

GRUVER JACOB P  
Form 4  
December 26, 2006

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
GRUVER JACOB P

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
CAREER EDUCATION CORP  
[CECO]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
2895 GREENSPPOINT PARKWAY,  
SUITE 600

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/21/2006

\_\_\_\_ Director  
 Officer (give title below)  
\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Pres., Acad. & College Div.

(Street)  
HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60169

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V   | Amount  | (A) or (D)   | Price                                      |
| Common Stock                    | 12/21/2006                           |  | M                              |   | 32,000  | A  | \$ 2.9531 47,461                           |
| Common Stock                    | 12/21/2006                           |  | M                              |   | 60,000  | A  | \$ 6 107,461                               |
| Common Stock                    | 12/21/2006                           |  | M                              |   | 60,000  | A  | \$ 12.625 167,461                          |
| Common Stock                    | 12/21/2006                           |  | S                              |   | 152,000   | D  | \$ 24.6393 15,461 <sup>(1)</sup>           |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |              |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Stock Option (right to buy)                | \$ 2.9531  | 12/21/2006                           |  | M                              | 32,000  | 09/27/2004   | 09/26/2009  | Common Stock | 32,000                     |
| Stock Option (right to buy)                | \$ 6   | 12/21/2006                           |  | M                              | 60,000  | 06/28/2004   | 06/27/2010  | Common Stock | 60,000                     |
| Stock Option (right to buy)                | \$ 12.625  | 12/21/2006                           |  | M                              | 60,000  | 05/11/2005   | 05/10/2011  | Common Stock | 60,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                             |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                     | Other |
| GRUVER JACOB P<br>2895 GREENSPOINT PARKWAY, SUITE 600<br>HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60169 |               |           | Pres., Acad. & College Div. |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Jacob P. Gruver  
12/26/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person  
Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) 11,461 shares of which were purchased under the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.