Career Tips and Advice

Interview Advice for Graduating Seniors and Internship Seekers

For both graduating seniors and internship seekers, 'tis the season of the interview.

You've had your resume reviewed, you've networked, you've applied to some amazing places and finally, that phone call you've been waiting for comes in.

"We would like to interview you for the job."

Words that will probably evoke both elation and terror at the same time. Here are a few tidbits of advice for interviewing:

1) **Dress up.** Head to toe, in professional business attire. It doesn't matter that most of the staff in their office wear jeans and t-shirts, YOU should dress up in a suit, nice shoes, well groomed hair, conservative attire.

2) **Be formal.** Not just in your dress but also in your attitude and posture. This is the time to bring out the "Yes ma'am, yes sir. Please. Thank you." Shake hands, stand up straight, don't slouch in your chair, hands in your lap...you get the idea.

3) **Don't lie.** About anything. Not one single little white lie. Just be honest. If they catch you in a lie, it's a deal breaker for sure.

4) **Don't talk bad about your previous employer, boss, coworkers or the company of your previous employment.** It may have been a total disaster of a job with a boss who was a wreck but find a way to speak positive about whatever the situation was...and refer back to #3. Don't lie. Just keep a positive spin on things and avoid bringing in negative baggage.

5) **Focus on what you can do for them.** I tell students this all the time in regards to their resumes and the same rings true in an interview. It may be an amazing opportunity for you, but keep the focus on just how awesome their company will function if they hire YOU! What value will you bring to the company.

6) **Always, ALWAYS have a few questions for your interviewers.** When they come to the end and they say, "So, do you have any questions for us?" the answer should always be "yes, thank you". Here are a few to consider using: **What are the specific**
qualities you are looking for in a candidate and is there anything you've learned about me today that brings up any concerns for you? (This question gives you the perfect opportunity to address anything that may have come up that would prevent them from hiring you - giving you a second chance to alleviate their concerns)

Are there opportunities for professional development and additional training?

Why do you like working here?

If you need additional assistance in preparing for interviews or your resume, please call us to set up an appointment. So many students and graduates comment about the resume assistance they have received and how it changed the responses that were returned. It's well worth the visit.

Opportunities in Federal Service

I had the opportunity today to have a small group discussion with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for the federal government, Katherine Archuleta. This is the office behind USAJobs that you may be familiar with during your job searches. She was visiting with career advisors at Ohio State to talk more about opportunities in federal service for both internships and recent graduates.

Director Archuleta discussed the over 3000 jobs that just posted yesterday with the FAA and over 1000 jobs with the FBI. She mentioned that in particular demand were students and graduates from STEM areas, which of course, ENR students represent.

OPM is aggressively recruiting for federal service employees because 40% of their workforce will be eligible for retirement within 5 years.

For every single one of our majors, there are great opportunities to work in federal service. We will continue to work with OPM recruiters to bring these opportunities to you as well as help provide workshops that will assist students in preparing applications for these jobs.

Director Archuleta announced that there are 5 Ohio State students as semi-finalists in the prestigious Presidential Management Fellows program. This program seeks to train and place graduates with advanced degrees into senior level positions with federal service.
Pathways is another part of the training program offered and includes both internships and recent graduate opportunities. Both of these include extensive training and mentorship. For interns, once you land your internship, it is yours to return to for the remainder of your school experience. If it takes you 6 years to graduate, each summer, this position is yours to return to on break.

For recent graduates, this program is 1-2 years of training and mentoring. All of these pathways programs are focused on bringing graduates into permanent positions in federal service once they complete the program and meet standards.

You can read more about these opportunities HERE. 

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**Grow Your Network and Knowledge**

**Employers on Campus (EOC)**
Employers on Campus is an opportunity for students to visit with employers, no appointment needed! The student may ask for an employer to review their resume or cover letter, conduct a mock interview or ask for career insight. The following companies will be on campus in the CFAES Library and Student Success Center:

**The Columbus Metro Parks will be on campus March 31 from 12-4pm.** Metro Parks is a public agency serving the citizens of Central Ohio by providing a regional system of clean, safe, natural area parks. There are 17 outstanding natural area parks with more than 200 miles of trails and over 27,000 acres of land in seven Central Ohio counties.

