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YES! Career events are an excellent way to network with employers, find job/internship opportunities, and become comfortable in a professional setting. Many students question the value of attending career events because they can apply for jobs online. However, over 70% of job/internship opportunities are still found through networking, and attending career events gives students the opportunity to build their professional networks.

Speaking with employers at career events also allows them to put a face (and personality) to a name if you apply for a position later on. Employers may even reach out to you if they have an open position for which you may be a good fit! At a career fair, you have the opportunity to talk about more job positions than you would just looking online. If you are not ready for a job/internship just yet, coming to career events anyway is a great way to ensure you will be comfortable and confident when the time comes!

The Career Expo 2020: Job and Internship Fair is March 4th at 12:30pm in the Field House. Log in to Handshake for a list of employers and their open positions. Check the Career Services calendar on our website, www.lewisu.edu/careerservices, for preparation opportunities!

[Contributed by Natalie Palm]

NEW CAREER EXPLORATION TOOL FOR STUDENTS!

- What’s the BEST MAJOR for you?
- What CAREERS are a good fit for you?
- Not sure if the major you are in is the RIGHT MAJOR?

Utilize the Focus 2 Career system to answer these questions!

You Tube it and then go to:
https://www.focus2career.com/Portal/Login.cfm?SID=470
Use your Lewis email and flyer for your access code to set up an account and find the RIGHT career and major today!

[Contributed by Mary Myers]

PREPARATION WORKSHOP FOR CAREER EXPO:

“EXAMPLE MAKES A MUCH GREATER IMPRESSION THAN WORDS.”
(MTR 10.3 [MED 202.3])
— ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE
Congratulations! You built a stellar resume and went to the career fair to meet your dream employer. The recruiter calls you the next day to schedule an interview, and then it hits you...how do you convince them that you’re the best person for the internship? This is when the real work begins.

Practice your interview skills – Big Interview can help! Use your webcam to record your answers to interview questions, from general questions to industry-specific ones. Learn how to respond to questions, how to dress, and how to negotiate an offer. Open your account at lewisu.biginterview.com, using account code 0767. [Contributed by Laura Paley]

lewisu.biginterview.com

For tips on turning your internship into a full-time job, I spoke to Intuit’s Kim Hoffman, Director of Talent Acquisition. In her role, Kim helps hundreds of interns navigate challenges and has built a program where 90% of interning students receive job offers.

Here’s how you can go from an intern to a full-time employee:

**Embrace the culture.** Find out early what the company’s culture is and embrace it. Hiring managers look for employees who are skilled, but more importantly, who understand the mission and the values of the company and are going to positively contribute to those.

**Always look to add value.** Actively seek to understand what success looks like for your team and how you can play a part in that, whether it’s organizing agendas, participating in brainstorm meetings or learning to write code. This can also open door to more responsibilities and promotions.

**Say "yes."** Internships provide not only hands-on work experience, but also valuable networking opportunities. Whether it’s a lunch and learn or a social event at the end of the day, be sure to take advantage of opportunities to make professional connections within the company and with your fellow interns.

**Find mentors.** Take every opportunity to take someone for lunch, get to know them and learn from their insights. Those you connect with can become mentors, which is invaluable to your personal and professional growth. Start with your manager, or if you’re comfortable, people from other teams about their experience and background, and the skills they find the most critical to their jobs.


[Contributed by Christina Martinez]
According to economist, Dr. Phil Gardner, the 49th Annual Recruiting Trends Report is projecting “another strong year for new graduates seeking jobs.” This is the “tenth consecutive year of expanding job opportunities for new graduates.”

Key factors affecting hiring decisions:

- Potential influences for hiring new college graduates
  - Organizational Growth
  - Retirements
  - Turnover
  - Economic Policy (trade and tariffs)
  - Global Economic Outlook

- Small employers
- Primary major: “all majors”
- Growth is in regional hiring
- Key areas for our region: Education & Health Services, Finance & Insurance Services (primarily banking and insurance), Construction (non-residential & heavy), and Manufacturing (subsectors of air, missile, space, and armored vehicle and food and beverage.)
- Employers are expecting to hire interns at a similar rate as last year or increase hiring with 70% indicating their internships are paid.


[Contributed by Mary Myers]