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September 2010 Newsletter

Career Center, Illinois Wesleyan University

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Beyond the Bubble

a look at life outside Illinois Wesleyan University

How I Spent My Summer Vacation

How did you find out about this job?

I'd been going there for a couple of years with a youth group from back home so I figured I'd apply. My advisor said it would be good for my resume, even if it wasn't technically an internship. I was on the edge of a forest and near the boundary waters between the US and Canada, so it put me right in the middle of nature.

What did you do there?

We switched jobs every week so I did everything from working at the store and rental desk to cutting wood for the generator, to hooking up a sprinkler system for forest fires. I also did a lot of canoe orientations where I talked to people about being respectful to the environment. There was a job for everything.

Did this job help you get a better idea of what you want to do as a career?

I always knew I wanted to work outside, but now I know I want to focus on protecting areas like the boundary waters. There is a lot of mining and deforestation nearby, and working at Sawbill made me more aware of how much the whole area will be affected by that. I really don't want to work at a desk for the rest of my life. I want to promote sustainability and protecting places in danger of being exposed and taken advantage of.

What else did you learn through this experience?

I learned a lot about how businesses



like Sawbill run. Ecotourism has really become popular recently, and Sawbill is a good example of that. This also helped me prepare to study abroad next semester in New Zealand. I was away from home for about two and a half months, and it was a completely different setting than I was used to. We were really off the grid. We had solar panels, a generator that would fail every so often, and we were a half hour from the nearest town, which wasn't that big to begin with.

Do you think that this kind of experience is important for environmental studies majors?

Absolutely. Working at Sawbill was really good for networking. One of the former crew members now works for the federal government in promoting wildlife preservation. He really helped me by explaining what he did after graduating from college to get to where he is.

What was your favorite part about working at Sawbill?

I loved how the other crewmembers and I could go from watching "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" after work to going on a night paddle on the lake nearby. We could hear bears in the forest and loons out on the water. There were even otters swimming up next to us. It was so amazing.

Joe Daniels '13

Environmental Studies major
Concentration: International
Environmental Sustainability
Sawbill Canoe Outfitters
(Tofte, Minnesota)

Career Connections

a newsletter from the hart career center

September 2010

Why You Have Time for the Fall Internship Fairs

So it's the beginning of a new school year. After spending your 401k on textbooks, meeting your professors, and taking furious notes on a really good plan to talk to that cute boy in your physics class, you are ready, focused, and much too busy to ever attend the Fall Job and Internship Fairs. False.

Now you may say, "No, Tracy. You don't understand. I'm a triple major in biology, music composition, and American studies with a minor in interpretive dance. I can't find the time to watch reruns of Gilmore Girls, let alone go to something that has little relevance to my life." Well, Unidentified Student, that is where you are wrong.

"Okay, Tracy. You clearly do not understand me. The day of that internship fair just doesn't work for me at all. I have at least 300 things to do between 8 AM and 10 PM."

Luckily, there isn't just one internship fair. On Friday, September 24, there will be an internship fair from 12 PM to 3 PM at the ISU Bone Student Center. On Wednesday, October 6, there will be a job and internship fair from 10 AM to 3 PM at the ISU Redbird Arena, and on Tuesday, October 12, IWU will host an internship fair from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM in the Memorial Center. So I'm sure

you can make it to at least one of those days.

"Alright, maybe. Maybe I can make one of those days. But ISU? How am I going to get to ISU? I don't have a car, and the buses... well, I don't do buses."

Well, thanks to the wonderful people at the Hart Career Center, you don't have to worry about that. The Career Center will be providing transportation to the IWU/ISU Employment and Internship Fair on October 6. A shuttle will run from 9:30 AM through the close of the event. All you need to do is show up at the south doors of the Memorial Center, and they'll pick you up.

"But I'm an education major. I need something more specific than a job/internship fair. I don't think that can help me out."

On Saturday, November 4, ISU will be hosting an Educator's Fair from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Bone Student Center. That should help you out just fine.

"Just kidding. In the two minutes you were talking, I changed my major to nursing. Now what do I do?"

There will be a Nursing Career Fair in the Young Main Lounge from 10 AM to 1 PM on November 11. So there you go. Problem solved, right?

"Wrong. I still don't understand why I need to go to these fairs. I'm not too worried about finding a job right now, and why do I even need an internship?"



That's like asking, "Tracy, why do I even need to breathe?" Internship experience is becoming more and more necessary for students. Some employers won't even hire you if you don't have a background in the job you're applying to do. An internship is the perfect way to find out more about what you want to do with your future career while getting some much needed experience in the field at the same time. So yeah... you should probably get on that.

"Alright, you've convinced me. I'll be waiting for that shuttle on October 6th. Happy now?"

Exceedingly. My work here is done.

Another Opportunity!

Chicago and Champaign Graduate and Professional School Days

- 10/6 - University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Illini Union Rooms A, B, C and South Lounge) 3 PM - 7 PM
- 10/7 - University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC Forum at 725 W. Roosevelt) 3 PM - 7 PM

Over 200 programs represented!

