

# Career Chatter

A newsletter of The Career Center

Fall, 2013



## Tips From Employers That Are Hiring

Adapted from [National Association of Colleges and Employers \(NACE\)](#)

The best job-search advice comes from the employers that are hiring. If you take the time to follow this advice, you'll be better prepared than your competition for your application and interview.

Here are some things you can do to aid in your job-search success:

### Research the Company

- What products or services does the company sell and provide?
- Where is it located?
- How well did the company do last year?
- What activities by this company have been in the news lately?

Learn something about the company with which you want to interview. Read its website and its annual report. Search for news stories mentioning the company. Use this information to customize your resume and cover letter for the position you want. Knowing something about the company will impress the interviewer.

### Perfect Your Qualifications

A high GPA is important. It means you know the subject matter. However, employers are

looking for people with "soft skills" too—skills you can learn through extracurricular activities such as leading a team, taking part in a group task, or organizing a volunteer project.

Employers want to find communication skills, a strong work ethic, teamwork skills, initiative, the ability to relate to co-workers and customers, problem solving skills, and analytical skills.

### Get Experience

Year after year, the majority of employers taking part in a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) say they prefer to hire job candidates who have pertinent experience. For college students, typically, relevant experience is gained through an internship.

In fact, an internship can be the "foot in the door" to a job with many employers: NACE surveys show that newly hired employees often come from the organization's own internship program.

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### Director's Corner:

*It is hard to believe we are almost at mid-term break! Fall is here, the leaves are changing, and this is a great time to focus some new energy on yourself and your career exploration process. I am excited about Career Navigator, a new event attendance and rewards program designed to guide you in your career development. The more you take advantage of the numerous programs and offerings around campus and at The Career Center, the more you help yourself while earning points toward prizes. On page two, you will find more information about this program. This is the time of year when we have a number of employers that are seeking candidates for jobs and internships. Make sure you take full advantage of networking opportunities, such as, the various career fairs, company/graduate school presentations and on-campus interviews. Take a few minutes to look through this edition of Career Chatter to see what we are offering and visit us on-line at [www.loyola.edu/thecareercenter](http://www.loyola.edu/thecareercenter) to learn more. Have a great semester!*

*Best of luck to you,  
Dr. CreSaundra Sills, Director*

# Tips From Employers That Are Hiring (continued from page 1)

## Build a Network

Whether you get the job you want—or even hear about the job opportunity you want—could easily depend on who you know.

Here's where you will find people to build your professional network:

- Business and professional social networking sites
- Professional associations (online and in person)
- Career fairs
- Company information sessions
- Your school's alumni network
- An internship or co-op program
- A student professional organization
- Faculty contacts
- Employee referrals
- Family members of friends who work in your field

## Apply Online

Few employers want a paper copy of your resume in the mail. Many employers want to receive resumes and job applications through their websites.

Here are tips to keep your resume from getting lost in a company's database of applicants:

- Load your resume with keywords: Add job titles and specific skills—especially those that are specific to your field.
- Use jargon and phrases specific to your field.
- List the names of companies you've worked for or interned with: recruiters may look for their competitors' names.
- Post your resume on professional niche websites.

## Make Career Services Your BFF

What is it worth to have someone who is in daily contact with potential employers show you how to write a winning cover letter, critique your resume, practice interviewing with you, connect you with people who are working in your field, and give you access to thousands of job opportunities?

Find the career center on your university or college campus today. Employers use this resource to find new hires, so shouldn't you be there?

## Say Thank You

Stand out among candidates. Send a thank-you note to each recruiter you meet at a career fair; to the employer who practices a mock interview with you; to a hiring manager who spends a few minutes interviewing you for a job; to anyone who serves as a job reference.

- Keep your message short and confirm your interest. "Thank you for the opportunity to discuss [name of the position] at XYZ Company."
- Spell the recruiter's name and title correctly.
- Send your message immediately.

