



The world of Google Apps is right around the corner – at the AAWCC summer conference!

By Kate Chester

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Maps, docs, presentations – what is the common thread among these elements? The answer: they represent a variety of exiting Google applications – available with one (or perhaps two) quick mouse clicks!

“Google’s goal with its apps is to offer powerful, reliable, secure, web-based tools,” says Amethyst O’Brien, a data center technician with Google, based in the Dalles, Ore. “And these are offered free for personal and educational use, and to businesses at a comparatively low cost.”

Interested in learning more? If so, consider attending **“Demystifying Your Digital World: Using Technology to Grow Productivity,”** the day-long summer conference hosted by Oregon’s American Association for Women in Community Colleges on **Thursday, July 22** at the **Oregon Gardens**, in Silverton, Ore.

The anchor of the one-day event is **“Enter the World of Google Apps,”** a session with O’Brien who will offer an overview of Google applications – how they work, how they differ from traditional application suites, their diversity and flexibility. Additionally, she’ll demonstrate how to use such applications as Google Maps, Google Docs, Form usage, apps for private domain management and Google Presentation.

“The sessions at this year’s conference are focused on presenting new technology and delivery systems in an accessible fashion,” says Mary Kramer, AAWCC vice president of the summer conference, and Career and Technical Education director at Columbia Gorge Community College. “We want participants to better understand technology available to them in the workplace, so that they’re able to more quickly and easily accomplish projects; they’ll learn the skills to cover more ground and increase productivity.”

“Brand or Be Branded: Social Media and Job Search for Career Development” is another conference session that day, to be led by Becky Washington, AAWCC’s archivist and a Career Services coordinator for Portland Community College’s Cascade Campus. With a focus on online opportunities, Washington will introduce the concept of “personal branding” and recommend ways to enhance an individual’s professional image online.

And for owners of digital cameras – bring them! Participants will learn the basics of exposure and composition in a hands-on workshop, **“Using Your Digital Camera – A Walk in the Garden,”** as they stroll through and photograph the Oregon Gardens.

“Demystifying Your Digital World” will take place from **8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The cost is \$75, and the deadline to register is **July 12.** Additionally, **the Oregon Gardens has extended its hotel room rate for AAWCC attendees through July 10.**

To register for the conference and for more information, visit: www.aawccoregon.org/summer-conference.

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