When you think job search strategies, the first things that come to mind are cover letters, resumes and interviews. Many of us only think of alternatives when the “norms” don't work. Networking can be the most effective form of job searching if you connect and reach out to the right people. Professional associations are a great way to connect with people who have similar goals and interests. There is a professional association for just about every occupation, hobby, trade, or group. There are over 135,000 nonprofit membership organizations worldwide, which includes 22,200 National Organizations, 22,300 International Organizations, and 115,000 Regional, State and Local organizations. Joining a group will allow you to add your expertise while enjoying the benefits of connecting with other members. In this issue of Career Notes, you will find resources on how to make professional organizations work for you and your job search.

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Career Tip: by Joe Turner

If you're looking to expand your job search, you'll eventually face this question: "Where can I find people who'll talk with me?" This is a question most job seekers have to grapple with when the well runs dry and they're at a loss for new jobs to apply for. How about professional associations?

It's been said, "there is a professional association for almost everything you do." Every industry, profession, specialty, or trade most likely has at least one professional association. These organizations perform various roles such as public relations liaison to the media, maintaining professional standards and establishing a vision for the future of their profession or industry.

These organizations can be a great conduit for inside information, overall trends and new developments. This also includes the latest scoop on job opportunities, but you must be a member. If you're not already a member of an association that represents your job title or professional position, join one as you may be missing out on a great deal of insider info.

The perfect resource to research organizations is a reference called Associations Unlimited. This is a database containing profiles of approximately 460,000 international and U.S. national, regional, state, and local nonprofit membership organizations in all fields, including IRS data on U.S. 501(c) nonprofit organizations.

According to their publisher, Associations Unlimited contains descriptive info on over 22,000 U.S. national associations, 25,000 international associations, 110,000 U.S. regional, state and local associations, plus over 300,000 U.S. 501(c) nonprofit organizations, agencies and service programs. You'll find contact information, e-mail, web sites and links to each association’s descriptive materials plus info on meetings, conventions and conferences.

Don't waste time Googling this resource, because it's available only on a subscription basis. The good news is that you can access it free from your local library, as many library reference sections include this reference work. In fact, if you have a valid library card, you can access Associations Unlimited online through your library website once you've entered your card number.

The bottom line is this: professional associations are a great resource for networking with members of your own profession, trade, or job title. Their members are employees, managers and executives who are working in the very same corporations, small companies and organizations to which you're applying.

In fact, your dream job could be within one of these very companies because many hiring managers will also be members of their professional associations. What better time to meet them than when they're “off-duty” and you're on a more equal footing?
If appropriate for you, join the organization. It most likely has a local chapter in your city or close by. Get on their mailing list and into the loop. Professional associations can be one of the best avenues to get on the inside and to reap referrals and leads for opportunities that will never make it to the outside world.

As they say, "membership has its privileges."

As a recruiter, Joe Turner has spent the past 15 years finding and placing top candidates in some of the best jobs of their careers. Author of Job Search Secrets Unlocked, Joe has interviewed on radio talk shows and offers free insider job search secrets at: www.jobchangesecrets.com

**Additional Resources:**
- Develop Your Career by Joining a Professional Association
- Benefits of a Professional Organization
- Professional Volunteering: the killer app!
- Professional Associations: Gold Mines or Coal Mines?
- We Belong Together
- Networking: Where to cast your net
- Networking Your Way to A New Job
- The Art of Career and Job Search Networking

**What's Available on the Career Services tab on myBucknell:**
- CareerNet – Networking database of Bucknell alumni and parents.
- Access to The Vault On-Line Career Library – referred to by Fortune as “The best place on the Web to prepare for a job search.”
- PDF pamphlets – research a variety of career topics
- Career assessments – learn how to pair your skills, interest, and experience with career choice
- CareerSearch – same tool to research employers
- Bucknell Alumni Clubs – network informally!

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Since the last issue of Notes, Job Leads posted on Beyond the Bridge:
The following job leads are NEW since the last issue of NOTES. To view the entire description and other current listings, please log onto Beyond the BRIDGE. **NOTE:** Contact Alumni Career Services if you have questions (acs@bucknell.edu).

**Special Reminder** If you have experienced job openings within any industry and/or company and you wish to notify your fellow Bucknellians of it please e-mail as much information as you can to acs@bucknell.edu. It will then be added to Beyond the BRIDGE.