**Ohio Ecological and Farm Association will be on campus April 21 from 11am-2pm.** OEFFA is a grassroots coalition of farmers, backyard gardeners, consumers, retailers, educators, researchers and others who share a desire to build a healthy food system that brings prosperity to family farmers, meets the growing consumer demand for local food, creates economic opportunities for our rural communities and safeguards the environment.

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**Vernal Pool Workshop this Saturday**
Add this great workshop to your resume and build your skills. Register and learn more about future workshop events HERE.

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**Speed Networking**
Our next ENR Career Services workshop is geared for Graduating Seniors and undergrads. Meet professionals from the environment and sustainability industry. Save the date for April 22nd. More details to come.

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**Certified Interpretive Guide Training**
Register now for this certification course that trains students how to give interpretive education programs. Taught by OSU instructor Sue Rasche and VP of Education at the Columbus Zoo,
Danielle Ross. Course will be held Autumn semester and registration is up now to reserve your seat. Must register on the Zoo’s website [HERE].

Environmental Professionals Network

The Environmental Professionals Network is hosting their next event on Thursday, April 9th titled *Stopping the Next Amphibian Apocalypse - Saving America's Salamanders*. Student volunteers are needed to help set up the afternoon of April 8th for an hour and to help clean up after the event on the 9th. Volunteers will receive free registration to attend. Please email Nick Doarn.8@osu.edu.

Students are also invited to participate in our Success Networking event before the breakfast begins. This is an excellent opportunity for students to get one on one time with some of the best environmental professionals in the Central Ohio area. Space is very limited for participating and is by invitation only [Applications] must be submitted by Monday, March 6th.

OSU graduate and undergraduate students may request a “scholarship" covering the cost of attendance by emailing their request to David Hanselmann (hanselmann.3@osu.edu) prior to registering.

HOT JOBS!

On Campus Interviews MARCH 31st
Hosting open interviews for a great internship focused on 3 main components of: agriculture, food production and sales & marketing. This position offers room and board along with a generous stipend. [Ann's Raspberry Farm](#) is hiring for this summer and will be on campus MARCH 31st. Students should sign up today for these open interview slots on [HireaBuckeye](#) Search for job ID# 25282006.

Soils internship

The Ohio State University Agronomic Crops Team is starting a new summer program in 2015 aimed at providing a rich training experience to undergraduate students in a wide diversity of disciplines related to agronomic crop research. These Agronomic Crop Research Experience (ACRE) Interns will support on-farm research by being placed in strategic hubs throughout the state. Students will gain real-world experience in scouting, sampling and evaluating agronomic crops in Ohio. Incoming OSU graduate students are welcome to apply. See attached flyer for more information. The internships are paid positions and the program runs from late May through early August. Email Steve Culman (culman.2@osu.edu) for more information or for an application form. Applications are due April 17th, 2015.

The Ohio Division of Wildlife is searching for an individuals to fill two (6) month seasonal positions at Salt Fork Wildlife Area for anyone interested in the opportunity to gain valuable hands on experience in the field of Wildlife Management. The two, (6) month seasonal
positions will begin July thru December (2015) and January thru June (2016). Students can contact us for more information about job duties and work schedule at 1-740-489-5021 (Monday thru Friday from 7:00 to 3:30) at our Salt Fork Wildlife Area headquarters located in Guernsey County near Cambridge, Ohio.

Jeff Scott Porter, Wildlife Area Supervisor, Salt Fork Wildlife Area Jeff.porter@dnr.state.oh.us

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Ohio Department of Natural Resources Communications/Public Relations internship assisting with coordination of operations of the Natural Resources Park at the Ohio State Fair at the Franklin County fairgrounds, close to campus. It is about a 12-week paid internship.

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Full time permanent opening - for information about a position as City Forester in Columbus, Ohio. The closing date Friday, April 3, 2015.

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Ohio Stream RestoreCorps has positions in Zero Waste, Environmental Education and Trail Maintenance. See the complete listing of available positions HERE.

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There are currently several Environmental Health and Safety internship positions open with Cargill involving corporate responsibility and more.

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Safety/Environmental Associate Summer internship at several Ohio Honda locations.

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Need to register your internship to receive academic credit? Find out how to register and schedule an appointment today.

You can find more HOT JOBS on HireaBuckeye.

Check out all of the resources available on our Career Services page.

To schedule an appointment to see the ENR Career Counselor, call us at 614-292-2265.

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