

OPCD Podcast: Episode 3 - “On-Campus Recruiting” (9/10/2014)

Interview with Mr. Timothy Ullmann, *Director of Professional Development, Office of Professional and Career Development*

Voiceover: Welcome back to the OPCD podcast coming to you from the Harbert College of Business here at Auburn University. I’m Anna and today I’ve got the info that’ll help you connect with that perfect job or internship. And you don’t even have to leave campus.

You heard correctly. The chance to apply and possibly interview for your dream job or internship is no further away than your daily walk to Lowder and if you hang around here at all you’ve probably heard people talk about OCR. Mr. Timothy Ullmann of the Office of Professional and Career Development explains how those three initials could impact your future job search.

T. Ullmann: A lot of people wonder what OCR stand for and it stands for “On-Campus Recruiting.” Here at the Harbert College of Business, this is where employers have the opportunity to come and they’re looking to hire interns and first-time hires.

Voiceover: So just how do they go about connecting the students with these employers?

T. Ullmann: Three ways: career weeks and expo days, company information sessions and on-campus interviews. For career weeks and expo days employers want to meet potential candidates in person. This is a great opportunity for you to meet some of the representatives for the companies that you’re interested in.

Voiceover: And when it comes to being prepared to talk with these representatives a little research can go a long way. Erica Fluke was a sophomore when she secured her first internship and she emphasizes that knowing something about the company your talking to makes all the difference.

E. Fluke: I’d always make sure I spent some time looking up their website. Seeing what things about them interest me, seeing where their offices are and kind of what they’re all about.

Voiceover: And once you’ve done the research and are walking into that face to face meeting?

T. Ullmann: Show a level of interest in the companies by asking relevant questions. The second way that I’ve talked about is company information sessions. This is a great opportunity where companies come in and talk about their mission, their vision, their values, their culture and employment opportunities. Often times companies will ask an alumni to come and talk through these things to better help students make a transition from college life to corporate life.

Voiceover: And last, but not least, for OCR: on campus interviews.

T. Ullmann: A lot of companies do their first round cuts right here. They're looking to fill full time positions and internships. As you might imagine the fall timeframe is a common time for full time hiring and next summer internships. Companies want to look now to fulfill positions next spring and next summer.

Voiceover: So is there anything in particular that recruiters will be looking for?

T. Ullmann: Employers are looking for the brightest and most talented students. Not necessarily the ones with the highest GPA, but they're looking for individuals who've been engaged throughout their college career. Whether it's through internships, belonging to clubs, being involved on campus, just a whole host of opportunities that are available here at Auburn University.

Voiceover: And as someone who was a sophomore when she began her first internship, Erica has these words of advice to offer to those who may think it's too early start meeting with recruiters.

E. Fluke: If you're a freshman or you're a sophomore at Auburn, it's sometimes harder at first cause they're usually looking for a little bit older. I would say when you're starting there look for connections, do the networking, still get yourself out there, still go to recruiting events. And you never know, they might contact you with a prospect they have.

T. Ullmann: For freshman and sophomores, I really encourage them to get into the fray. Get involved in the career weeks and the expos. Why? Because you're building a network. You might be surprised that as a freshman you might pick up an internship in the following summer and be able to have at least one internship under your belt before you start your sophomore year.

Voiceover: In the coming episodes of the OPCD podcast we'll be taking a closer look at most of the topics discussed here today. Until then it's important to get the following dates on your calendar:

(2014)

- The Consulting and Technology Career week will be held from September 15th through September 19th.
- Supply Chain and Aviation Management will be September 22nd through September 26th.
- Finance is September 29 through October 3rd
- And Marketing, Sales and Retail will be October 6th through October 10th.

And if you're needing advice, help or additional info stop into the Office of Professional and Career Development, located on the first floor of Lowder. Make an appointment or walk in hours

are Monday through Friday from 11 - 2. Many thanks to Erica and Mr. Ullmann for taking the time to share their thoughts with us today and we'll be hearing from them again in upcoming episodes here on the Harbert College OPCD podcast. Don't forget to check us out on iTunes and click that subscribe button to stay updated on all the latest info. This is where I leave you for today but I'll see you back here next week when we're taking a closer look at career weeks. Have a great rest of your day and I'll see ya then!