

The Career Portal

A Newsletter Supporting the Career Development of SUNY Orange Students

Spring 2015

Job & Career Fair 2015: *Employers are Hiring*



On April 16, the Office of Career & Internship Services will host the annual Job & Career Fair in the Physical Education Building from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the Middletown campus of SUNY Orange. All students, alumni, and community members are invited to participate.

Whether you are graduating and looking for your first professional position; summer employment; or seeking an internship, stop by the Job & Career Fair and speak with employers who are looking for capable, competent, and committed people to join their team.

Be sure to dress professionally, leave the shorts and flip flops home, and bring extra copies of your error-free resume. Practice your elevator speech, highlighting your skills,

abilities, and accomplishments. Make sure to research the companies you would like to work for. You need to be informed because employers want to know that you are aware of what they do and how you can help them achieve their mission and goals.

To help you prepare for the Job & Career Fair, we are hosting a Getting Ready for the Job Fair workshop on April 8 in Newburgh and on April 9 in Middletown. Call 341-4444 for more information.

See you at the Fair,
Your Career Services Team



SUNY Orange Office of Career and Internship Services

www.sunyorange.edu/careers
careers@sunyorange.edu
(845) 341-4444

Middletown Campus
George F. Shepard Student
Center
Room #227

Monday through Friday:
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
call for evening appointments

Newburgh Campus
Please call for hours

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Modern Workplace needs flexible employees

Organizations value employees who can adapt and be flexible. Read the article and see if you have what it takes to succeed in the workplace.

P2

Internship Update

Read about one student's internship experience and see what suggestions he has for securing and succeeding at the internship.

P2

Featured Employer

Volum8 is a small, graphic design firm. Learn about the skills needed to succeed in this cutting-edge industry.

P3

Career Advice

Career Services' staff provides tips for career success.

P3

Events

Read about upcoming activities and workshops that are scheduled for the spring semester.

P4

Flexibility and Adaptability Required for Successful Employment

“This is the way we have always done it” and words like “This isn’t what I was hired to do”, will not win you that promotion, or pay increase you are looking for. Employers need people who are willing to adapt, try new things, and do not shy away from challenges. Change is a constant and those of us who can adapt will reap the benefits. Unfortunately many people are resistant to change. They get comfortable in a certain role and have a difficult time embracing new ways of doing things. Yet it is those among us, who adapt to change and welcome new challenges that are most likely to grow, learn more skills, and develop better relationships.

Change can be scary and exhilarating at the same time. Self-confidence increases as a result of successfully tackling a new challenge. Maintaining the status quo does not result in personal growth. It may make us feel safe and secure but offers little in the way of improvement. If you don’t keep up with the change, you will be left behind and become a dinosaur. For many industries and careers, this can be the kiss of death.

Since change is inevitable, and often you cannot control the circumstances surrounding it, you can control your perspective about the change and your reaction to it. View it as an opportunity, not as a problem. Focus on the task at hand and give it your best effort. Don’t worry about the nay sayers, there will always be some. You must learn to move ahead despite their discouraging words and attitudes. Surround yourself with positive people, those who are committed to challenging themselves and willing to learn and grow and, yes, make mistakes. Don’t be afraid of making mistakes, otherwise you will be paralyzed and unable to move forward.

So embrace the challenge, try new things, research opportunities, offer suggestions, and don’t be afraid to make mistakes. You will grow as a person and be respected by your employer and supervisors.



Internships allow you to showcase your skills

As an accounting student here at SUNY Orange, Michael Derubeis, has been given the opportunity to complete an internship in the Accounts Payable Department at Crystal Run Healthcare located in Middletown, New York. According to his supervisor, Katie Ramos, the Accounting Manager, his daily tasks include electronically matching purchase order invoices in their Materials Management application, entering non-purchase invoices into their Accounts Payable software, as well as scanning and auditing the final documents into the storage application. Michael was welcomed and embraced by the entire Accounting staff and they remain an integral part of his training and internship experience. It is definitely a team-oriented culture and Michael enjoys being a part of the team.

During our interview, Michael mentioned the value of his internship relative to his career choice by stating, “I think the internship program is a great way for a student to not only get a feel for their chosen career path, but also first-hand knowledge and experience. I would highly recommend

this to everyone who is seeking a college degree in a specific field of study.” And, according to what he is doing at the internship, he is applying what he has learned in the classroom now at Crystal Run.

Katie Ramos feels that students who wish to pursue an internship in accounting should have “exceptional interpersonal, analytic and Excel skills.” Michael believes that it is most important for students who wish to pursue an internship to be professional. He said to dress for a higher position than the one that you are applying for. “Remember that you want to stand out from the rest of the candidates,” Michael suggests. He also acknowledged that excellent communications skills, both written and verbal, punctuality, and an eagerness to want to learn were equally important. Katie agreed and believes that additionally students should, “be on time, well-rested, and enjoy the experience”. An internship allows you to showcase what you can do, take advantage of that opportunity.

