Are You Cramming . . . for a Job or Internship?

by Karen Knipschild

The end of the semester is looming. Seniors see the final goal line and underclassmen still look to the future. And there it is — that nagging feeling — I need a job!

And like the unhealthy habit of cramming last minute for exams it can be draining to force yourself into job situations you may not be suitable for. Remember, it’s never too late to find a job that is a good professional fit for you.

Whether you’re interested in a career or summer internship you still have time to strengthen your job hunt for effective results.

Similar to regular study habits, remain persistent and take the time to check out employment opportunities on a daily basis. Similar to studying or exercising it’s important to set aside some time each day to check out employment ads. Maybe it’s five minutes in the morning or a half hour at the end of the day. Just do it! Flag the information and respond later with a cover letter and resume when you have more time.

Search as many job engines and companies as you can. Keep in mind after you graduate you can still access BuckyNet at no charge. It’s also important to register with BridgeMyCareer while you’re still an enrolled UW student. This is a service employers pay for to find you.

The professional networking site LinkedIn is also valuable in the career hunt. You can search companies or list your skills/expertise that employers may be searching for.

Information regarding internships with over 2500 organizations can be found at Internships-USA. This is a free service to UW-Madison students by registering with the username of UWIMadison and password WIM201213.

The UW Student Job Center posts daily and has a wide variety of summer job opportunities on and off campus. A student job can be similar to an internship if there are skills you may be using that are similar to your academic pursuits.

If you’re curious about the marketability and availability of specific careers check out the Occupational Outlook Handbook. This is a U.S. government website filled with career information. The profiles cover hundreds of occupations and descriptions.

If you would like help in preventing the career or internship cram, feel free to set up an appointment on my WisCal Calendar. Summer appointments are also available.

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Congratulations, Farewell, Please Stay in Touch

You’ve made it through the winter and spring is finally starting to arrive. These are your final days as a UW-Madison undergraduate. Congratulations! You’ve made it! Job well done!

We will miss you and want to remind you to stay in touch. The English Department is committed to maintaining, improving, and growing their community of alumni. Their alumni page is designed to update you on the department and its happenings.

You also have the option to update the alumni Annotations Newsletter with your progress after graduation.

If you are returning in the fall, we look forward to working with you on all of your advising needs. Have a terrific summer!

Please look for the English Department’s Exit Survey coming your way soon.