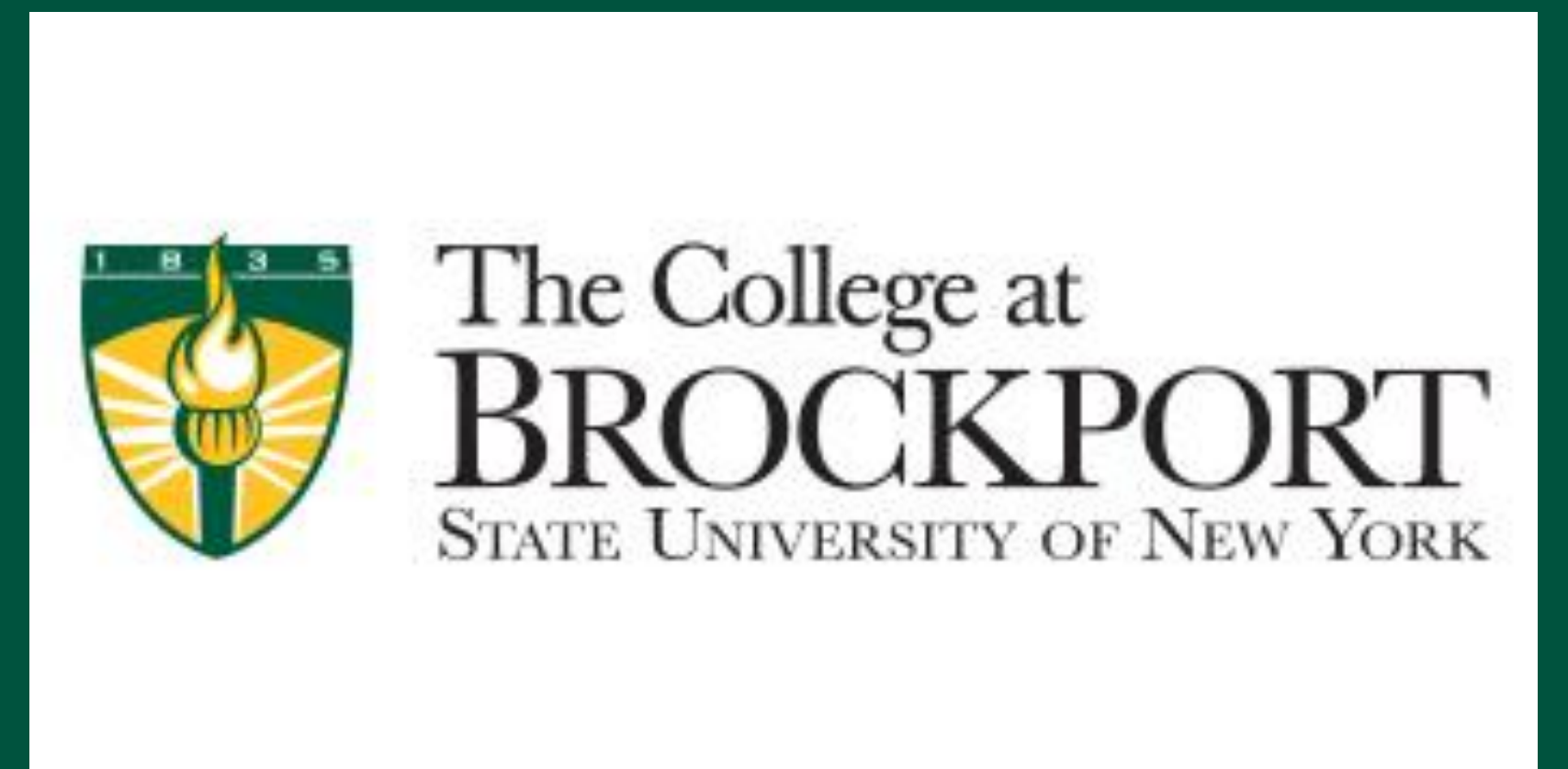


# Confluence of industrial experience and academic knowledge to enhance computer science students' self perception of future employability

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## Introduction

- Employers commonly associate a successful candidate with having previous work or internship experience.
- Job/Internship opportunities can be intimidating to some students, as they may feel underqualified for the position.
- We had a local industrial partner, Measures For Justice, for whom we developed a front end GUI using Vue.js and backend data migration tool, used for transferring data from spreadsheets into an SQL database.



## Conclusion

- Industrial experiences teach new practices unexposed to students in academia.
- Industrial projects should not be viewed as intimidating but, rather, despite the uncertainties and challenges involved, should be viewed as an opportunity to enhance one's self perception of future employability.

## Findings

- In academia, students submit assignments, visit office hours, are given a rigid structure for their course with well defined assignments and a professor that has the all answers, in industry a student does not have these advantages.
- Accumulating experience with technologies such as Vue.js, Kotlin, and Git, which are desired by employers, was important for showing motivation outside the classroom. Such technologies are not necessarily taught in academia.
- Students can develop strong relationships with their industrial counterparts, which is beneficial for career networking.



We noted that in the course of this real world project when the student development team interacted with industrial personnel, and were regularly evaluated by them, the experience was significantly different from a typical academic one.



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