





The History of Crooms Academy





As Crooms Academy confronts the role of preparing students for a high tech world, it emerges on the grounds of one of the oldest high schools in Seminole County. Founded in 1926 by Professor Crooms as Seminole County's first high school for black students, Crooms has a rich and varied past. Professor Crooms and his wife, Wealthy, donated the land on which the school was constructed. Under their guidance and teaching, many doctors, lawyers, teachers, and business people graduated from Crooms.

Notable graduates include U.S. Representative Alcee Hastings; George Allen, the first black graduate of the University of Florida Law School; Oswald Bronson Sr., president of Bethune-Cookman College; and Bob Thomas, Sanford's first black city commissioner. Professor Crooms led Crooms Academy until his retirement in 1953.

In 1970 Seminole County was desegregated and Crooms lost its identity as a community high school. Its role changed several times and has included an administrative center, a school for students with behavior problems, and a place for pregnant teenagers. Most recently, it was a school for academically struggling students. In 1973 the original building burned and in the past

years the other school buildings have deteriorated. In 2000, the U.S. Justice Department agreed to lift Seminole's desegregation order by 2003 if the county met certain conditions. Included in this is rebuilding Crooms Academy and turning it into an academy of information technology.

Professor Crooms is remembered as a man ahead of his times as he broke educational boundaries for black students in Seminole County. Today, Crooms Academy remains in this tradition as it establishes new territory in technology education at the high school level.



Crooms Academy of Information Technology is a dedicated magnet school that provides students with a wide range of educational choices. In addition to graduating with a regular high school diploma and a National Academy Foundation Certificate, every student will be afforded the opportunity to select from a wide variety of Information Technology Certifications. Some of the certifications offered are A+, MOUS, MCP, CCNA, MCSE and many more.

Welcome to Crooms A.O.I.T.

Principal of Crooms AoIT

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Crooms Academy of Information Technology and our first Tech Fest Event! We're excited about the promise this event holds as a funding source for scholarships for Crooms students. We're also delighted to make possible such an opportunity for networking, marketing, and information technology focused workshops.

At Crooms, we celebrate a highly trained staff, involved parents, and students with focus on both academics and information technology. It is my wish that this event fulfill every expectation and that you will join us again as a member of our Business Advisory Committee the Crooms Academy of Information Technology community.

Again, welcome!

Connie E. Collins, Ed. D.
Principal
Crooms Academy of Information Technology

Director of CEcD

Seminole County is one of the premier locations along Florida's High Tech Corridor for information technology related companies both large and small. Of the top fifty private employers in Seminole County, 15 are directly involved producing products or services within the information technology sector and employ over 10,000 people.

According to the American Electronics Association, in 2005 Florida ranked fourth in the nation in high tech jobs with 265,484. The jobs which will be needed in these industries over the next decade will be many and varied, some of the position descriptions have not even been written yet. Seminole County and Central Florida are very fortunate to be on the cutting edge of this technology evolution.

I hope you enjoy the TechFest 2007 event and thank you for your participation and support.

Cordially,

William J McDermott, CEcD Director

Superintedent of Seminole County Public Schools



Have you ever wondered what the school of the future will be like? Crooms Academy of Information Technology (AOIT) is truly that school! The 2007 Tech Fest provides an opportunity for you to see an engaging and relevant educational environment that is on the cutting edge of innovation in teaching and learning.

From the master network control room in the main lobby to the Cyber Center, a.k.a.

the media center, Crooms AOIT is hi-tech in every way. Students access the Cyber Center before and after school, as well as during lunch, to take advantage of opportunities to do research, locate fiction and nonfiction materials, and plug in their laptops to work on projects and assignments.

Crooms AOIT is guided by an active Business Advisory Committee that supports an update and refresh model to ensure students experience the most current technology available. Crooms' students use their technology skills while engaged in real-world applications and have the opportunity to earn certification in several IT areas and systems. An "A" rated school, Crooms AOIT prepares students for success in college and/or careers.

