Importance of Professional Organizations...In School and Out

Want to do something great for your future job hunt and your career? Consider joining a professional organization—or the student chapter of a professional association! There is a professional organization for almost any career field you can mention and you can join at any time, while in school, or once you graduate. You can check with your career center for local chapters of professional associations or use the directory called National Trade & Professional Associations (published by Columbia Books). Many career services offices- and campus libraries have this resource. And of course, use technology! Information is all over the web. There are some excellent reasons for joining one in your chosen field. Professional associations publish journals and/or newsletters (which often are a benefit of membership) are helpful to:

- Keep you up-to-date on issues and developments in your field. If you are interviewing, this can be invaluable information!
- Show you who the “movers and shakers” are in your field.
- Tell you about companies—or individuals—with whom you would like to work.

- Offer information about upcoming conferences and professional development opportunities. With your membership, you will often have access to member information. Contacting someone in your field about possible employment as a fellow member of the association may open a door. Professional organizations often have some means for sharing job listings. This could be a "classified" section in the journal or newsletter, a section on a web site, or a separate publication available to members only. As a member, you will be eligible to attend the group's conferences. Whether at the state, regional, or national level, professional conferences offer excellent opportunities to:
  - Build your network of professionals in the field.
  - Learn the latest developments in your field.
- Take professional courses and seminars. Professional membership is an excellent addition to your resume! It shows you are involved and dedicated to your particular field. EVERYTHING counts when it comes to getting a job! And this type of involvement cannot be more important. Local chapters of organizations often sponsor career related programs, maintain alumni networks, and provide other valuable advantages. Many professional associations have substantially reduced membership fees for students who are still in college. Fees can get a little pricey if you wait until after you graduate. Do your future a favor. Seek out and join the professional association in your area of career interest. You can't go wrong!

Are you ready to jump-start your future? The SCC Career Center has resources to help you identify professional organizations in your area of interest. Visit us in room D-106!

Source: www.campuscareercenter.com
Are informational interviews simply an opportunity to learn generalized career and job information or are they job interviews in disguise? That's a frequently asked question for which there is no clear answer. In many cases, people simply do want to learn about fields and make contact with someone in a position to provide that information. In other cases, the guise of an “informational interview” is used to make contact with employers who are not currently recruiting. Candidates who leave a good impression, however, may find their names on a list of people who would be good to contact if and when a job develops. Employers who take time out from busy schedules to grant informational interviews may have eventual recruitment as one justification for the use of their time. Some students pursue informational interviews on the grounds that when you are beginning a career, you can’t have too much information or too many contacts. Even where no hidden job search agenda is involved, acquiring knowledge about a perspective field and names of potential employers can make it a highly rewarding use of time.

Source: Career Opportunities News, May/June 2007

**What’s the Real Agenda behind Informational Interviews?**

**Job Fair**

Have your resume in hand, and dress sharply because it’s time for our Spring Job Fair! Visit with over 30 employers looking to hire you!

**Location:** Strenger Plaza

**Date:** Wed., February 27, 2008

**Time:** 9:00-1:00 p.m.

Visit the Job Placement Center (D-104S) if you have any questions.

**My Career My Major**

Join us for this fun opportunity to discover your future Career & Major while enjoying a FREE lunch, Career Fair, musical entertainment and win some door prizes while you take part in this festive event!

**Date:** Wednesday, April 16, 2008

**Time:** 11:30-1:30 p.m.

**Undecided Majors Program**

Are you undecided? Do you want assistance to pinpoint your interests, values, skills & personality? The Career Center has the program for you! It’s a 4 step process:

1. Take career assessments
2. Get interpretation of assessments from a counselor
3. Research/explore results with the assistance of the Career Center staff.
4. Meet with a counselor to set-up your educational plan.

Visit us in room D-106 or call us at 714-628-4805 To learn more!

**Speakers Connecting Careers**

The Career Center proudly invites Ms. Ivette De León to speak about her Human Services related field. She is a graduate of UCI and works with youth who have been in the Foster Care system and their families. Join us and learn about her career path and possible opportunities!

**Date:** Tuesday, March 25, 2008

**Time:** 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Location:** Room D-206

**Guest Speaker:** C. Ivette De León, B.A.

Care Coordinator

Kinship Center Wraparound OC

**New Career Resources!**

The Career Center is expanding its career library! We are adding several new books, some book titles include:

- 50 Best Jobs for Your Personality
- 250 Best Paying Jobs
- 200 Best Jobs for College Graduates
- The 100 Fastest Growing Careers

Visit the Career Center to learn about these and other resources we have added!
Communications Studies focuses on the scientific, humanistic, and critical study of human communication in a variety of formats, media, and context. Instruction includes the theory and practice of interpersonal, group organizational, professional and intercultural communication, speaking and listening, verbal and nonverbal interaction, rhetorical theory and criticism, performance studies, argumentation and persuasion, technologically mediated communication, popular culture, and various contextual applications.

Source: Eureka & University of North Carolina, Wilmington

The lists above are a sampling of career titles. For complete lists of career titles visit the Career Center!

Looking for Career Success? A Degree in Communication may be the ticket!

Earn your Associate Degree in Communication at Santiago Canyon College! See the SCC College Catalog for degree requirements and make an appointment with an academic counselor to develop an educational plan.

You can also transfer to a university as a junior to earn your bachelor’s degree in Communications. SCC has articulation agreements in place for a smooth transition to the university of your choice. Visit the Transfer Center for more information!

The Counseling Center is located in Room D-106.
visit or call at 714-628-4800

-Or- To schedule an appointment online go to www.sccollege.edu/Counseling/s click on Schedule your counseling appointment

The Transfer Center is located in Room D-104-S visit or call at 714-628-4865
Discovering EUREKA! Online
This FREE informative program is geared for Californians who are in search of career information. Learn about the self-assessments, career/labor market information & college/major search, plus much more!
(2 Sessions Offered)

Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2008
Time: 1:30-2:30 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Dora Contreras-Bright

Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2008
Time: 1:30-2:30 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Dora Contreras-Bright

Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2008
Time: 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Dora Contreras-Bright

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Time: 3:00-4:00 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Maria J. Chaidez

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2008
Time: 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Dora Contreras-Bright

Date: Thursday, April 17, 2008
Time: 5:00-6:00 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Maria J. Chaidez

Career Planning/ Development
Discover what career planning is all about and how you can take control of your own Career Development! Learn ways to make informed decisions about your future!
(1 Session Offered)

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2008
Time: 9:30-10:30 A.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Dora Contreras-Bright

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Time: 3:00-4:00 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Dora Contreras-Bright

Date: Thursday, April 17, 2008
Time: 5:00-6:00 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Maria J. Chaidez

Are you ready for a Reality Check?
Don’t know how much money you will need to earn in the future? Don’t know which occupation to choose? No problem. This online program will walk you through a sample month of typical purchases...and you’ll see what careers match your desired annual income! (2 Sessions Offered)

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Time: 3:00-4:00 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Maria J. Chaidez

Date: Thursday, April 17, 2008
Time: 5:00-6:00 P.M.
Location: Career Center, D-106
Facilitator: Maria J. Chaidez

We look forward to seeing you!