WIL Seminar

Networking & Job Searches that Work!

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CENTRE FOR WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND LAW 2008

WWW.VU.EDU.AU



The Advertised Job Market

Many positions are advertised via

- The print media
 - Saturdays 'The Age'- My Career
 - > Trade specific publications e.g. the AFR on Fridays
- Internet
 - Seek, My Career, Career One (see WIL list)
 - > Company websites
- Recruitment agencies

Internet Tips: General Search

Load your job search profile onto several sites
(e.g. Seek, My Career, JobsJobsJobs, Career One)

SEE HANDOUT

These sites will email you jobs on a daily or weekly basis that fit your search profile

Free service

The Advertised Job Market

- Cook for key words such as
 - ➤ 'Entry Level'
 - ➤ 'Trainee'
 - ≻ 'Assistant'
 - ➤ 'Internship'
- Unusual to see 'Co-operative Education' or 'Co-op' or 'Work Integrated Learning' advertised
- These positions are competitive but VU WIL students can gain positions this way

Job Search Strategies

Most students have part-time jobs.

How did they gain them?

- Advertisements on the Internet or in the newspapers
- Through a friend or contact
- By calling into businesses
- By using all, or a combination, of these strategies

Source of Employment



The "Hidden" or Unadvertised Job Market

80% of jobs are never advertised and have a small number of applicants. These are filled through:-

- Internal notice boards
- Staff publications
- Word of mouth
- Unsolicited applications
- Volunteers
- Casual employees

Work Integrated Learning Jobs (Co-op. or BIL)

Did you know.....

- Many students source their own positions (approx 25% in 2008)
- Positions through your WIL Co-ordinator can be exclusive to Victoria University or competitive with other universities
- Others arise from the advertised public employment market

Job Search Strategy: Networking

We have all heard the saying...

"It's not what you know, it's who you know"

Although this isn't always true, we can all think of someone who gained a job or an interview because of knowing someone.

What is Networking?

- Meeting industry personnel who can provide information about your chosen field
- Establishing connections with people who may be in a position to offer you career advice or work experience
- Building relationships that may be mutually rewarding
- Information Interviewing is a form of Networking!

Who to Network with:

- Family, friends and people they know
- Past and present employers (paid, voluntary)
- Past co-op/WIL students in your classes
- Alumni or past VU students
- Professional associations events, seminars
- Attend Careers Fairs & Expos
- Lecturers who have industry links
- Social, sporting and club contacts

Benefits of Networking

- Increases your skills and self confidence
- Operation of the second sec
- May uncover actual job vacancies
- Your name may be passed on to people who do have the power to hire you
- Provides useful, current information and advice about your chosen profession

Approaching an Employer

- Essential to plan your approach to any job search strategy
- The workshop will look in more detail at the different situations and how to approach them and will include cover letters
- Your WIL Co-ordinator must be informed of all approaches to employers
- Persistence is a must!
- Use Personal / WIL Action Plan ... set goals with realistic timelines

Job Search Statistics

Hudson Worldwide:

On average it takes 11 weeks to get a job with 50-60 activities undertaken by searchers before success including:

- > 20 direct job applications
- > 19 networking calls
- > 17 self marketing/cold calls
- > 10 recruitment firm interviews
- ➤ 5 interviews with companies
- ➤ 3 interviews with decision makers

Key Reminders

- Apply for positions e-mailed to you by your WIL Co-ordinator
- Apply for advertised positions
- Keep your WIL Co-ordinator informed about the progress of your job search
- Network! Network!Network Try to improve your prospects by tapping into the unadvertised job market.

CONTACT DETAILS

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