Inside this Issue

p. 2 Your guide to an international career is only a few clicks away!

p. 3 Only the best job and internship resources!

If Only Job and Internship Resources Were Online... Oh Wait.

Some nights, I can't fall asleep at all. This usually happens to me on Saturdays for no particular reason. Maybe my body knows I have to be up by 7:00 AM to get to church at 8:30 AM, and it just likes to see me stress out. But in those sleepless nights, staring at the U2 poster on my wall, I think to myself, "Wow. I wish there were some online resources to help me get a really sweet job." If you can relate to these thoughts that plague my mind, your dream is about to come true.

Titan CareerLink

Think of Titan CareerLink as having a genie. A magical genie that can help you find the internship or job of your dreams just by you telling him some information about yourself. CareerLink can't help you get the princess or fight off an evil sorcerer who transforms himself into a giant cobra (unless that's in your job description), but what it can do is equally as useful. All you need to know is your IWU username and the last six digits of your social security number to log in. After that, your wish is CareerLink's command. For example, I just searched for internships in Illinois that go with the keyword "political," and eleven results came up, most of which were in the Bloomington/Normal area. (Oh, and as a heads up, political science majors,

you need an internship to graduate. Looks like you should check this out!) CareerLink is also a great way to connect with IWU alumni who have volunteered to be a part of the Alumni Mentoring Database. You can run a search on all participating alumni in your future career field and find someone who would be more than happy to share information with you about their field of work. Also, check Titan CareerLink for the on-campus interview schedule. To find it, click on Calendar, then Calendar Search, and then Interview Schedule. The link to this page is on the Career Center's website.

Career Center Listserv

Are you one of those people who checks their mail at least 30 times a day? Do you want a better way to stay up to date with what the Career Center is doing? Do you constantly find yourself wanting to read more things that I type out on my hideous laptop? (No, seriously. My laptop isn't pretty.) Listserv is definitely for you, then. The Career Center's Listserv is an email that goes out every week to anyone who wants to sign up for it. Based on the amount of useful information these emails provide you with (events, scholarships, deadlines, etc.), that should be everybody. To sign up, send an email to careers-subscribe@lists.iwu.edu. In the subject line, type "SUBSCRIBE." You don't have to type anything in the body of the email. After that, you will receive a confirmation email, and you're good to go!

The following resources can be found on the Career Center's Online Resources section of their homepage. To access it, the username is iwustudent and the password is titan.

Career Insider (Vault)

So maybe you have heard *of* a company but you haven't heard *about* them. Kind of like me and most popular music. That's where Career Insider comes in. This site provides you with company profiles, career information, and industry information in easily downloadable guides. Normally, guides like this would cost you some hard-earned cash that you could be adding to your "Buy A Car That Works" fund, but the Career Center

provides this service for free.

Internships USA

Internships USA is ensuring that students can't make the excuse "There just aren't any internships out there for me." The largest internship site on the Internet, it reports over 3,000 organizations with internships for college students. If your previous methods of looking for an internship aren't working out for you (phone calls, the classified ads, begging, threatening, espionage, etc.), this is where you need to go. In fact, you should have gone there first.

BRIDGE

If you're a music major, you've probably heard (or, even more likely, made) the joke that you will be living in a box some day. But there is hope! The New England Conservatory is keeping more music majors out of cardboard boxes and into the jobs of their dreams through their online job search tool, BRIDGE. For students in the field of music, this website should not be passed by.

Human Services and Liberal Arts Bulletin

So you have this coveted liberal arts education. And you know you want to work in human services. But other than that, you're more lost than Jack Shepard and some other guy from that show I never watched. Then this is something you should check out. This newsletter is entirely online and highlights jobs in this field for people who have a good idea of what they want to do but aren't sure what that specifically looks like.

Environmental Career Opportunities

If you're like Joe (see his interview on the back page!), you're an environmental studies major who knows that your field of study is becoming increasingly important in the American job market. But you also are probably not sure where to find opportunities for you to exercise your passion for the environment in a career setting. Look no further than here. This site lists job and internship openings in all parts of the job market, including corporations, non-profits, and government agencies.

• Upcoming Events! • • •

- ~ 9/15 - Senior Career Planning Seminar (Beckman Auditorium @ 11 AM)
- ~ 9/16 - Internships 101 (Welcome Center Auditorium @ 4 PM)
- ~ 9/21 - Drop In Hours (Hart Career Center from 2 - 4:30 PM)
- ~ 9/21 - Bring It On: Standing Out in an Interview (Welcome Center Auditorium @ 4 PM)
- ~ 9/28 - Graduate School Preparation: Navigating The Maze (Welcome Center Auditorium @ 4 PM)
- ~ 9/30 - Extreme Makeover: Resume Edition (Buck 202 @ 12:10 PM)
- ~ 9/30 - Job Fair Jitters? (Welcome Center Auditorium @ 4 PM)

Around the World in 80 Clicks

Maybe staying in the U.S. isn't part of your post-IWU plans. Maybe you have dreams of living in Japan or France or Australia. I, for one, won't be traveling to that last place any time soon, despite my childhood adoration for the Crocodile Hunter (RIP, dude). Google "Australian house spiders," and you'll understand why. But if you're fearless and daring, unlike me, then Going Global should be your first stop before you pack your bags and say goodbye to central Illinois.

