

It's Everyone's Business is a monthly newsletter created by Truman State University's School of Business Academic Peer Mentors.



2012-2013 Peer Mentors (Not pictured: Michele Oberkrom)

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Mark Your Calendar!

4/1-4/5 Alcohol Awareness Week

4/9 & 4/10 Graduation Fair for May 2013 Graduates

4/10 Business Trivia Night

4/11 & 4/12 Tunnel of Oppression

4/15-4/19 Graduate Education Week

4/16 Student Research Conference

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Taking Advantage of Summer

Summer is the time of year every student looks forward to the most. After months of hard work, every student is just looking for a relaxing vacation to clear his or her head. This vacation can't last too long though because summer is also full of opportunities that can lead to amazing experiences. These opportunities include internships, job shadowing, summer classes, and studying abroad.

Internships are a great way to gain experience in the field you are studying and wish to work in after graduation. Many companies offer summer internships, but no internship is ever the same as the next. Some companies offer a very structured internship experience, often a ten week program working 40 hours a week. Other companies are more laid back and allow you to create your own schedule. Having a summer internship is crucial to developing a well rounded résumé. Moreover, interning at a company is a great way for employers to develop a good sense about a potential hire. If both the employer and you feel that the internship went well, then it could easily lead to an offer for a permanent position.

Internships can be paid or unpaid. Many students make the mistake of passing up an unpaid internship for a paid summer job. Both offer the possibility of experience and most college students could use some extra cash. However, an internship without dollars signs should not be so easily cast aside without a careful examination of pros and cons. Regardless of the type of internship experience, it will be a productive, rewarding, and interesting way to spend the summer and can even help students better understand what they wish to do after graduation. All in all, when considering internship opportunities, pay attention to the following: company culture, benefits package, paid vs. unpaid, advancement opportunities, team vs. individual work styles, location, etc.

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Common Issues During the Job Search

Getting a job right out of college that complements your major can be difficult. Even with a great education from Truman, you may experience stress and be discouraged while job and internship hunting. Here is a list of issues you may face while on the hunt:

1. Not hearing anything from a company after applying for a job
2. Not knowing exactly what you want to do
3. Can't find a company that matches your needs and wants
4. Positions posted for a company aren't entry level opportunities
5. Your top employers don't attend nearby career fairs
6. Don't have the connections that others do; it's all about who you know
7. Some companies are offering unpaid internships, which isn't feasible for you
8. When you get automated rejection emails, you're disheartened
9. Finding out about an open position too late
10. Difficulty following up with employers and hiring managers



In order to overcome or avoid some of the above issues, there are three major steps that you can take.

1. Go to the Career Center and ask for assistance. In addition, talk to faculty members in your area of study and members of student organizations about their experiences and gather advice.
2. Expand your network on LinkedIn and on campus.
3. Broaden your search by using different keywords on job boards and company websites. If your search is too focused, you may be missing out on opportunities that still fit the bill.

Taking Advantage of Summer cont.

Job shadowing is another excellent way you can spend your time during summer vacation. Job shadowing is similar to an internship in the fact that you are able to learn more about a career or company you are interested in working in after graduation. However, with job shadowing it is most often unpaid and fewer hours per week. Job shadowing typically involves following around an employee and learning more about their daily tasks. The experience gained from job shadowing can help students to better understand what they will be doing after graduation and if that is the right fit for them. It is also a great way to gain firsthand experience.

Students who wish to focus more closely on their academics might be interested in taking **summer classes** instead. This is a great way to get ahead in the coursework required to graduate and will help keep your mind fresh over the summer, making it easier to start school again in the fall. Summer classes are offered at Truman but can also be taken in students' hometowns with the pre-approval of the registrar.

Studying abroad is another popular option for many students. Students can gain invaluable experiences in other countries across the globe. This is a great time to better students' language skills, meet new people, and experience a whole new culture. The downside to this option is the cost, as it is often more expensive than other summer opportunities. Internships are often offered abroad as well for students who wish to gain experience in their careers while spending time in another country.

With so many opportunities to choose from, students are often overwhelmed with making the right decision. No matter what a student chooses, one thing is for certain: summer is full of opportunities that will lead to great experiences that can better your academic and professional careers. What will you choose to do with your time?

Study Abroad in China

China has become one of the most popular study abroad destinations for international students because of its long history and exciting culture. Truman offers a six-week study abroad program at Beijing, Xian, and Shanghai. Prior knowledge of Chinese is not required. The program costs approximately \$5,118 plus Truman tuition (6 credits).

To learn more about what the program entails, studying abroad in China, and program costs, visit <http://business.truman.edu/chinastudyabroad/>.

