skills most valued by today's employers, and designed to provide Neumont University graduates with a strong foundation in technical skills and standards, an understanding of business needs, and the ability to communicate and function well as members of teams.

Neumont offers BS programs in Computer Science, Business Technology Management, Software and Game Development, and Web Design and Development, and a Master's program in Computer Science.

More information is available at www.neumont.edu.

ⁱ www.neumont.edu/news: 2006 Spellings Report: Commission on Higher Education, and 2010 Chronicle of Higher Education "Career Colleges Deserve a Say."