

VIRTUAL CAREER SERVICES NEWSLETTER

March 31, 2020

Hello UIC Students!

Welcome to the third installment of the new VIRTUAL CAREER SERVICES NEWSLETTER!

We are excited to announce a brand new virtual workshop and online chat series “CareerIgnite”! Starting this week, we will be posting virtual workshops on a number of topics to our event page. The first ones will be available later this week and will focus on resume writing. More specific information will be available in Thursday’s newsletter!

Continue to visit www.uiccareers.com frequently to see up to date internship, part time, and full time job opportunities in a variety of fields! Some departments are still hiring for on campus/virtual student employment positions as well.

Immediate Employment Opportunities

Cook County Workforce

Listing of companies currently hiring
<https://chicookworks.org/worknow/>

State of Illinois

New and immediate positions can also be found at
<https://www.illinoisworknet.com/Jobs/Pages/IndeedJobSearch.aspx>

Virtual Career Fairs and Career Workshops/Webinars

Chicagoland Food and Beverage Network Career Webinar Series

April 1, CFBN will be featuring 5 webinars happening to prepare jobseekers for careers in the food and beverage industry. Webinars include topics such as resume and interviewing tips, types of positions, and jobs and internships available right now!

The event is free and registration is not required. The links are attached and on our website at <https://chicagolandfood.org/event-3799919>. They are also offering a way for students to stay in the loop on job offerings and for employers to share their jobs and internships. You can find more information at the link above. Their in-person career fair will be November 4th.

Illinois Work Net Webinars

State of Illinois – <https://www.illinoisworknet.com/>
How to Land Your Dream Job (being offered on 3 days)
<https://apps.illinoisworknet.com/Calendar/Home/EventDetails/48124>
<https://apps.illinoisworknet.com/Calendar/Home/EventDetails/48126>
<https://apps.illinoisworknet.com/Calendar/Home/EventDetails/?id=48128>
JUMPSTART! – INTERVIEW SUCCESS: ALL THE ANSWERS

<https://apps.illinoisworknet.com/Calendar/Home/EventDetails/48141>

LaSalle Network

LaSalle Network will be hosting a job search webinar on Friday, April 3

<https://www.thelasallenetwork.com/job-searching-during-a-recession-webinar/>

Post-Graduation and Summer Employment/Internship Opportunities

Discover

Discover is offering two distinct programs for Sophomores, the Diversity Accelerator Program and the Explore Discover Program, for you to learn more how technology and analytics is changing financial products and the financial services industry. Participating in either program will allow you to experience the dynamic culture that differentiates Discover as a leading employer and enhance your professional skills. More importantly, both programs allow you the opportunity to interview early for their summer internship opportunities. Discover views the internship as the starting point of your career and successful interns may receive a full-time offer to join us after graduation. Application Deadline is May 25.

Applications for the Summer 2021 Internship (offered to Juniors), will be opening on July 15th, 2020.

To apply online, please visit: tinyurl.com/explorediscover

Robert McCormick Foundation

Internship and Full Time Opportunities available at

<https://donate.mccormickfoundation.org/about-us/careers>

Career Articles and Resources

ADVICE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS: HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR CAREER DEVELOPMENT DURING COVID-19

BY KATHARINE MARIANACCI, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR AND ENGINEERING CAREER COACH AT LEHIGH UNIVERSITY'S CAREER CENTER.

In this strange and uncertain situation, you might find yourself with less structure to your days and more time on your hands. Classes have gone remote, campus events and activities cancelled, and in-person social interactions drastically decreased. During these times, it's easy to become overwhelmed and debilitated by all the changes... or to view this as Spring Break 2.0: Self-Quarantine Edition. Try not to fall into either trap and, instead, see this as an opportunity to improve yourself and make progress toward your career goals.

Here are six ways you can make the most of this time and maximize your career development:

1. **Create a professional online presence (and clean up your personal social media accounts).** As part of the hiring process today, many employers check a candidate's online presence to learn more about them. This may be even more prevalent in the COVID-19 climate with employers having limited access to candidates in person.

Take this opportunity to establish a professional online brand that you would be proud for prospective employers to see. Google yourself and clean up any inappropriate or questionable content. Create a LinkedIn profile, if you don't already have one. Depending on your industry, you might also consider developing a digital portfolio or a website to showcase your work.

2. **Build new skills.** In today's digital age, it's possible to learn almost anything through the internet. Use your extra time at home to build new skills that can get you ahead in your career. Study a foreign language or learn a new technical skill. Read a book or listen to a podcast related to your industry of interest. Complete an online certificate program or join a professional organization. There is so much to learn, and there are so many great skill-building resources out there. This is your chance to take advantage.

3. **Practice virtual interviewing.** In the wake of COVID-19, many companies have changed recruiting strategies to reduce or eliminate in-person interactions. For jobseekers, this means virtual interviews—so be prepared to take your next interview digitally. Choose an at-home interview space and check your technology. Research the company, practice commonly asked questions by webcam, and send a thank you email afterward.

Through all of this, try to be patient if it takes employers longer than usual to get back to you. With the move to remote work and unexpected organizational changes, there may be delays in the hiring process.

4. **Cultivate your professional network.** Social distancing doesn't mean that you have to put networking on hold. In fact, this might be an ideal time to cultivate professional relationships, with most people having extra time at home and a need to interact with others.

Modern technology makes this easy too. Use email or LinkedIn to reach out to professionals in industries and roles of interest. Ask them to set up a virtual meeting or phone call to learn more about their experiences and get advice. Embrace the sense of community by participating in an online forum or joining in the chat during a webinar. Don't forget about existing connections either. COVID-19 is a shared global experience, so this is your chance to check in with the people you know and re-establish old connections.

5. **Get help from your career center.** You don't have to do this alone! Although not physically on campus, your school's career center staff is available to support you remotely. Take advantage of online resources, virtual appointments, workshops, and digital networking opportunities. Whether you're exploring academic majors, looking for an internship, or getting ready for life after graduation—your career center is here to help and can provide guidance specific to your goals as well as the current situation.

With the uncertain economic state, it is important that you use this time to maximize your career readiness and make yourself as marketable as possible. While it is true that some industries have slowed down hiring, others have not and may even have an increased demand for talent in the wake of COVID-19.

So stay hopeful, wash your hands, and try out these six ways to make progress toward your career goals.

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(Pronouns: she/her/hers)