NACE is the National Association of Colleges and Employers. For more information about NACE visit [NACEweb.org](http://NACEweb.org)

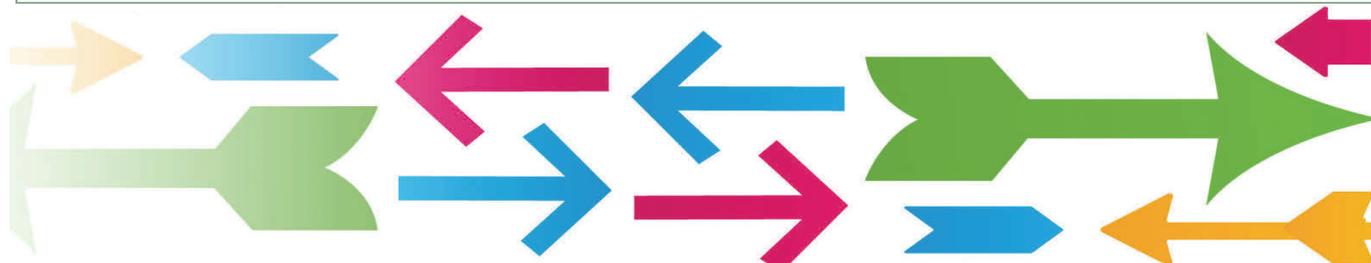


We are excited to introduce **Career Navigator**, an event attendance and rewards program designed to guide you in your career development.

The program is open to **all undergraduate students** and involves a multi-faceted action plan that will help you meet your career goals while earning rewards for participation in career fairs, networking events, speaker panels, and much more.

Check out the prize store to redeem points for Loyola water bottles, Sellinger Under Armour polos, a chance to win free business cards, enter into a contest for Ravens tickets or a chance to win a flat screen TV and more!

Log-in to start earning rewards! [www.sellinger.nav.com](http://www.sellinger.nav.com) | Username: Loyola Email | Password: Loyola ID #



# ➔ Alumni Spotlight: Joanna Piedmont



*Joanna graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 2012. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Clinical Psychology at the University of Toledo*

## How did you decide on a major at Loyola?

I always knew I wanted to major in psychology. When I came to Loyola I took Intro Psych with Dr. LoPresto. It was a challenging class, but doing well in it convinced me that Psychology was the right field for me.

## Did you have any internships while at Loyola? If so, where were the internships and what were your responsibilities?

I spent a semester as a Practicum student at Kennedy Krieger in the Neuro-Behavioral Unit. It was an amazing opportunity. I worked with children and adolescents with developmental disorders and behavioral issues. I helped run behavioral therapy sessions, collected data, and got to work with a population I had never been exposed to before. The graduate schools I applied to were all impressed by my experience there.

## How did you find your career path?

Deciding where to go after college wasn't easy. You can apply a background in Psychology to most jobs, and there are a lot of options for graduate school. Before deciding I wanted to pursue a PhD, I did a lot of discerning, I spoke with my professors, and met with The Career Center. I heard inspiring personal stories, received various references, and great advice. Because I wanted to work as both a therapist and a researcher, I found that the best route for me would be to get a PhD in Clinical Psychology.

## What tools were helpful when applying for graduate school?

There were two main tools that helped me when applying. The first was the connections I made over my years at Loyola. Getting to know my professors meant that it was easy to ask for advice and for letters of recommendation. The Career Center already knew me, and was able to give me a lot of advice very specific to my situation. The second tool was my planner. I kept track of everything I needed for my senior year (GRE classes, senior events, homework, application dates, etc.), and didn't have to worry about forgetting anything.

## What advice would you give to graduating seniors?

This year counts, and it's never too late to put more effort in. Try and keep your grades up, make connections with your professors, take advantage of The Career Center and all the great opportunities Loyola offers. Make time to think. Think about what you want, where you want to go, and what you would be willing to do to get there. If what you want to get takes more effort than you're willing to give, make sure it's what you really want. And if you want something bad enough, do what it takes to get there. Go the extra mile, and it will be worth it in the end. Try and make a plan for next year, but remember that if it doesn't work that's okay. Be flexible and willing to change plans. Remember it's never too late to do great things, and make your dreams happen. Work hard and enjoy your last year.

## What advice would you give to underclassmen?

It's never too early to worry about your post-graduation plans.

**“Make time to think. Think about what you want, where you want to go, and what you would be willing to do to get there.”**

Your grades matter, and so does finding good experiences. Find what the options are for your field, and what will make you excel in it. Get to know your professors, and ask their advice. Go to The Career Center, and find all the opportunities Loyola can offer you. If you get started on your career plans now, senior year will be much easier.