Going Global is the newest addition to the Hart Career Center's excellent collection of online resources. But what makes it different from any other job and internship database is that it focuses on international opportunities. There is a lot packed into this site that you need to know about, so let's get started.

When you go to Going Global's homepage, the first thing you will see is a section named Country Profiles. Stop. Turn off the iPod you're listening to as you read this (Nickelback is terrible, anyway) and pay attention. These profiles might save your life... or at least prevent you from living in a country you know very little about. Let me show you. So I've always wanted to go to Ireland. Let's pretend I'm planning on getting a job there. When I click on the Irish flag icon, Going Global gives me a list of links to information on everything from Ireland's pharmaceutical sector to cultural advice for living on the Emerald Isle. I'm interested in employment trends in Ireland. So I click on that link, and what do I find out? The slow housing market,

the international credit crisis, and the appreciation of the euro are all negatively impacting Ireland's growth, and unemployment may rise to 17 percent this year. Whoa! I'm glad I found that out before I bought a plane ticket. So if you're feeling compelled to live outside of the U.S., check these out so you're not in for any unpleasant surprises.

Another useful feature Going Global offers is interview guides for specific countries. Let's see what they have in this section for South Korea. First, I'm going to click on the Resume/CV Guide to see what I need to send my future employers. Right away, this link answers the all-too-common question of "Do I need a cover letter?" In South Korea, yes you do. Going Global says that in the past, most Korean companies didn't require a candidate to provide one, but now, employers are expecting you to grab their attention within the first ten lines of your cover letter. Also, it's apparently important that a candidate include his or her resident number, a photograph, and whether or not they are the eldest child. I definitely would not have known that without this guide. So now I go back to the Interview Guide. It tells me that I should also check the Cultural Advice section before my interview, and then lets me know what to expect when I walk in. Since Koreans don't change jobs too frequently, a job interview in South Korea is very carefully thought out. So don't be surprised if one other person or maybe an entire panel of interviewers is there. That's a pretty important thing

to prepare for if large groups of people psych you out.

One final feature I'd like to highlight is Going Global's Work Permits and Visas section. Before you go to a new country, you obviously need one of these. I think I should check what I need to do to live in Brazil. When I go to this section, its country profile tells me that depending on my nationality and where I live, a visa for Brazil could cost hundreds of dollars and take weeks to process. Now I know that I should start the application process a month or so before I plan on leaving. But what if I just want a work permit? According to this, if I get a job in Brazil, my employment is tied to the specific employer who chose me, after he gets permission to allow me to work there. However, the only document I need is a permanent working visa for Brazil. There isn't a separate work permit. Again, all important things you need to check out before you hop on a plane.

The best part about Going Global is that everything I just listed is accessible without the subscription. With the subscription, Going Global provides more complete guides to 34 countries, 42 U.S. cities, and 6 Canadian cities with over 500,000 job and internship listings in the United States and the rest of the world. Now I have even better news: the Career Center has that subscription. If this site sounds like the best thing since that last "best thing ever," go to the Career Center's homepage, click on the Students link, and Going Global is listed under Online Resources. To access this through the Online Resources page, the username is iwustudent, and the password is titan.

Attention All Business, Accounting, and Technology Majors!

The Illinois Small College Placement Association (ISCPA) will be hosting a Fall Interview Day on Friday, October 15 in Willowbrook. This unique program allows students interested in business and IT careers to have the opportunity to apply for interviews with a variety of employers for 18 full-time positions and seven internship positions.

To apply, go to the ISCPA website at <http://www.iscpa.org>, create an account, and upload your resume. Make sure you do this as soon as possible so that it can be approved in time for review. Once approved, submit your resume for application with every position that you're

interested in for interview. The deadline for submissions is Monday, September 20. Employers will select candidates for interview by September 27, and those selected students can sign up for an interview time slot on October 6. You may be selected for an interview by more than one employer so make sure you definitely have an interest in the position you're applying for.

Even if this event isn't directed to your field of study, you should still sign up with the ISCPA's Online Career Center. This is another excellent database for job and internship opportunities.

Companies include...

- Allstate
- Applied Systems Inc.
- AT&T
- CEB & Company, LLC
- Clifton Gunderson, LLP
- Federated Insurance
- Kellogg Company
- Porte Brown LLC
- McGladrey & Pullen
- Sogeti USA, LLC
- The Condon Group
- US Securities & Exchange Commission
- Zurich