**A Career in Computer Science**

A degree in computer engineering or computer science may lead to a variety of similar, but varying IT-related fields. Like any career, more experience (both education and on-the-job) results in higher earning potential. Just like many of these other careers, you have to start somewhere to get higher up. For someone studying/interested in technology, specifically computer science and all that it encompasses, these choices are fairly narrow. You either focus on software, hardware, maintenance these systems, or providing support for these systems. The levels above these

Computer science degrees give a broad knowledge/study of all system aspects… while computer engineering degrees are generally more specialized and focused. This means that computer science degrees may have a slower start up in terms of finding a specific line of work, but they have the potential to find work in any related field. Computer engineering majors can generally secure more advanced work sooner on, but they may be more limited in the long run and committed to the “engineering” aspect of the degree.

Computer Support Specialists have knowledge of equipment and software – can focus on one or the other, as well as apply both later on.

-Better job outlook

-worse outlook for programming

-support specialist works not only in “computer systems and design related services” field, but other as well

-programming restricted to “computer systems and design related services” industry

-programming often works alone

-css help people, opposite of alone: customer service skills, listening, problem solving, speaking, writing

-flexibility of schedule because support is needed 24/7, nights/weekends

-different levels/types of support: network support (highest salary), computer support, user support

-wide ranging, levels of education sometimes just computer-related courses all the way up to bachelor’s degrees to provide support for large software companies/ technical positions

-advancements beyond manager, can move into other parts of organization entirely based off of other skills/experience

-programming to be outsourced and more users capable of understanding and producing code

Career in Information Technology

Which?

Specific career options

Comparison of CIS vs. CE, education/training

Recommendation (CIS)

Detriments of Programming (too specific)

Rapid Growth

Broad Range of Options

Potential for Advancement

Salary after Experience

**A** Introduction…….

**I** Career Options (Programmer, Customer Support Specialist)

Comparison of careers (type of work)

Education/how to get started (easy start up, non specific)

Rewards… leading into recommendation

**D** Why being a Customer Support Specialist is right (recommendation)

Scope of work (hone all skills, learn all systems)

Broad range of options/multiple industries

Specific benefits?

Future

Growth

Career Advancement (more advanced positions, other areas NOT computer related)

A Conclusions and Recommendations…….

References…….