**Computer Science Seminar Series on Entrepreneurship**

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**Being an Entrepreneur**

Paul Trapani

4:00 – 5:00 Tuesday, May 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2013

Room 018, Adams Hall

ALL STUDENTS AND FACULTY ARE INVITED

Abstract

What you’ll hear most often from friends and family if you say you’re starting your own bussiness, is that it’s a “crazy” idea. People will try to talk you out of it. Truthfully, if people really knew what was involved beforehand, they might never want to do it. But having your own business is one of the most rewarding ways to work. There are also aspects of thinking like an entrepreneur that will make you noticed if you are working for someone else. Finally, having a computer science and engineering background is actually a great advantage for anyone that wants to run a business. Find out what skills you are learning now will give you an edge in building a business.

Short-bio

Paul Trapani is CEO of Fuoco Tech. Fuoco Tech is a subsidiary of Fuoco Group, LLP, a multi-state, full service accounting and business advisory firm headquartered in Long Island, NY. Fuoco Tech prides itself on providing clients with a single source for fully integrated, reliable and cost-effective technology solutions that align IT with a company’s business goals and objectives. He has previously co-founded XTGroup, a rapidly growing IT consulting, Web application development and computer support company in East Meadow. Together with Peter Xenakis, Trapani has grown XT Group from a fledgling consultancy working on folding tables to a thriving six person operation in the LISTnet High Tech Incubator. XT Group was acquired by Fuoco Group LLP in January 2012. While Trapani’s responsibilities at XT Group involve overseeing web development and software consulting, he has carefully nurtured all aspects of the business, including strategy development, technology research and project management as well as sales and marketing. As a sales person, Trapani has worked to form new relationships and alliances, expanding the client base beyond local businesses to include government IT departments and agencies. As a manager, he has recruited and supervised a multi-talented staff. As a technologist, he particularly prides himself on his flair for matching the optimal software to each client’s needs.
Prior to Fuocotech and XT Group, Trapani logged eight years of consulting and programming experience, including five years running his own startup. He holds a bachelor’s degree in English and Philosophy from the State University of New York at Geneseo and a master’s degree with distinction in Computer Science from Hofstra University. Passionate about education, Trapani has taught several classes in computer science and computer ethics at Hofstra University.