



Summer: More than a Tan and a Case of Boredom

by Megan Specht
Career & Employment Services

Though summer is a break from the school year, it is possible to get more out of summer than a tan and a case of boredom. Summer is a time when students can embrace their time off and better themselves to become more marketable when it comes to finding a job. Here are some strategies that work:

Internship. Most people take on some sort of job over the summer for extra cash. It is easy to fall back into past jobs from high school, or ones that require little skill. However, the summer offers the opportunity for students to take on an internship that relates to their major and will in turn give them job experience. Though some are unpaid, they will pay off when applying for a job and recruiters notice the job experience, giving you an edge over students lacking internship experience. Job experience is a key addition to a students' resume as well as a great summer job.

Summer Classes. Yes, most students enjoy the break that comes along with summer. On the other hand, summer classes are smaller and many are offered online. This gives students the chance to get ahead, therefore allowing smaller class-loads during the fall and spring semesters. Also, adding extra classes can allow students to add a minor or an additional major. Students taking classes year round also find it easier to stay focused, rather than taking the summer off and trying to get back into the swing of things when the fall semester begins.

Shadowing. Without a full class-load, students have time over the summer to shadow those working in a job

they hope to eventually obtain. Shadowing allows students to observe the job they hope do be doing some day. Generally shadowing lasts a short time, one day to a couple of weeks. Shadowing adds experience and gives students a good feel for what they must learn and how hard they must work to someday obtain that particular position.

Volunteer. There are volunteer opportunities year round, but summer provides a great time to reach out. There are many people in need, and college students are very capable and have the ability to make a difference. Many firms are involved in community outreach or philanthropic causes, therefore not only does volunteer work make a big difference, it is also an important component to a strong resume. There's never a bad time to volunteer, so why not during summer break?

Network. Whether you are working, taking summer classes, volunteering, or shadowing, it is important to make contacts that will be helpful in the future. Putting yourself out there and making important connections will help to provide references and possibly open up certain job possibilities. So much of finding a job is "who you know". Therefore, it is important to expand your network and keep in touch with your contacts.

Summer is a break from the normal school year, but you might as well embrace it. Further your resume, further your future career!

For more information on resume building tips, visit www.ksu.edu/ces, or come into Holtz and meet with an advisor.

Question: What services does CES offer over the summer?

Q&A

Answer: Career and Employment Services is open 8am - 5pm over the summer. CES offers career advising appointments. Students and recent graduates (within the last year) can come in to get interviewing tips, or to develop and enhance their resume. Also, CES can help students, offering them advice and resources on job searching.



Students have access to their own personal "My CES Account." This allows students to:

- Search for jobs/internships, post your resume so that employers can find you
 - Find contact information for hundreds of companies and recruiters
 - Receive special announcements about CES events and activities coming in the fall and spring
- **Starting in July, plan to update your information on "My CES Account" to be ready for fall.

Then, don't miss the CES Backyard BBQ August 26th! It's a great way to jump start the school year and to find out more of the great opportunities CES offers!

<http://www.k-state.edu/ces>

CES SERVICE OF THE MONTH: Report your job

If you have accepted a part-time position, internship, or full-time job, please let CES know. Reports are compiled for the University Administration, colleges, and departments to show where K-Staters go after graduation.

Visit:
<http://www.k-state.edu/ces>
to complete the form



MARK YOUR CALENDAR : UPCOMING EVENTS

- Backyard BBQ: Aug. 26
- Part-Time Opportunities Fair: Aug. 27
- Walk in Wednesday: Sept. 2,9,16,&30
- Job Search for Int'l Students: Sept. 10
- Resume Critique: Sept. 11
- Interview Tips Workshop: Sept. 14

For more information, visit www.ksu.edu/ces.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Sarah Kuhlmann, junior in marketing, has spent the two past summers interning with Zillner Marketing Communications. "I had always had an interest in marketing but I had no idea what working in an office would really be like," explained Sarah.

Sarah visited ZMC over winter break her freshman year to shadow and to get an idea of what exactly goes on at a marketing firm. She was able to meet with employees from various divisions of the company, getting a feel for the different positions and how the departments were interrelated. "I really liked the atmosphere of ZMC and after meeting with several employees I knew it was the sort of job I wanted," said Sarah.

After her successful shadowing experience, Sarah contacted the human resource representative of ZMC to thank her for the shadowing opportunity as well as inquiring about possible internship opportunities. "After interviewing, I was offered the internship and immediately accepted," explained Sarah.

"I was given various tasks and responsibilities throughout the course of the summer," said Sarah. "I had the opportunity to



work with the research, client services, and human resource departments, along with many others. This allowed me to really understand the workings of ZMC and become familiar with how they do business," she explained.

Sarah has now worked for ZMC two consecutive summers. "Although I had the same position for two years, each day was different and I continued to learn about ZMC as well as the workings of a marketing company. This position has given me great job experience that I will definitely be able to use in my future career," said Sarah. "I would recommend that everyone gets an internship at some point. Job experience is not something you can learn in school. It's something you have to do, and I'm so glad I did," said Sarah.

Recession: What does it mean to me??

by Megan Specht
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Though it is easy to see the recession as a far off idea, it is important to understand that it affects everyone, including K-State students. The economy ebbs and flows and though it is down right now, it will turn around. Until then, it is important that students stay informed and stay positive. When students realize how it affects them and what they can do about it, the better off they are.

Student loans are a very common way for people to subsidize the cost of college. One way to recession proof yourself is to take on the maximum loan you're entitled to. Invest what you don't need in a high-interest savings account. Also, don't spend it all at once. It is important to make a budget and do your best to stick to it.

It is important to remember that like the economy, the job field demand also ebbs and flows. Currently popular fields such as health care, information technology, and engineering are seeing a spike in enrollment due to their demand. These fields may be seemingly recession-proof but students also run the risk of getting a degree they are not passionate about and then wind up back in school, earning a degree they originally intended to receive. It is important to remember in the journalism, education, or finance fields, though there are some hiring freezes in effect, economists are predicting layoffs will continue for only another year or so. Students should stick to what they are passionate about, the economy will turn around and it is important to be doing something you enjoy.

When the economy goes into recession, the value of the dollar is lowered and interest rates drop which makes it

a little tougher for students who are shifting from college to career. But, there are ways to get around this. Most students are very excited about the independence of college. Living with friends in a dorm, apartment, or house is liberating and makes most people feel very responsible. It is hard to think about going back to the pre-college days, living with parents again. However, this is a much cheaper alternative than taking out loans or paying rent. It gives students an opportunity to live free of rent and maintain a "nest egg" they can use to begin their truly independent life with less debt which, in the long run, actually provides more freedom.

Another option is graduate school. Though this will add to students' debt, it will pay off in the end. In 1981, the United States experienced a recession which lasted 16 months. Recessions happen, and then the economy turns around, as it will in this case. However, it is not a bad idea to obtain a graduate degree making yourself more marketable. This will also allow the economy time to turn around so that when you finish graduate school, there is a better chance that the job market will be on the upswing.

Along with the downturn of the economy is the downturn of jobs. There are fewer jobs available and therefore more candidates for each position. This just means that employers and recruiters are choosier. To be on the positive end of the choosy recruiters, students should think about job prospects early on. Try to shadow or intern with the company your interested in. Work experience in your chosen field will mean you're ahead of the game. Also, much of the job search is "who you know." Use your network to contact those who may know of job leads.