Alumni Career Notes
career information for bucknell alumni

Things are crazy around here this week with the start of school on Wednesday (remember those days?), which prompted the realization that we have had many inquiries this summer about going to graduate school. Should I go? Where should I go? How do I get in? How will it affect my career? Often times people go to graduate school as way of putting off finding a "real job" or because they think that if they want to work in business, they need an MBA. Once working people find going back to school difficult because they've been "out of the game" too long and so much in the world has changed in the last few years, or because they figure they can't afford it.

As we were answering these questions about graduate school, we had a fortuitous encounter with David Eber, Associate Director of Admissions for full-time graduate degree programs at the H. John Heinz School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon. He came to Bucknell to let us know that they are impressed with Bucknell students’ analytical abilities, communication and leadership skills and their commitment to the world around them and that he has financial help available exclusively to Bucknell alumni who are accepted into the Heinz School’s various graduate degree programs. Carnegie Mellon is an elite institution with diverse programming within the Heinz School (public policy and management, health care policy and management, arts management, entertainment industry management, information systems management and information security policy and management). Graduates from here go on to be successful in government, entertainment and technology in both the private and non-profit sectors. (See their website: http://www.heinz.cmu.edu/academics/default.html and if you are interested in finding out more information, contact David at: deber@andrew.cmu.edu). We have also included websites related to graduate school in the additional resources section of this newsletter.

We hope you find this information useful. Feel free to pass it on to other interested alumni. Requests to be part of the regular distribution list or personal assistance with any career questions or issues can be made at acs@bucknell.edu, (570) 577-1238, or through IM at bualumnicareer (Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon-2pm and Wednesdays from 4-6pm). As always, should you need personal assistance with any career questions or issues, please feel free to contact us.

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

In This Issue:
Career Tip:

Does Grad School Make Sense for You?
by Rachel Hartigan Shea

Before you sign up for the GMAT or GRE, before you send away for applications, even before you start fantasizing about grassy quads, gothic libraries, and avuncular professors, it pays to ask yourself whether you should be going to graduate school at all. Will an advanced degree really help you get or keep a job during future economic downturns? For that matter, do you know what you want to do with your life? And do you need graduate credentials and graduate skills to accomplish it? Read More

Additional Resources:
http://www.princetonreview.com/grad/research/articles/distance/nontrad_concerns.asp - how to manage going to graduate school, including considerations for distance or online degrees. Links to related articles.
http://www.princetonreview.com/grad/research/articles/distance/nontrad_concerns.asp - nuts and bolts of what grad school is about and what to consider when making the choice
http://www.businessweek.com/magazine/content/01_19/b3731083.htm - examination of how and why top-tier business schools are updating their curriculum. (This site also has some Business School resources available)
http://www.careerjournal.com/myc/school/20060308-singh.html - creative ways people are using graduate degrees
http://www.careerjournal.com/myc/school/ - 7 pages of articles related to obtaining an MBA
http://www.kiplinger.com/personalfinance/columns/starting/archive/2005/st0113.htm - things to consider when deciding whether to go to grad school - includes links to workbooks or articles related to the article's advice

Resources Available on Career Services tab on myBucknell:
• CareerNet – Networking database of Bucknell alumni and parents.
• Access to The Vault – 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
• Career Search – same tool available to students to research employers is also available to alumni
• Bucknell Alumni Clubs – network informally!

Job Leads from the Bucknell Community:

The following are job leads that have been presented to alumni by members of the Bucknell community – alumni, parents and friends of Bucknell. The selections in bold print are new to Alumni Career Notes since the last issue. To view entire description, please log onto myBucknell and click on the Career Services tab.

College Connections 1 - Executive Assoc. special events & communications
Fellowship of Reconciliation 1 - Iran Program Coordinator
Grant Thornton Global Public Sector 8 - Audit Manager, Audit Senior Manager, Auditor, Data Warehouse Developer, Senior Auditor, Sr. Contracts Administrator, Oracle DBA, SQA Test Manager
Henry Rak Consulting Partners - mid-level consultant
Management Sciences for Health (MSH) - Senior Associate for Private Resource Mobilization
Panecea Pharmaceuticals - junior level CPA
Polo Ralph Lauren - Application Specialist
Silverman Linden Johnson LLP 1 - Staff Accountant
The Bank of New York 1 - Private Bank Loan Administrator

Job Leads from Outside Bucknell:

The following are job leads that have been presented to alumni by members outside the Bucknell community. The selections in bold print are new to Alumni Career Notes since the last issue. To view entire description, please log onto myBucknell and click on the Career Services tab.

Allegis Group - Corporate Recruiter
American Capital 1- Jr. Analyst
ARBOR E&T, LLC 1 - Entry Level Workforce Analyst
Asia International 1 - Account Directors (bilingual in eng/spanish)
B-Line Medical - Network Engineer
Boston Scientific 1 - Industrial Engineer II
DBTS, Incorporated 1 - part time computer support provider
Go2TeachEnglish 1 - ESL Teachers
Guidester, Inc. 1 - Content Development and Research Specialist
Alumni Career Resources 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:
August 30, 2006 Creating Effective Communication Tools
7-8pm  Presenting yourself on paper isn't always easy, yet doing it effectively is essential to your success. During this session you will learn how to:

- design a catchy summary of qualifications to get the employer's attention
- create a dynamic resume and cover letter that represents who you are and what you have to offer
- craft a thank you letter that sets you apart

Special Thanks goes to all those who participated in the Bison Welcome event in Boston on the 23rd. It was a great success and a culmination of Senior Transitions - helping new graduates meet experienced alumni and educate themselves about living and working outside of Bucknell! Look for more events like this in other cities in the future!