CATCH THE HI TECH FEVER AT CROOMS TECH FEST!

Bill Vogel Superintendent

Tech Fest II Poster Winner



2200 W 13th St. Sanford FL 32773 (407)320-5750





2007 Tech Fest II Poster winner was created by

Sarah Thomas Class of 2007

Crooms A.O.I.T. Information Technology Specializations

Applications Include:
- Business Software Applications
- Digital Publishing
- Web Design
- Media & Digital Imaging
- Digital Video & Sound
- Digital Music



Courses Include:

- Computer Hardware & Operating Systems
- Cisco Networking: Management, Design and Installation
- Microsoft Networking: XP and Server 2003
- Copper and Fiber Optic Cabling
- Unix

omputer Science

Certification Preparation



Certifications Include:

- Microsoft Office User Specialist Core & Expert Exams (MOS)
- Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)
- Computing Technology Industry Association (COMPTIA) A+
- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)
- RBT Systems Copper & Fiber Optic Cabling Certification
- Wireless Technology and IP Telephony through dual enrollment







Crooms AoIT Business Advisory Committee

Welcome from the Crooms Academy Business Advisory Board

Seminole County TechFest was originally developed by the Crooms Academy Business Advisory Board as a means to provide a scholarship endowment fund for Crooms graduates that demonstrated leadership, character and life long learning skills. TechFest 2006 successfully met this goal in addition to providing a unique networking and educational opportunity for our sponsoring businesses, parents, students, and community members.

TechFest II will meet and exceed the inaugural event. Based on the positive feedback and well as the lessons learned, the TechFest Committee has put together another event that brings the educational and business community together for a "win-win" exchange. At our sponsor booths you will see what our

educational and business community together for a "win-win" exchange. At our sponsor booths you will see what our fellow business community members are doing with technology. Be motivated and informed by our speakers. Listen to the artistry of Crooms own Steel Drum Band. And learn some new tricks and tips at our workshops.

Crooms Academy is dedicated to preparing its students to be qualified, professional, and future leaders in the IT field and in the community. As business partners we have experienced the return on our investment of time in supporting Crooms in their efforts and we hope that your experience at TechFest II is as rewarding.

Welcome to Seminole County TechFest II. "It's your Hi-Tech Community, Get into IT"

Jerra Willman Chairperson Crooms Academy of Information Technology Business Advisory Board

Commissioner's Business Recognition Award goes to...
RLH Consulting & Management, Inc.

RLH's Consulting & Management's involvement is the ideal partnership for Crooms Academy of Information Technology (AOIT). This partnership has added strength to the existing Crooms programs and it has created new opportunities for future development for our students, faculty, and business community.



RLH understands the importance of making the curriculum relevant to the workplace. The input and revamping of "hands on" projects allow our students and teachers to develop "real life" scenarios in order to be are better prepared for college and/or the workplace. In addition to the "real life" experience, RLH has been instrumental in developing new partnerships with an innovative fundraising idea for Crooms AOIT. As the fundraising chairperson, R. T. Hillery established and led the way for Tech Fest 2006, a Technology fair and conference at Crooms which raised \$9,500. Students, faculty and the business advisory committee offered a technology conference for the community. In addition to the great fundraising concept, students had the opportunity to network with the business community to develop job shadowing and internships as well as increasing Business Advisory Committee membership. The event also introduced the community to the Crooms AOIT magnet, its resources and needs. RLH Consulting & Management's partnership has been a catalyst in creating new business partnerships and expanding the student internship opportunities. RLH has taken Crooms to the next step in educational leadership.

