



Partnership with ACD Systems creates opportunities for Brandon University computer science students

When students in the Systems Programming course at Brandon University (BU) are looking for feedback on their projects, they'll now be able to go right to the source.

A new partnership between BU and ACD Systems International will provide computer science students with valuable hands-on experience. The students will work with advanced code from ACD Systems for their Systems Programming projects.

"This is an exciting opportunity for BU students," says Gautam Srivastava, an Assistant Professor in BU's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. "These are third-year students and they're ready for a new challenge. They'll be communicating with professionals in the industry and applying what they've learned."

In the class, which runs during the fall and winter semesters, students will focus on developing code for sharing and syncing media between mobile devices as well as displaying media on a mobile device. In addition to Srivastava's supervision, they will have access to experts from ACD Systems, who will provide them with constructive criticism as well as suggestions on how to advance their projects.

"We felt that Brandon University would be a good match for us based on the strength of their computer science program and their emphasis on teaching," said Martin Winstanley, Vice-President of ACD Systems International. "Innovation is at the heart of what we do at ACD Systems, and I'm looking forward to seeing the ideas that these students develop end up in a world-class software solution."

Formed in 1993 in Texas, ACD Systems produces software applications that range from editing and sharing of digital images, creation of technical illustrations and management of documents and media files on devices and over networks. Their clients include many companies of all sizes in the architecture, insurance, engineering, aerospace and automotive industries as well as millions of consumers around the globe.

"There is a great demand for skilled university graduates in the tech industry," Srivastava said. "There is a real push right now for computer science programs at universities to form industrial partnerships, because they provide students with learning opportunities and experience beyond what a professor can give them. This will be a real incentive for students to study at BU."

Brandon University, founded in 1899, promotes excellence in teaching, research, and scholarship, and educates students so that they can make a meaningful difference as engaged citizens and leaders.

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