



Career Services Informer

Career Services Office Room 1001
(734) 432-5623, or visit our website:

<http://www.madonna.edu/pages/careerservices.cfm>

April, 2008

MICHIGAN COLLEGIATE JOB FAIR

MARCH 14, 2008



155 employers attended the March 14th Michigan Collegiate Job Fair in Livonia, and over 1000 students/graduates showed up to interview with them. Students, graduates, and employers seemed pleased with the fair. Of the companies that were at the job fair: 13 offered IT jobs, 19 Computer Science, 49 Business-related, 94 considered liberal arts or all majors; 19 State and Federal Agencies attended. Some of our Madonna graduates have had job offers, while others are in the process of interviewing.





Eastern Michigan University Teacher Job Fair, 2008

Register at the door and pay a \$20 fee.

All money will be collected at the door of the fair **(checks and cash only)**.

Please make your check payable to **Eastern Michigan University**

How to Verify Your Registration:

When you register, print your registration receipt. This is your confirmation that you are registered. Bring it with you to the fair. you may print another copy by visiting the "Verify your Registration" page at the left.

Refunds:

We do not issue refunds so please review the link districts attending the fair before you register.



Attention Job Seekers!

MICHIGAN COLLEGIATE VIRTUAL JOB FAIR April 14th-25th, 2008

**Free to students and Alumni
Over 150 employers in the past!**

**How do I participate?
Submit your resume in the first week
beginning April 14, 2008.
Virtual Interview/chat beginning
April 14, 2008.**

Register at:

www.michiganvirtualjobfair.org

University of Michigan Education Job Fair April 17, 2008 9:30 am - 3:00 pm / Michigan Union

The Education Job Fair is a great way to connect with employers. Typically, 95-100 school districts and over 400 students participate in the Fair. The Education Job Fair offers something for everyone:

Seniors, Graduate Students, Alumni/ae

Interview with school districts for full-time positions
Build networks to expand your job search efforts
Get the recruiter perspective on the student teaching experience and the education job search

Juniors, First & Second Year Students

Explore career options in education
Build networks for the future
Learn more about exciting school districts from across the country
<http://www.careercenter.umich.edu/events/fairsevents/edfair.html#Reg>

MCEIA Virtual Career Fair April 2-23, 2008

Please click here to register:
<http://www.easecareerfair.com/mceia/index.php?script=student-register>

Also,



Through May 10, 2008

Here you can meet top employers for the Class of '08, including many featured in THE BLACK COLLEGIAN Magazine, as well as other employers that are still hiring to fill entry-level positions. Participating employers have announced plans to hire entry-level candidates in a wide range of disciplines. Some are also inviting students for internships and co-op opportunities. Click here to view employers: <http://www.black-collegian.com/employers/top100/default.htm>

Questions that are the "Kiss of Death"

Some of the most reasonable things to ask can kill your chances in an interview. Understand how these questions can come across and learn how to rephrase them to avoid this pitfall.

- **What are the benefits?** (translation..."I get hung up on minute details"). Do you really think the Hiring Manager knows the benefits off the top of their head? Trust me, they don't. So, don't torture them since it would take them easily ten minutes to answer you. Instead, ask them who you could speak with. This is important stuff. But, let's face it, the benefits aren't why you're interested in the job. So, only get this at the end of the interview process. Asking any earlier is presumptuous and ill-timed. **Rephrase:** *"Since we are getting to the final stage, I want to make sure I have everything I need to respond quickly to an offer if I'm fortunate enough to get one. Who can I contact to find out about your benefits?"*
- **Do you have high turn over?** (translation..."I like to focus on the negative"). Hmmm...while you're at, why don't you ask if they have bad breath too or if they have ever been divorced. Don't ask negative questions. It's flat out rude and puts the Hiring Manager on the defense. Attrition is absolutely something that you'll want to know about. But find a way to get at this by asking a question about retention that isn't so abrasive. If they can't answer you with a lot of examples and details, you'll have your answer. **Rephrase:** *"Tell me about the work culture. How long have people been here and what do they like most about this company?"*
- **What are the hours?** (translation..."I don't like to work long hours") Knowing the hours IS important, but make sure you don't give them the impression that you are a "Nine to Fiver" who is only willing to work the minimum. You can certainly ask. But tell them it's because you want to understand what the expectations will be (so that you can meet those expectations!) in addition to wanting to fit in culturally with what the rest of the team is doing. **Rephrase:** *"What's the typical schedule for this position and what time do you like people to show up and work up until so I can fit in with everyone else?"*
- **What does your company do?** (translation..."I was just too lazy to research this ahead of time"). This is the ultimate foot in mouth question. Why should a Hiring Manager have to spend time informing you of something you should already know? It is a time drain and an annoyance. It's also a little insulting because you are basically telling the manager that you've never heard of the place they work. Now, it's perfectly fine to ask questions about the company, just make sure they're specific questions, not broad ones. And always reference whatever legwork you did do to research them. **Rephrase:** *"I searched your company online and got some good general information, but could you give me a bit more detail?"*

Mock Interviewing Monday, April 14, 2008 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



Tara Michener (Valassis Communications Recruiter/Madonna Alum) will be on campus to provide students/alums with the opportunity to practice interviewing, and to help them to prepare and strategize for future interviews.

