Lenart Deborah Form 4 February 11, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

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obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Lenart Deborah

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

below)

CAREER EDUCATION CORP

[CECO]

(Month/Day/Year)

12/31/2008

(Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner

SVP

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below)

2895 GREENSPOINT PARKWAY. SUITE 600

(Street)

(First)

(Middle)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60169

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 4. Securities Acquired (A) 5. Amount of 6. 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transactionor Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Beneficially Form: Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) Owned Direct (D) Ownership (Instr. 8) or Indirect Following (Instr. 4) Reported (I) (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V (D) Price Amount Common J(1)12/31/2008 114.7554 28,317.0114 D Stock 15.25

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

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

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| 1. Title of | 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Titl | e and | 8. Price of | 9. Nu |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative | Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | Transacti | onNumber | Expiration D | ate | Amou | nt of | Derivative | Deriv |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Under | lying | Security | Secui |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | e | | Securi | ties | (Instr. 5) | Bene |
| | Derivative | | | | Securities | | | (Instr. | 3 and 4) | | Owne |
| | Security | | | | Acquired | | | | | | Follo |
| | • | | | | (A) or | | | | | | Repo |
| | | | | | Disposed | | | | | | Trans |
| | | | | | of (D) | | | | | | (Instr |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, | | | | | | · |
| | | | | | 4, and 5) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | Amount | | |
| | | | | | | Date | Expiration | | or | | |
| | | | | | | | Date | Title Number | Number | | |
| | | | | ~ | <i>(</i> 1) (5) | | | | of | | |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | | | | Shares | | |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|--|--|
| FS | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| Lenart Deborah | | | | | | |
| 2895 GREENSPOINT PARKWAY, SUITE 600 | | | SVP | | | |
| HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60169 | | | | | | |

Signatures

/s/Deborah L.
Lenart

**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) Acquired under the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan, a Section 423 plan exempt from 16(b) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 pursuant to Rule 16b-3(c) of the Act.

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. align="center"> Common Stock 250,000 \$ 0 250,000 D Stock Option (right to buy) \$ 12.501/15/2010 A 250,000 $\frac{(2)}{0}$ 04/14/2015 Common Stock 250,000 \$ 0 250,000 D Stock Option (right to buy) \$ 1501/15/2010 A 250,000 $\frac{(2)}{0}$ 04/14/2015 Common Stock 250,000 \$ 0 250,000 D

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|--|--|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | |
| BROWN WILLIAM E | | | | | | |
| 1340 TREAT BLVD., SUITE 600 | X | X | Chairman and CEO | | | |
| WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | | | | | | |

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Signatures

/s/ William E.

Brown 01/20/2010

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

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On April 14, 2009, the Issuer's Compensation Committee granted the reporting person a performance-based premium priced option to purchase 250,000 shares of Class A Common Stock of the Issuer, which option was reported in the Issuer's proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed on December 30, 2009. The closing price of the Issuer's Class A Common Stock on the date of grant was \$8.00 per share. The

- (1) option vests in five equal annual installments beginning April 14, 2010 based on the satisfaction of certain annual performance targets for each of the fiscal years ending September 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. The Issuer's Compensation Committee determined on January 15, 2010, that 100% of the performance targets for fiscal year 2009 were met which will result in the vesting on April 14, 2010, of the option to purchase 50,000 shares.
 - On April 14, 2009, the Issuer's Compensation Committee granted the reporting person a performance-based premium priced option to purchase 250,000 shares of Common Stock of the Issuer, which option was reported in the Issuer's proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed on December 30, 2009. The closing price of the Issuer's Common Stock on the date of grant was \$8.28 per share. The option vests in five
- (2) equal annual installments beginning April 14, 2010 based on the satisfaction of certain annual performance targets for each of the fiscal years ending September 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. The Issuer's Compensation Committee determined on January 15, 2010, that 100% of the performance targets for fiscal year 2009 were met which will result in the vesting on April 14, 2010, of the option to purchase 50,000 shares.

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