



Tuesday, January 6, 2004

Career Prep Month events sharpen job search skills

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

Oakland University's **Career Services** is offering an entire month of events designed to help OU students get a jump on the competitive job market. Career Prep Month runs Wednesday, Jan. 7, through Friday, Jan. 30.

The schedule's high point is the Diversity Career Fair, which is Thursday, Jan. 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms. Among the companies that will be present are Comerica, Lear Corporation, Plante and Moran, Training and Treatment Innovations, and William Beaumont Hospital. An updated list of participating companies is posted on the **Career Services** Web site.

"Career Prep Month is designed to prepare students for entering the job market for the career of their choice," said Career Services Director Bob Thomas. "We have a number of programs scheduled to help students prepare for recruitment and sharpen their job search and interview skills. The Diversity Career Fair draws between 50 to 65 companies offering internships and summer jobs to full-time employment. Students will have anywhere from three to five minutes to sell themselves to a potential employer. Companies at this particular fair offer a broader range of opportunities with more internships and co-ops than our fall career fair because we're closer to summer."

The diversity component of the fair includes a panel discussion, titled "Discrimination in Employment," which will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in the Oakland Center Fireside Lounge.

Though the job market is showing some signs of improving, Thomas said it may not be up to full speed until later this year. The highly competitive job market makes it all the more important that students work on their job search and interview skills.

"Students need to pay as much attention to the recruitment process as they do their academic work because it takes time to develop a portfolio and interview skills, research companies, make contacts and start networking," Thomas said. "The programs we've scheduled throughout January can help students with that process."

Career Prep Month events are open to OU students and alumni. For more information, visit the **Career Services** Web site or contact them at (248) 370-3250 or careers@oakland.edu.

CAREER PREP MONTH SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Jan. 7

- Senior Job Search Seminar, 5-6 p.m., 158 West Vandenberg Hall

Thursday, Jan. 8

- Information Table, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway
- Senior Job Search Seminar, noon-1 p.m., 158 West Vandenberg Hall

Friday, Jan. 9

- Career Experience Information Session, 12:30-1:15 p.m., 158 West Vandenberg Hall

Monday, Jan. 12

- Career Services Open House, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway

Tuesday, Jan. 13

- Dress for Success Seminar, noon-1 p.m., Oakland Center Gold Room C

Resume Writing Clinic, 5-6 p.m., Oakland Center Gold Room C

Wednesday, Jan. 14

- Interview Practice Clinic, 5-7 p.m., Oakland Center Gold Room C
- Electronic Portfolio Workshop, noon-2 p.m., 157 West Vandenberg Hall

Thursday, Jan. 15

- Information Table, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway
- Career Experience Information Session, 1:45-2:30 p.m., 158 West Vandenberg Hall

Friday, Jan. 16

- Senior Job Search Seminar, 1-2 p.m., 158 West Vandenberg Hall

Tuesday, Jan. 20

- Information Table and Resume Critiques, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway

Wednesday, Jan. 21

- Information Table, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway
- Resume Critiques, noon-1 p.m., Oakland Center Gold Room C

Thursday, Jan. 22

- Information Table and Resume Critiques, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway
- Etiquette Dinner, 5-7 p.m., Oakland Center Banquet Rooms (Advanced tickets required. Tickets may be purchased for \$10 at the Career Services Office, 275 West Vandenberg Hall.)

Friday, Jan. 23

- Career Experience Information Session, 10-10:45 a.m., 158 West Vandenberg Hall

Monday, Jan. 26

- Information Table, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway
- Seminar: Marketing Yourself to Employers, noon-1 p.m., Oakland Center Oakland Room

Tuesday, Jan. 27

- Information Table and Resume Critiques, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway

Wednesday, Jan. 28

- Information Table, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Oakland Center hallway

Thursday, Jan. 29

- Diversity Career Fair, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Oakland Center Banquet Rooms
- Diversity Panel Discussion: "Discrimination in Employment," noon-1 p.m., Oakland Center Fireside Lounge

Friday, Jan. 30

- Mock Behavioral Interviews, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Oakland Center Oakland Room (pre-registration required through e-recruiting@OU on the **Career Services** Web site)

SUMMARY

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