Keynote Speakers

HENRY (HANK) OKRASKI



Mr. Okraski has over forty years of experience in simulation and training research, acquisition and logistic support for the US Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, non-DoD agencies and foreign governments. He is recognized nationally and internationally as an expert in training simulation. A visionary, with a record of developing new and innovative concepts in simulation for military and civilian uses. He was a member of the Federal Government Senior Executive Service for ten years, led the way in Navy simulation and training research, serving on NATO Groups. Major participant in technology transfer and creating the Center of Excellence for Simulation and Training. Active in developing professional certification and academic programs to foster simulation technology in K-12, Community Colleges and Universities.

He is currently a consultant to the simulation industry with interests in defense, homeland security, medical simulation, simulation for handicapped individuals and economic development. Mr. Okraski is consulted by simulator manufacturers in the areas of design, systems engineering, trainer reliability, maintainability, integrated logistics support, life-cycle costing and engineering change support.

He is one of the founders of the National Center for Simulation, serving as Chairman of the Board during the growth of the membership from eight to approximately 180 members. He is currently a member of the NCS Board.

Mr. Okraski holds a BEE from Clarkson University and a ME from the University of Florida. He has been an adjunct faculty member at Rollins College (Logistics) and the University of Central Florida (Simulation Technology), a Registered Professional Engineer, Modeling and Simulation Professional, a Fellow Member of the Florida Engineering Society and Eminent Engineer of Tau Beti Pi. He has received numerous awards such as the Navy Civilian Meritorious and Superior Service Medals, NSPE Federal Engineer of the Year and recognized for Florida Engineering Society's Outstanding Technical Achievement for 1994.

Mr. Okraski lives in Winter Park, Florida with his wife, Judy. They have six children and nine grandchildren.



DAVE SWANSON

Dave Swanson is a Senior Development Director at Electronic Arts-Tiburon leading up a team that creates art and implements features across EA's football products. Daves tarted out as a programmer at Tiburon twelve years ago working on games for the Sega Genesis. He was the lead programmer on Madden NFL Football from Madden '97 to 2002 before moving into technical management.

Keynote Speakers



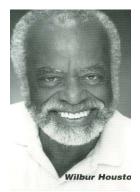
LIEUTENANT COLONEL GARY D. STEPHENS

LTC Gary D. Stephens was born in Lewisville, Arkansas and grew up in Columbus, Georgia. LTC Stephens entered the Army in 1988 as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky and received his commission to Second Lieutenant in Aviation. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Murray State University and a Master of Science degree in Acquisition and Contract Management from the Naval Postgraduate School.

LTC Stephens has held numerous operational troop command and staff positions during his 17 years in the Army. His assignments include service in the 9th Infantry Division (Motorized), 101st Air Assault Division, XVIII Airborne Corps, 1st Infantry Division, and 7th Army, including duty in Operations DESERT SHIELD, DESERT STORM, and JOINT ENDEAVOR. In 1999 he assessed into the Army Acquisition Corps and in his initial assignment served as the Assistant Project Manager for the Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System. Following assignment to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, LTC Stephens served as a Department of the Army Systems Coordinator for Aviation Systems and Unmanned Aerial Systems. His most recent assignment was the Executive Officer for the Assistant Deputy for Acquisition and Systems Management.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Army Staff Badge. He is a Senior Army Aviator rated in the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior. LTC Stephens is married to Jodi Stephens and they have three children: Claudia, 8; Henry, 4; and Stella, 1.





Wilbur Houston is a native of Cleveland, OH. However, he considers himself a first generation Floridian, after having dicsovered Kissimmee in 1972.

This man of many talents has had a vast array of jobs. He has worked as a potter, a dishwasher, a waiter, a vaccum cleaner salesman, a mechanical draftsman, a radio newscaster, and had has even repossed automobiles.

In his spare time, he enjoys acting, singing, swimming, cooking, fishing and just plain loafing!

