Tech Industry Investments in Higher Education

As the city's tech industry partnership, the Tech Talent Pipeline collaborates with CUNY Computer Science Departments to understand their needs and build out functional programs and connections to leading companies. LinkedIn's multi-year commitment to this work is emblematic of the many ways industry can contribute to departmental capacity.

Problem

The City University of New York (CUNY) graduates more than 2,000 Computer Science (CS) candidates each year. Despite valuable skills in a rapidly growing sector, in 2015 only 20% of CS students had secured employment by their graduation date.

Solution

Seeking to understand and close this gap, LinkedIn has collaborated with the Tech Talent Pipeline (TTP) and CUNY to support programs that would help students gain first-hand industry expertise and land their first full-time role.

LinkedIn helped to launch the CUNY 2x Tech initiative — a $20 million partnership with CUNY colleges to build out new faculty lines, provide enhanced academic and career advisement for students, and innovate ways for industry to support the work of faculty and students at these public institutions.

LinkedIn's commitment to identifying gaps and investing in supports to address them have helped to generate additional supports from their peers, new models for adjunct courses at CUNY, and real partnerships with CS Departments across the university system.

Impact

Through their work with the NYC Tech Talent Pipeline, LinkedIn has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring the success of emerging talent a top priority. Their unwavering support for NYC's talent and institutions continue to be a shining example of success for industry partnerships across the City.

Data from participating schools suggest that students who participate in industry programs fare better than their counterparts that do not.

2X students that took a course taught by a tech industry professional were twice as likely to secure a job by their graduation date

5K students have beneffitted from the industry adjunct program representing over 50 companies, serving 11 CUNY colleges

10K+ hours of input by industry partners have been integral to the evolution of the City's institutions

Learn how to connect industry to the classroom.

techtalentpipeline.nyc/higher-education

How Industry Works with CUNY

TTP collaborates with CS Departments to establish longterm connections with industry through:

Departmental Industry Advisory Committee

- TTP has helped CS Departments establish standing Industry Advisory Committees composed of 5-7 members.

- These members are selected for their expertise and willingness to support students in the software development job market.

Tech-in-Residence Corps (TIRC)

- TIRC brings industry professionals into college classrooms to transfer their skillsets and applied knowledge directly to students and to collaborate with CS faculty.

- Since its inception, TIRC's industry adjuncts have taught approximately 180 in-demand courses.

Industry Volunteers

- Industry professionals help supplement department-led activities both within and outside of the classroom.

- This assistance includes leading technical workshops, soft skills trainings, student club events, mock interview sessions, career panels, and more.