Seamus O'Hearn

Professor Vanselow

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Fields Report

As the job markets for computer and information technology systems grows, more and more students are looking for degree programs to fill these positions. There are a lot of different job titles, and degree programs, within these fields and it can be very confusing for a student to decide what to pursue.

One of the most common degree programs is computer science. While studying computer science a student will learn about how computers work, as well as some programming. After completing school, a computer scientist will work on researching and creating new computer hardware and software technologies.

A very similar option is software engineering, in fact they will probably take a lot of the same classes as computer science majors. However, a software engineer focuses more on software utilizing the technologies made by computer scientists. Most of their work will be programming based, as well as meeting system requirements and keeping programs up to date.

Another comparable field is information technology, or as it's better known IT. While they will probably learn some programming during their time in school, most of their work won't require it. Most of their work will be using hardware and software created by computer scientists and software engineers at a business level.

While people working in computer science, software engineering, or IT may have different job duties, they can still end up working in the same fields. They can all work together in the same business to produce or maintain programs and products.

One of the fields that they could start working in is artificial intelligence. In this field they take new advances in hardware and software to give computers the ability to learn from new data instead of just giving instructions on what to do situations. Advances in artificial intelligence can be used for robotics, banking, and self-driving cars.

Another field that affects our daily lives is computer and network security. People working in this field are constantly working on ways to make data safer from hackers and viruses. They may work on different ways to encrypt data so that it can't be read if it is taken, or work on defenses to protect computer systems from outside attacks.

There are other much more specific fields that someone could get into as well, like bio-computation or biological computing. In this field people use computer systems in a similar way that the brain works in a human body. Through doing this they can come up with new treatments for diseases, or new technologies to assist doctors.

Right now, I am most interested in artificial intelligence because of the possibilities that it presents for future technologies. That might change as I continue studying software engineering, but it seems neat at this point.

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