Events at a Glance

8:30 – 9:20	Setting Up a Secure Wireless Environment	Room 01-126		
	Marketing Your Business on the Web	Room 01-124		
	iLife-Using Digital Contents for Your	Room 01-206		
	Business or Community			
	Navigating Microsoft EXCEL 2007	Room 01-226		
	Eighteenth Judicial Circuit Court Judge John			
	L. Woodward, III			
	How to Become eBay Savvy	Room 01-124		
9:30 - 10:20	Securing Your Desktop and Email Accounts	Room 01-126		
	iLife – Open Demonstration	Room 01-206		
9:30 - 10:50	How to Design Your Own Business Brochure	Room 01-115		
	Using InDesign			
10:30 - 11:20	Setting Up a Secure Wireless Environment	Room 01-126		
	Marketing Your Business on the Web	Room 01-124		
	iLife-Using Digital Contents for Your	Room 01-206		
	Business or Community			
	Navigating Microsoft EXCEL 2007	Room 01-226		
12:40 - 2:00	How to Design Your Own Business Brochure	Room 01-224		
	Using Microsoft Word			
1:10 - 2:00	How to Become eBay Savvy	Room 01-124		
	Securing Your Desktop and Email Accounts	Room 01-126		
	iLife – Open Demonstration	Room 01-206		

Speaker Schedule

10:15 - 11:00	Wilbur Houston	"I Think I Can"
11:05 - 11:30	Dave Swanson	Gaming
	Governor Charlie Christ	Proclamation Presentation
	Mayors of Seminole County	
11:30 - 12:30	LÚNCH BREAK	
11:45 – 12:15	Steel Monkeys Concert	
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12:30 - 1:00	Hank Okraski	Simulation

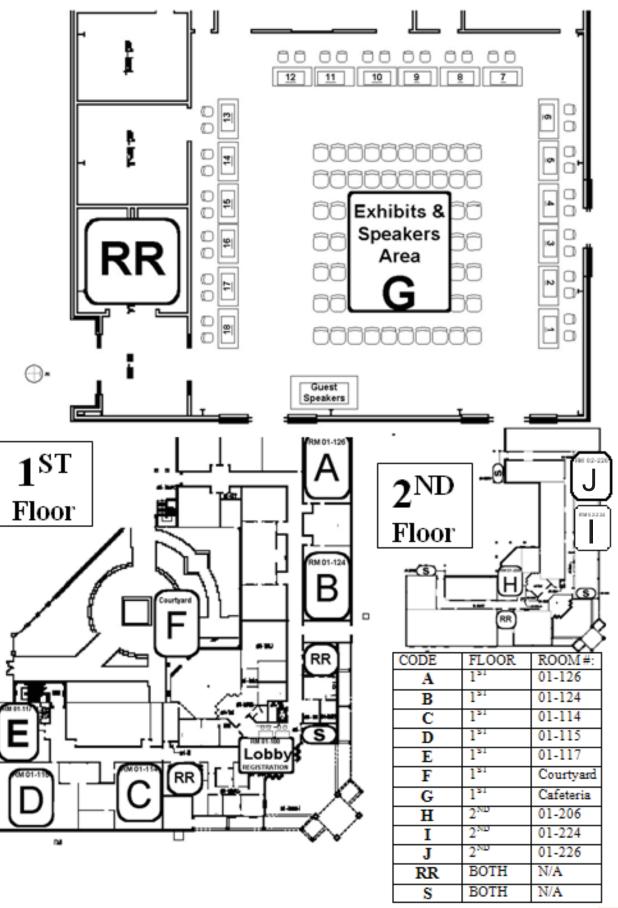
Classroom Presentations

Mr. Yin – 01-114	Chinese Connection
Ms. Harris – 01-114	Integrated Science
Ms. Fry - 01-114	Student Showcase Room

You may sign up for workshops at the registration table. Seating is Limited

Breakfast and Lunch is available in the Cyber Center 01-101J Nature's Table

Map of Crooms A.O.I.T.



Workshop Descriptions

Setting up a Secure Wireless Environment

This workshop will inform you on why you should secure your wireless network and give you basic principles of how to secure your wireless environment.

