

# ICTC SPOTLIGHT



**Buzzy Manning**

## **ICTC Instructor Enjoys Helping Students Be Successful**

Buzzy Manning, Information Technology instructor on Indian Capital Technology Center's Tahlequah Campus, recently participated in a state event celebrating 10 years of partnership between the Cisco Networking Academy and the State of Oklahoma at the Oklahoma State Capitol 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Rotunda. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the accomplishments of Academy graduates and to recognize the impact of the program in Oklahoma.

Manning spoke to state and CareerTech officials and top level Cisco executives. She told the group about the impact the academy program has had on her life and her career.

Manning is a 2000 graduate from the Indian Capital Technology Center-Bill Willis Campus, in Tahlequah. Her Cisco Academy instructor was Sherry Adrian. She earned her CCNA the summer after she graduated giving her the opportunity to go into Networking. "I first went to work at WorldCom as a Network Engineer in the Fiber Optic Transport Department but moved over to Williams Communications to work as a Network Analyst with the new up and coming IP Network.," says Manning. "Upon the completion of the new IP Network, I moved to the Network Control Center working with their ATM Network and later, as a Network Technician Tier II working directly with FOX Sports."

Manning feels that the Cisco Networking Academy opened the door to a wonderful future for her and her family. She was a single mom with three children to support when she entered the Cisco Academy. “My daughter Jennifer attended the same Cisco Networking Academy class with me,” says Manning. “In fact, she earned her CCNA before I did! She was the first to earn her Cisco Certified Network Associate certification on our campus! Jennifer also went to work in the networking industry after graduation. She no longer lives in Oklahoma, but has continued her very successful IT/ Network career in Dallas,” says Manning.

A few years later, Mannings oldest son, Sam, followed in their footsteps and entered the Cisco Academy at Indian Capital Technology Center. “I’m very proud of my son,” says Manning. “He has had many successful opportunities and currently has an awesome IT job because of his knowledge and Cisco Networking Academy experience.”

In 2004, Manning’s Cisco Academy instructor, Sherry Adrian, took a position in Oklahoma City and recommended Manning for the Cisco Networking Academy teaching position. “What a great opportunity! It was hard to believe that I would be teaching the same Cisco Networking Academy that I had graduated from,” says Manning. “Cisco was making even more of my dreams a reality. That was five years ago.”

Manning’s story has not ended there. “When my family gets together we are so “Cisco” oriented that our typical family gatherings become rather “Techie” in fashion,” says Manning. “My son-in law decided to join in, and studied Cisco Networking. He was recently able to change careers, and is now a successful Network Analyst in Dallas. He plans on getting certified this year.”

As Manning continues to teach students at the ICTC Cisco Networking Academy, she is still setting goals. “I plan to complete my degree at OSU in CareerTech Education, stay on top of Cisco’s up and coming new CCNA Security course and to fine tune the recent CCNA Discovery & Exploration courses to help my students best be prepared to achieve their own certifications,” says Manning. “I love helping my students succeed. Cisco can and will bring them a good life if they work hard and invest effort to make their futures exciting, successful and pretty secure. It’s a good life.”