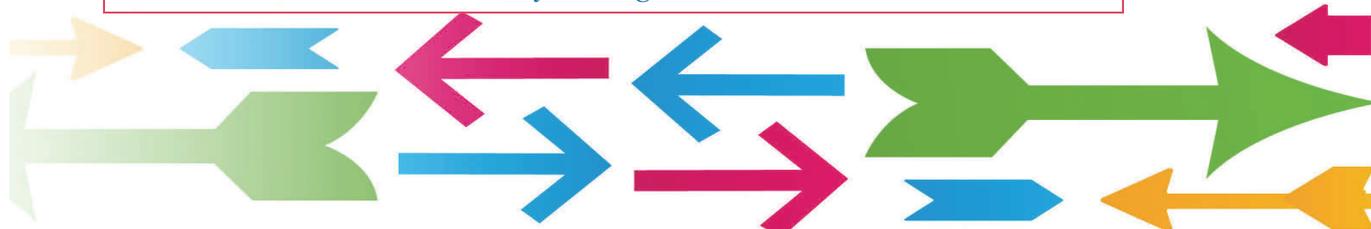
## How did you choose your graduate program?

I chose the University of Toledo through a lot of research. The most important factors for me in this decision were finding a program that had a training philosophy that matched my career goals and finding a research mentor whose interests aligned with my own. Because I want to eventually be a practicing psychologist, I need to attend a program that is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) To make my decision about where to apply and attend school, I found a list of APA approved schools, and looked through all of these for professors who had research interests in common with mine, and would make good possible advisors. I decided on Toledo because I had found a good match for a research mentor and a program which matched my research and practice orientation.

## What has stood out to you the most in your graduate work?

My graduate career has been very different than my experiences as an undergraduate. Graduate students are expected to be much more self-sufficient. There is a lot of responsibility, but I feel more than adequately prepared for the position, thanks to my time at Loyola.

Congratulations to Suzanne Lee, class of 2010, our Alumni Spotlight in the [Spring, 2012](#) edition of Career Chatter, for receiving her second Emmy during the 65th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards on Sept. 22nd when *The Voice* won “Best Reality Competition Series.” Suzanne was also recently featured in [Loyola Magazine](#).



# Mark your calendar!

## Resume Critique Wednesdays

Come into The Career Center Wednesdays between 2-4pm and have a Career Advisor critique your resume or assist you in developing a resume. Critiques can cover resumes or cover letters. No appointment necessary.

## October

- 14 [Deloitte Consulting Presentation](#)
- 15 Walk-In Career Advising
- 16 Effective Resume Writing Workshop
- 16 Interviewing for Success I Workshop
- 16 Walk-In Resume Critique
- 16 [Clean Water Action Presentation](#)
- 18 Loyola Biology Career and Graduate Fair
- 21 Interviewing for Success II Workshop
- 22 Effective Resume Writing Workshop
- 23 [Morgan Stanley Presentation](#)
- 23 Walk-In Resume Critique
- 24 Applying to Graduate/ Professional School Workshop
- 24 [Central Intelligence Agency Presentation](#)
- 24 [NY Financial Services Panel](#)
- 28 [Graduate Schools of International Affairs/Public Policy Panel](#)
- 29 [CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield Presentation](#)
- 29 Bureau of Labor Statistics Presentation
- 30 Fall Career Fair

## Biology Career and Graduate Fair

Get information on various graduate options in the sciences, and learn about career opportunities in research, military, service organizations, food science, government, healthcare, and many more. [Register here](#)  
Info Sessions 9:30am-12pm  
Fair 12pm-3pm

## November

- 4 [BB&T Presentation](#)
- 5 [Frito Lay Presentation](#)
- 6 Walk-In Resume Critique
- 6 [Worthington Financial Partners Presentation](#)
- 6 Walk-In Career Advising
- 13 Walk-In Resume Critique
- 13 [L'Arche Presentation](#)
- 14 [Gilcrest Presentation](#)
- 14 [JP Morgan Presentation](#)
- 20 Walk-In Resume Critique
- 27 Walk-In Resume Critique

## Fall Career Fair

All Undergraduates, Graduate students and alumni are encouraged to come and meet with various employers about possible internship and job opportunities. Dress to impress and bring copies of your resume.

October 30th, 4-7pm in Reitz Arena

# 96%

of LU 2012 graduates were employed or in graduate school when surveyed 6-9 months after graduation. Which is higher than the national average.



The Career Center at Loyola University Maryland  
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The mission of The Career Center at Loyola University Maryland is to assist undergraduate and graduate students and Loyola alumni in the total career development process. This process is an ongoing, lifetime activity and addresses various needs, such as: Choosing or changing a major, clarifying interests, obtaining part-time and summer job and internship experiences, planning and conducting a professional job search, obtaining full-time employment, selecting and being admitted to graduate school, and changing careers. The Career Center offers many services to assist in this process, and continuously strives to educate and promote partnerships with students, alumni, faculty, employers, and members of the Loyola community