Marketing your Business on the Web

Learn what it takes to get your business online. Whether you already have a web site that needs to be improved or want to learn the basics from the ground up, this seminar will cover the techniques you need to establish your anme, develop content, build your site, and launch it online. An overview off SEO (Search Engine Optimization) will be given to answer your questions about marketing your business online.

Securing your Desktop and Email Accounts

In today's connected environment, viruses, spyware, worms, and rootkits are a major threat to the operation of your small business. Email and instant messaging have further enabled these threats to spread easily and quickly throughout the internet, and insight into these different types of threats, and discuss some products that are available to help safeguard you against them. Presented by Cloudy Logic and Crooms AoIT.

How to Design your own Business Brochure using Micorsoft Word

During this workshop we will be using Microsoft Word 2007. As we begin each participant will decide what information they have about their business. Second, a discussion of the layout will take place. Printing cost (color of paper, font style, font size, and distribution) should be considered when preparing your brochure. Each participate will have the opportunity to discuss their plans with a Crooms Academy of Information Technology student. Each student will have completed their own brochure for display. This will be an opportunity to gain valuable experience from other business personnel and formulate a professional brochure for your own company.

How to Become EBay Savvy

This workshop intorduces you to the many opportunities EBay has to offer to seller and buyers. You will learn the basics of how to start your own online business with emphasis on "The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly." This is from someone who's been there from the beginning.

<u>iLife Workshop Using Digital Contents for</u> <u>your Business or Community</u>

iLife is Apple's award-winning suite of digital lifestyle applications, which includes iPhoto, iMovie HD, iDVD and GarageBand, plus an innovating new application called iWeb for creating stunning web pages, blogs and podcasts.

How to Design Your Own Business Brochure Using InDesign

This workshop will focus on basic design principles of a business brochure as well as topics related to InDesign such as cost, what types of businesses could benefit from InDesign as well as some of the other Adobe products. The workshop will also include some of the basic tools and even some tips and tricks.

Marketing on the Web

Almost every business, no matter how small, needs an online presence. This workshop will present a nuts and bolts approach to achieving an effective online presence. We will discuss the Why, How and Where principals of Marketing on the Web. Some of the topics covered will be: What you need to know about search engines. How to develop a great website. How to achieve ranking in search engines. How to create effective ads that create interest and action. Join us for this foray into the world of advertising and marketing the "online" way.









Crooms Business Partner Opportunities

Part of what makes Crooms Academy of Information Technology (AOIT) unique is its commitment to making technology education relevant to the "real world." To forge that vital link, we rely on partners from the local business community and offer a number of opportunities for involvement:

The Business Advisory Committee

This committee which meets quarterly consists of representatives from local businesses and educational institutions who help guide Crooms AOIT toward its mission of providing cutting-edge innovation in teaching and learning through a technology- enriched academic environment.

Mentoring Program

Mentors meet one-on-one with students during the school year and act as supportive listeners, role models and personal coaches. They provide guidance, career exploration, academic assistance and advice on personal development. Mentors are screened and trained in a two-hour workshop and make a one-year commitment to a student.

• Curriculum Support

Business partners are welcome to work with our classroom instructors and students to provide academic support. Our goal is to develop "real world" experiences that will demonstrate the relevance of our curriculum. Our partners share industry knowledge, to provide information on career awareness and opportunities in the workplace.

Field Trips

As students research careers, field trips make the classroom experience come alive. Channel 9, Sprint, NavAir, Florida Hospital, and Convergys have hosted such visits. Our field trips offer students the opportunity to network and explore various workplace environments and expectations. Additional field trip hosts are always needed.

Guest Speakers

Speakers are invited to share industry knowledge and expertise by providing information related to their respective fields. Would you be willing to act as a resource for our teachers and students?

Business Sponsored Workshops

Workshops allow industry and education to work collaboratively toward common goals by providing an opportunity to share corporate philosophy and corporate culture. Workshops provide technical training for students and staff.

