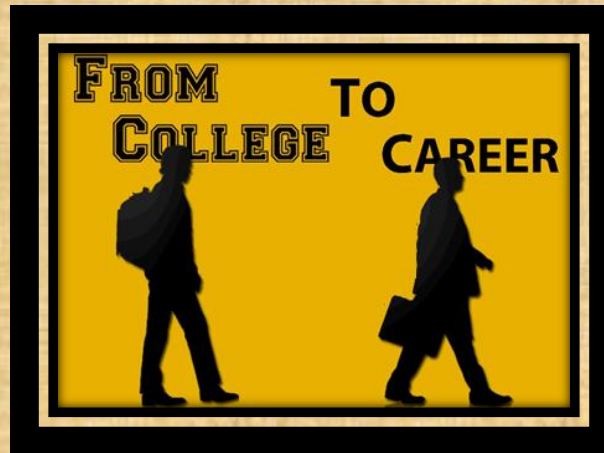


Fourth Internship and Fellowship Seminar



NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
The College of Technology of The City University of New York

Making a Successful Transition from College to Career



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**There are people who make things
happen**

**There are people who watch things
happen**

**There are people who wonder what
happened!!**

Motivation

- For many students, the time leading up to college graduation and the start of a first job is often chaotic and stressful
- Completing college career while dealing with the demands of job-hunting, interviewing, and facing the reality is not easy!!

Reality Check

- Few issues arise time and time again as the keys to making a **successful transition from life as a student to life as a productive employee.**
- Understanding these issues and being prepared for them before they occur should help you make a smoother transition.

1. Time-Related Factors

- **Hard time facing the reality of going to work every day.** Classes are not 5 days a week 9-5.
- You are not paying tuition, but **YOU ARE PAID;** cannot skip work as you skip class.
- There is a huge difference in time management when **you have to work 40+ hours and try to have a life on the side**

2. Professionalism in Workplace

- College is a time of experimentation, be a little irresponsible. In college, acting unprofessional might result in a bad grade; in the workplace, acting unprofessionally can get you fired.
- Professionalism also means being a self-starter.
- Deadlines are critical, much more so than in college.

3. Dream Job

- While it helps to have a solid vision of what you want your career path to be after graduation, **don't panic if your first job after graduation does not perfectly fit your plan.**
- Many recent college grads change jobs after their first year out; sometimes it takes that long just to fully understand who you are and what you really want to do with your life.

4. College Has Not Prepared You for Everything

Many recent grads say they were totally unprepared for:

- Teamwork skills
- Dealing with all types of people
- Balancing work demands with personal life
- Job-hunting skills, networking, interviewing ..

5. Finding Employment Probably Won't Be Easy

- Use **all available resources**, tracking down all job leads, and following-up on all leads and interviews.
- Over-reliance on the Internet and passive job-hunting to find employment is not the way to go.
- Instead, most of your efforts should still be using the **traditional methods of networking** - with family and friends, other students, alumni, professors, former co-workers and bosses.

6. Don't Be So Full of Yourself

- Having a college degree does not entitle you to a job
- Attending a "name" school or having high GPA are definitely selling points in your favor, but not **something you solely rely to get a job.**
- Focus more on how you can use your talent and initiative to make a contribution to the employer's bottom line. **Be sure to tell the employer how you will make a strong contribution.**

7. College Grads Get Entry-Level Jobs

- One of the harsh realities that many new grads face -- especially in the bad job markets -- is that **a large number of the jobs available for college grads are, in fact, entry-level.** These jobs often require long hours, low pay, and hard work.
- This advice is not meant to imply that you should take the first job offer you get -- or any job offer you get -- **just be realistic in your expectations.**

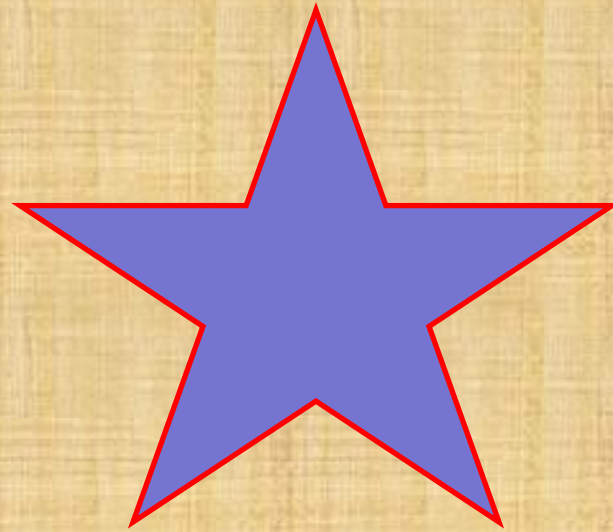
Conclusion

- Take to heart the advice from all the **recent college grads that have come before you and been in your shoes** -- and you'll be better prepared and more satisfied with your job-search.
- **Do Internship, even for free:** it allows you to make mistakes without penalty, learn professional culture, adjust and build bridges.

Conclusion (cont.)

- **Now, you need to**
 - **Stay focused**
 - **Study seriously**
 - **Learn the labs well**
 - **Gain additional skills (software/certification)**
 - **Look for internship**

**We are making future stars..
... you are one of them.**



Thank You and Good Luck

Acknowledgement

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