Preparing for an internship is an integral part of the internship process. Michael prepared for his internship by going



Pictured: Brenda Capuano, Internship Development Specialist (l), and Michael DeRubeis, student intern (r).

to the Office of Career and Internship Services. There, he met with a career counselor and explored online tips for the interviewing process. He recorded a mock interview that allowed him to critique his performance by analyzing his body language and reviewing the answers to the interview questions. This helped prepare Michael for the interview and enhanced his self-confidence. He felt that everyone in the Office of Career and Internship Services was helpful and interested in helping him to succeed.

Featured Employer: volum8



Pictured: The Team at volum8

volum8 is a cutting-edge company in a very cutting-edge industry. They are a highly specialized marketing firm, offering creative strategy, branding and responsive web design, which is an approach to web design aimed at crafting an optimum viewing experience.

When it comes to working with the SUNY Orange students and the Career Services Department, volum8's experience is really quite typical. They provide terrific internship opportunities for students who want to get some real world, hands-on experience, and the chance to build their resumes and portfolios. Their last SUNY Orange intern got all of that and more: he was in fact hired by volum8.

Owner/Creative Director Charlie Graham began as a Graphic Designer 16 years ago. Much like his websites, as the industry changed and moved more toward designing for the web, he adapted his skills to fill the needs of a responsive web designer. Responsive web design adapts to users' devices and can maintain image and visual integrity across almost all devices, from mobile phones, to tablets and desktops, to 60" screens. After freelancing for nearly a decade, he began his company volum8 in July of 2013.

When asked what attributes he looks for in a potential hire, Mr. Graham responds immediately, obviously keeping this information very front-of-mind: "I look for three things: passion, which is something you can't teach; aptitude, because you want someone who is a quick study and who will be a fast learner; and what I call sensibilities, meaning they understand, identify with and naturally gravitate toward quality code or design." Of course they are also going to need to bring some technical skills to the table. It's

always a plus when someone has some solid proficiencies with designing programs and various programming languages, working with Adobe Creative Cloud, HTML/CSS and/or with Google applications.

When it comes to finding qualified designers and coders, Mr. Graham says his industry finds itself "smack-dab in the middle of the skills gap," referring to the approximately 600,000 middle-skill and high skill jobs that are available in the USA today, but that cannot be filled due to a lack of candidates with the necessary skills. "There are tremendous opportunities in this field. Good programmers can make as much as \$120,000 a year. And some of the nation's most desirable employers are looking for them, such as Google, Facebook, eBay and Microsoft." Google was rated #1 in Fortune Magazine's 2014 list of the best companies to work for, and Facebook was rated #1 on Glassdoor's 2015 list of the best companies for an internship. He said these companies prefer to promote from within and hire US workers, but are sometimes forced to outsource to countries such as India and Indonesia where trained coders are available.

SUNY Orange students who are interested in these types of careers should contact the Career Services Office.



Important Advice from your Career Services Team

Prepare for the Job Interview

Anticipate questions, think about your answer, and practice your response. Don't walk into an interview cold. Stop by our office and pick up the Guide to Interview Questions and schedule a mock interview. You'll be glad you did.

Petra Wege-Beers
Director

If Changing Careers...

If it's been a while since you were on the job market, take the time to update your job search skills and techniques. Review your resume, master networking, and practice your interviewing skills. Use the resources already at your fingertips — contact the Office of Career & Internship Services today!

Dorian Tondo
Program Assistant

Do Your Research

During a job interview, never ask a question that you could have gotten the answer to by looking at the organization's web site. Do your research and be prepared.

Donald Green
Assistant Director

Internships Provide Work Experience

Experiential learning by doing an internship is the most valuable and realistic way to practice what you have learned and discussed in the classroom. Research has proven that internships are an excellent means for meeting, networking, and developing lasting professional relationships with people in the industry.

Brenda Capuano
Internship Development
Specialist



Job Fair 2015

Thursday, April 16th
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Middletown Campus
Diana Physical Education Center
For additional information, please call
845-341-4444
or visit
www.sunyorange.edu/careers

CAREER BLUNDERS

Arriving late and not sending a thank-you note afterward are tied as the worst etiquette mistakes you can make during a job interview. Even the most qualified candidates could remain unemployed for forgetting manners.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our winners of the
Career Discovery Zone drawing:

Jacqueline Gutierrez

Melaney Jenks

Kasandra Keddo-Green

Franklyn Polanco

Upcoming Events

The Office of Career & Internship Service is pleased to announce the following upcoming workshops...

- The Art of Interviewing
- Getting Ready for the Job Fair
 - LinkedIn

All workshops will be held on both the Newburgh and Middletown campus. They are free and open to everyone.

Check our website

www.sunyorange.edu/careers

for the latest information on workshop dates
and for other upcoming Career Services activities.

845-341-4444