Please contact Ingrid Kroeger at 734.432.5621, or ikroeger@madonna.edu,
If you are interested in setting up an appointment with Ms. Michener.

A Life of Positive Thinking and Laughter By Jordan Richardson

Living a life of positive thinking and laughter is bound to have you feeling happier and more successful throughout your day-to-day routine. In fact, those that make positive thinking and laughter a key goal in their lives tend to experience more daily success and more happiness than anyone else. Visualizing goals and going after them is a key component to positive thinking. Keeping a light attitude towards life is a great way to keep laughter as the soundtrack to your life and have things looking a little bit brighter. When it comes to a healthy state of mind and body, positive thinking and laughter work hand in hand.

Daily Happiness and Success

Having daily happiness and success is all about developing a habit. You'll need to start making a few changes in your life if you want to experience positive thinking and laughter on a regular basis, and you'll want to create an [environment](#) that encourages both those qualities, too. This may sound like work, but don't worry; it can actually be a lot of fun! One of the first things you'll want to do in developing your "happy habit" is to change the way you look at things in your life. Keep the focus on the bright side and think of the good side all the time. You may find that your mind will try to drag you down and look at the negative things in life more often than you'd like, but you have the power to change that focus and keep it on positive aspects. If you try to make your first thoughts about the bright side of the situation, you'll find yourself well on your way to developing your "happy habit".



For Some, Online Persona Undermines a Résumé

By **ALAN FINDER**
Published: June 11, 2006

To view the full article click on the website:
http://www.nytimes.com/2006/06/11/us/11recruit.html?fta=y&pa_gewanted=all#

When a small consulting company in Chicago was looking to hire a summer intern this month, the company's president went online to check on a promising candidate who had just graduated from the [University of Illinois](#).

At Facebook, a popular social networking site, the executive found the candidate's Web page with this description of his interests: "smokin' blunts" (cigars hollowed out and stuffed with marijuana), shooting people and obsessive sex, all described in vivid slang. It did not matter that the student was clearly posturing. He was done.

"A lot of it makes me think, what kind of judgment does this person have?" said the company's president, Brad Karsh. "Why are you allowing this to be viewed publicly, effectively, or semipublicly?"

Many companies that recruit on college campuses have been using search engines like Google and Yahoo to conduct background checks on seniors looking for their first job. But now, college career counselors and other experts say, some recruiters are looking up applicants on social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace, Xanga and Friendster, where college students often post risqué or teasing photographs and provocative comments about drinking, recreational drug use and sexual exploits in what some mistakenly believe is relative privacy.

When viewed by corporate recruiters or admissions officials at graduate and professional schools, such pages can make students look immature and unprofessional, at best. "It's a growing phenomenon," said Michael Sciola, director of the career resource center at [Wesleyan University](#) in Middletown, Conn. "There are lots of employers that Google. Now they've taken the next step."

At [New York University](#), recruiters from about 30 companies told career counselors that they were looking at the sites, said Trudy G. Steinfeld, executive director of the center for career development.

"The term they've used over and over is red flags," Ms. Steinfeld said. "Is there something about their lifestyle that we might find questionable or that we might find goes against the core values of our corporation?"

Facebook and MySpace are only two years old but have attracted millions of avid young participants, who mingle online by sharing biographical and other information, often intended to show how funny, cool or outrageous they are.

On MySpace and similar sites, personal pages are generally available to anyone who registers, with few restrictions on who can register. Facebook, though, has separate requirements for different categories of users; college students must have a college e-mail address to register. Personal pages on Facebook are restricted to friends and others on the user's campus, leading many students to assume that they are relatively private.

But companies can gain access to the information in several ways. Employees who are recent graduates often retain their college e-mail addresses, which enables them to see pages. Sometimes, too, companies ask college students working as interns to perform online background checks, said Patricia Rose, the director of career services at the [University of Pennsylvania](#).

Graduation and the end of the school year are fast approaching for many students. When I speak to students about looking for a job for the summer or their first professional experience, they remind me of this fact. They have so many things to do before the end of the semester or before they graduate, that they don't have time to look for a job now. They'll do it when the semester is over. I understand the desire to not add job search to an already busy schedule. Unfortunately, employers are not on a school schedule.

Most recruiters are wrapping up their interviewing visits to campuses and job fairs this month. If students come in and see us in June, ready to start their job search, it's almost too late. On-campus events really slow down in the summer months..

So I encourage you to give some thought to your job search now. In April alone, the Career Services Office has several job fairs advertised on our website, including 2 virtual job fairs that you can do on-line, a teacher job fair and employers coming on campus.

If you're looking for a summer or part time job, make sure you view our job postings weekly, network with friends and family and start going directly to the employers that interest you. The students that use all the resources available and are actively seeking a job are the ones that get hired. Hope you're among the employed this summer!