CAREER EDUCATION CORP Form SC 13G/A February 13, 2003

> SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13GA* (Rule 13d-102)

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT TO RULES 13d-1(b), (c) AND (d) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED PURSUANT TO 13d-2(b)

> Career Education Corp. (Name of Issuer)

Common Stock (Title of Class of Securities)

> 141665109 (CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2002 (Date of event which requires filing of this statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule 13G is filed:

[] Rule 13d-1(b)

[X] Rule 13d-1(c)

[] Rule 13d-1(d)

(Page 1 of 13 Pages)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP No. 141665109

13G

Page 2 of 13 Pages

(1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO.

OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Lone Spruce, L.P. (2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP ** ______ (3) SEC USE ONLY (4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER SHARES -----BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 114,710 OWNED BY -----EACH (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-REPORTING PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 114,710 ______ (9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 114,710 (10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES ** [] (11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 0.2% (12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON ** PN** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT! Page 3 of 13 Pages CUSIP No. 141665109 13G (1) NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Lone Balsam, L.P. (2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP ** (a) [X] (3) SEC USE ONLY

(4)	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware			
NUMBER OF	(5) SOLE VOTING POWER -0-			
SHARES				
	Y (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 251,717			
OWNED BY				
EACH REPORTING	(7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-			
PERSON WITH	(8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 251,717			
(9)	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON			
	251,717			
	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES **		[]	
(11)	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED			
	BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 0.5%			
(12)	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON ** PN			
	** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!			
CUSIP No. 1	41665109 13G	Page 4	of 13	Pages
(1)	NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS			
	I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)			
	Lone Sequoia, L.P	· .		
(2)	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP	· * *		
			[X] []	
(3)	SEC USE ONLY			
	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION			
(1)	Delaware			
NUMBER OF	(5) SOLE VOTING POWER			
SHARES				
BENEFICIALL	Y (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 210,296			

OWNED BY		
EACH	(7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER	
REPORTING	-0-	
PERSON WITH	(8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 210,296	
	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 210,296	
	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES **	[]
	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 0.5%	
(12)	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON **	
	** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!	
CUSIP No. 14	11665109 13G	Page 5 of 13 Pages
(1)	NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Lone Pine Association	tes LLC
(2)	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP	** (a) [X] (b) []
(3)	SEC USE ONLY	
(4)	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware	
	(5) SOLE VOTING POWER -0-	
SHARES		
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	Y (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 576,723	
EACH	(7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-	
REPORTING PERSON WITH	(8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 576,723	

(9)	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 576,723		
(10)			
(10)	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES **		[]
	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED		
	BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 1.3%		
(12)	TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON **		
	** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!		
CUSIP No. 1	11665109 13G	Page 6	of 13 Pages
(1)	NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO.		
	OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Lone Pine Capital	LLC	
(2)	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP		
		(a) (b)	
(3)	SEC USE ONLY		
(4)	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware		
NUMBER OF	(5) SOLE VOTING POWER		
SHARES	-0-		
BENEFICIALLY	(6) SHARED VOTING POWER 2,609,535		
OWNED BY			
EACH	(7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER -0-		
REPORTING			
PERSON WITH	(8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 2,609,535		
(9)	AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON		
	2,609,535 		
(10)	CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES **		[]
(11)	PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)	_	

5.7% _____ (12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON ** ______ ** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT! CUSIP No. 141665109 13G Page 7 of 13 Pages ._____ NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY) Stephen F. Mandel, Jr. (2) CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP ** (a) [X] (b) [] (3) SEC USE ONLY ______ (4) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION United States NUMBER OF (5) SOLE VOTING POWER -0-SHARES BENEFICIALLY (6) SHARED VOTING POWER 3,186,258 OWNED BY (7) SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER EACH -0-REPORTING PERSON WITH (8) SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 3,186,258 (9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 3,186,258 (10) CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES ** (11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9) 6.9% (12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON ** ** SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP No. 141665109

13G

Page 8 of 13 Pages

Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:

The name of the issuer is Career Education Corp. (the "Company").

Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

The Company's principal executive offices are located at 2895 Greenspoint Parkway, Suite 600, Hoffman Estates, IL 60195.

Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing:

This statement is filed by:

- (i) Lone Spruce, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Lone Spruce"), with respect to the shares of Common Stock (defined in Item 2(d) below) directly owned by it;
- (ii) Lone Balsam, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Lone Balsam"), with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by it;
- (iii) Lone Sequoia, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership ("Lone Sequoia"), with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by it;
- (iv) Lone Pine Associates LLC, a Delaware limited liability company
 ("Lone Pine"), with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly
 owned by Lone Spruce, Lone Balsam and Lone Sequoia;
- (v) Lone Pine Capital LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Lone Pine Capital"), which serves as investment manager to Lone Cypress, Ltd., a Cayman Islands exempted company ("Lone Cypress"), with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by Lone Cypress;
- (vi) Stephen F. Mandel, Jr. ("Mr. Mandel"), with respect to the shares of Common Stock directly owned by each of Lone Spruce, Lone Balsam, Lone Sequoia and Lone Cypress.