- John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth – Various Positions
- US Agency for International Development – Education Officer, Agriculture Officer,
- Chinese Culture Center - Teaching English in China
- Millennium Challenge Corporation – Senior Director
- Drug Enforcement Administration – Fingerprint Specialist
- Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight – Summer Intern
- Drug Enforcement Administration – Safety and Occupational Health Specialist
- Wall Street Services - Collateral Management Analyst
- Department of Justice - Editor
- Cleo Communications - Internships
- Asia Assets Limited - Executive Assistant / Directors
- American Precision Metals – Broker/Sales
- Peace Corp - Supervisory Volunteer Placement Specialist and Training Specialist (Language Testing and Training)
- SMR Consulting, Inc. - Various Internships; Senior IT Consultant/Network Administrator
- Envision - Faculty Advisors (Full-Time/Entry-Level) (Nationwide) - Summer 2008
- GeoSearch - Geospatial Business Developer in the Northeast, Civil Engineer, Assistant Professor Earth Observation
- William D. Witter, Inc. - Trading & Operations Analyst
- New York City Bar – Administrative Assistant Communications and Public Affairs
Information of Interest

** Virginia Education Job Expo on** May 31, 2008 at the Fredericksburg Expo and Conference Center 2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway, Fredericksburg VA 22401. The Expo begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes at 3:00 p.m. All candidates must preregister in order to attend. Go to www.virginiaeducationexpo.com and select “Candidate Registration” to pre-register. This event is the largest school division job fair in Virginia. Candidates can meet and interview with human resource administrators from many school divisions in Virginia, representing urban, rural and suburban areas of the state. There will be opportunities to learn more about become licensed as a teacher in Virginia. Contracts may be offered on the spot for openings for 2008-2009 school year so bring your credentials.

** Experienced Hire Event Series, Connecting Experienced Professionals with Leading Employers**

Benefits Include: meeting directly with hiring managers, participate in recruiting sessions, explore new career opportunities, and gain insider access to elite jobs.

Register today at http://www.vault.com/experiencedhire/
New York – March/October
Boston – September
Chicago – September
San Francisco – November

** PRSA – NY Career, Internships and Continuing Education Forum.** Hosted at The Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC on Saturday, April 5th. Are you a college graduate or student applying for your first position or internship, a new professional ready to make a move in the industry or seeking information on continuing education? Then bring your resume and be prepared to meet representatives from top public relations and communications companies including... Affect Strategies Inc., Brunswick Group, Fleishman-Hillard, G.S. Schwartz & Co., Hunter Public Relations, Ketchum, Marina Maher Communications, M Booth & Associates, Peppercom, The NewsMarket

Register for this event by April 2nd online at www.prsany.org

Disclaimer: Alumni Career Services does not edit, monitor, or verify the accuracy of the information submitted by the employers, and does not review the background of the employers. ACS does not guarantee that all jobs listed are still available, and is not responsible for safety, security, wages, working conditions, or other aspects of off-campus employment. Therefore, we encourage interested parties to thoroughly research each job vacancy for which they are applying and to verify the integrity of each organization. If you encounter a negative situation at the place of employment, we encourage you to notify ACS. Links to other web sites are not under the control of ACS or Bucknell. We are not responsible for the contents of any linked site. Those who discover any misuse or abuse of this web site are encouraged to contact ACS immediately at 570-577-1514, or acs@bucknell.edu.

Alumni Career Services Can Help You:

- Think through a career change and making career decisions
- Network effectively
- Search for a job
- Effectively use the Internet in job and career exploration
- Transition into a new career
- Assist you in improving and targeting your resumes and cover letters
- Identify your interests, values, goals, and preferences
- Plan for graduate or professional school

Programs/Events:

Monthly Webinars: Tuesdays from 7-8 pm. Email Cathy to sign up.

April 22, 2008 - Summary of Qualifications - Your 30 Second Commercial
Most employers spend 15-30 seconds when first examining your résumé, usually only seeing the top half. In this short amount of time employers determine your strengths and if you have something to offer. Learn how to:
May 20, 2008 – Mastering the Job Search
The job search can be frustrating if you don't know the most effective ways to search. In this workshop you will learn how to:
• Explore the hidden job market to find the best opportunities for you
• Tap into niche websites that match your areas of interest
• Market yourself effectively

We Welcome Feedback!
• How are we doing? Take this quick survey and let us know!
• If you have a career topic you’d like us to address, send them to us at acs@bucknell.edu.
• Archived issues available at http://www.bucknell.edu/x2931.xml

Know someone who would like to receive this newsletter? Feel free to pass it on or have them subscribe. Requests to receive Alumni Career Notes or for personal career assistance can be made at acs@bucknell.edu, (570) 577-1238. We look forward to hearing from you!

Note: To access the resources located in myBucknell, the university’s portal, use the username and password that all alums were given in January 2005. If you don’t remember or can’t find yours, don’t worry – just contact the Alumni Office (570) 577-ALUM (2586) or mybucknell@bucknell.edu for help.

Alumni Career Services Staff