

From: Arlo White [mailto:awhite@calpoly.edu]
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 6:54 PM
To: Patent_Quality_Comments
Subject: Patent Quality Solution (Use college students)

Once a professor of mine asked how we would solve some computer software design problem. The class quickly came up with a few ideas. Then the professor told us that some of our ideas had already been patented. If a class of college students can come up with an idea I think that's a pretty good indication of obviousness to professionals in the field.

Using college/university students might be a good way of determining obviousness for potential patents cheaply. For \$60 worth of pizza you obtain a pretty good indication of whether a patent is obvious. I'm not sure you could find a more cost effective scheme.

-Arlo White