The foregoing persons are hereinafter sometimes collectively referred to as the "Reporting Persons". Any disclosures herein with respect to persons other than the Reporting Persons are made on information and belief after making inquiry to the appropriate party.

The address of the business office of each of the Reporting Persons is Two Greenwich Plaza, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830.

CUSIP No. 141665109

13G

Page 9 of 13 Pages

Item 2(c). Citizenship:

Lone Spruce, Lone Balsam and Lone Sequoia are limited partnerships organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. Lone Pine Associates LLC and Lone Pine Capital LLC are limited liability companies organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. Mr. Mandel is a United States citizen.

Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value (the "Common Stock")

Item 2(e). CUSIP Number:

141665109

- Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:
 - (a) [] Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act,
 - (b) [] Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act,
 - (c) [] Insurance Company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act,
 - (d) [] Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940,

 - (f) [] Employee Benefit Plan or Endowment Fund in accordance with 13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (F),
 - (g) [] Parent Holding Company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1 (b) (1) (ii) (G),
 - (h) [] Savings Association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act,
 - (i) [] Church Plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940,
 - (j) [] Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c), check the box. [X]

CUSIP No. 141665109

13G

Page 10 of 13 Pages

Item 4. Ownership.

- A. Lone Spruce, L.P.
 - (a) Amount beneficially owned: 114,710
- (b) Percent of class: 0.2% The percentages used herein and in the rest of Item 4 are calculated based upon the 46,029,009 shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding as of November 11, 2002, as reported in the Company's Form 10-Q for the period ending September 30, 2002.
 - (c)(i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 114,710
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-
 - (iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 114,710
 - B. Lone Balsam, L.P.
 - (a) Amount beneficially owned: 251,717

- (b) Percent of class: 0.5%
- (c)(i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 251,717
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-
 - (iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 251,717
- C. Lone Sequoia, L.P.
 - (a) Amount beneficially owned: 210,296
 - (b) Percent of class: 0.5%
 - (c)(i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 210,296
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-
 - (iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 210,296
- D. Lone Pine Associates LLC
 - (a) Amount beneficially owned: 576,723
 - (b) Percent of class: 1.3%
 - (c)(i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 576,723
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-
 - (iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 576,723
- E. Lone Pine Capital LLC
 - (a) Amount beneficially owned: 2,609,535
 - (b) Percent of class: 5.7%
 - (c)(i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 2,609,535
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-
 - (iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 2,609,535

CUSIP No. 141665109

13G

Page 11 of 13 Pages

- F. Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.
 - (a) Amount beneficially owned: 3,186,258
 - (b) Percent of class: 6.9%
 - (c)(i) Sole power to vote or direct the vote: -0-
 - (ii) Shared power to vote or direct the vote: 3,186,258
 - (iii) Sole power to dispose or direct the disposition: -0-
 - (iv) Shared power to dispose or direct the disposition: 3,186,258
- Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Lone Pine, the general partner of Lone Spruce, Lone Sequoia and Lone Balsam, has the power to direct the affairs of Lone Spruce, Lone Sequoia and Lone Balsam, including decisions respecting the disposition of the proceeds from the sale of shares. Mr. Mandel is the Managing Member of Lone Pine and in that capacity directs its operations. Lone Cypress, a client of Lone Pine Capital of which Mr. Mandel is the Managing Member, has the power to direct the receipt of dividends from or the proceeds of the sale of shares.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group.

See Item 2.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not applicable.

CUSIP No. 141665109

13G Page 12 of 13 Pages

Item 10. Certification.

Each of the Reporting Persons hereby makes the following certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

CUSIP No. 141665109

1.3G

Page 13 of 13 Pages

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of our knowledge and belief, the undersigned certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

DATED: February 13, 2003

LONE SPRUCE, L.P.

By: Lone Pine Associates LLC,

General Partner

By: /s/ Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.

Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.

Managing Member

LONE BALSAM, L.P.

By: Lone Pine Associates LLC,

General Partner

By: /s/ Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.

Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.

Managing Member

LONE SEQUOIA, L.P.

By: Lone Pine Associates LLC, General Partner

By: /s/ Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.
Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.
Managing Member

LONE PINE ASSOCIATES LLC

By: /s/ Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.

Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.

Managing Member

LONE PINE CAPITAL LLC

By: /s/ Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.
-----Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.
Managing Member

STEPHEN F. MANDEL, JR.

/s/ Stephen F. Mandel, Jr.