Job Shadowing and Internships

Students participate with local businesses in job shadowing experiences during their junior year and paid internships in their senior year. Can you host a job shadowing experience or offer a paid internship position to a senior?

Sponsorships

Local businesses are asked to sponsor student-oriented activities by providing goods and services or in kind donations. Sponsorships are always welcome to support our academic clubs in competitive events at regional, state and national levels.

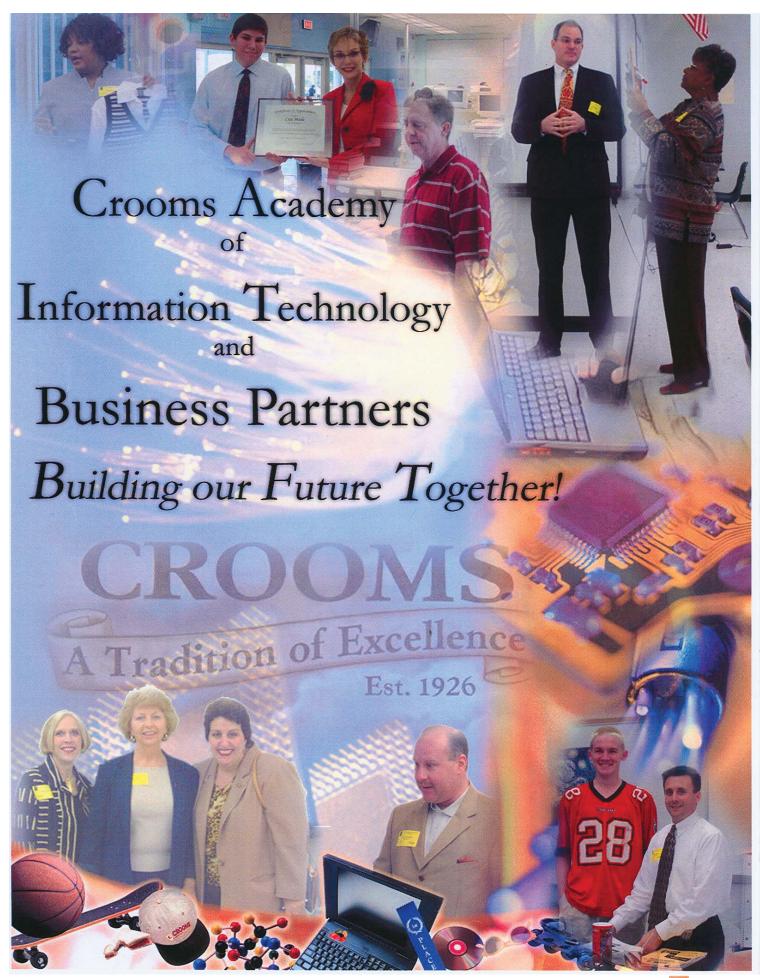
Tech Fest II-Business Advisory Council's fundraising for senior scholarships and special curriculum projects.

Annual event to network IT companies in the Central Florida area. This is a great opportunity for all stakeholders to come together at this event to share IT information and continue the growth of building our high tech corridor.

How to Get Involved:

If you would like more information about business partnership opportunities, please call 407-320-5749 or 407-320-5786.

Visit the Crooms Web site www.cait.scps.k12.fl.us





















Thank You Crooms Alumni!







Notes:





WORLDGATE RESORT ORLANDO





2200 W. 13th St. Sanford FL 32773 (407)320-5750

It's your Hi-Tech Community Get into MIN TechFest III Coming in 2009

Reserve Your Spot for Sponsorship Here



Sponsored by the Crooms AOIT Business Advisory Council To register online, go to http://www.cait.scps.k12.fl.us/TechFestII For more information on sponsorship call 407.320.5744 or email tech_fest@cait.scps.k12.fl.us

