

From the office of Career Services

Monthly Newsletter

November 2008

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Try Teach for America

By RACHEL DOUGHTY
Newsletter Editor

If you're wondering what to do after graduation, Teach for America can offer a great opportunity.

Teach for America recruits any student with their Bachelor's degree. You don't have to be an education major, and experience isn't a requirement.

The program strives to combat what the Web site calls "America's greatest injustice" — educational inequity.

Helen McClaugherty Cosner, the recruitment director for Teach for America at Ohio University, said that achieving the American dream isn't always a reality because of students' geographic location or economic background.

Teachers with Teach for America, also called corps members, are placed in rural or urban settings where the need for education is great. About 98 percent of teachers receive their first preference of placement.

Corps members receive full teachers' salary and health benefits. You must sign on for two years, but are welcome to stay beyond that.

Teach for America looks for applicants with strong leadership and organizational skills, as well as a belief in students' abilities to achieve. There's an emphasis on math and science to meet national standards, but they accept people from all educational backgrounds and encourage diversity.

McClaugherty Cosner said that

Teach for America gives you a chance to develop many skills for graduate schools and jobs following your teaching experience. Teach for America is a positive way to further public speaking, critical thinking and networking — they have partnerships with law and medical schools, as well as political organizations, McClaugherty Cosner said.

"The biggest thing you learn as a teacher is how to lead," McClaugherty Cosner said. "People recognize that."

Training begins in summer, and students learn about the area in which they'll be teaching, get to know other corps members and attend classes. You'll also teach summer school under the supervision of other teachers, so you can get a feel for being in a classroom.

"Teach for America is a fabulous opportunity to have a direct impact right after college," McClaugherty Cosner said. "You have to want all kids to have the same opportunity to live the dream."

If you're interested in making an impact with Teach for America, the next deadline to apply is Nov. 7. There are two later deadlines, Jan. 7 and Feb. 13, and you can apply before any of these dates for an opportunity next year.

To fill out an application, visit the Web site: www.teachforamerica.org. Direct questions to McClaugherty Cosner at (614) 307-5153.

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November Calendar

Nov. 4 —

~Basic Interviewing, 5:10 p.m., Baker 503

Nov. 7 —

~Résumé Writing Seminar, 2:10 p.m., Baker 503

~Beginning of Parents Weekend

Nov. 11 —

~Veterans Day: No classes!

Nov. 15 —

~Last day of class for fall quarter

Nov. 17 —

~Fall quarter exams begin

Nov. 21 —

~Residence halls close at 6 p.m.

Nov. 25 —

~Fall quarter grades e-mailed to students

Opportunities with last month's Fair

By RACHEL DOUGHTY
Newsletter Editor

With record-breaking numbers of employers at this fall's Career Fair, Baker Ballroom was crawling with students. If you missed out and plan to check out the next fair in winter, then schedule a trip to the Career Services office.

Melissa Tate, a senior French major with a minor in business, attended the Career Fair, but made sure to stop by Career Services first. She said she attended a fair last year, but felt unprepared.

"(I) met with (Assistant Director) Brittany Buxton and she really helped me," Tate said. "I felt more prepared this year and it ended up being a huge success."

Tate ultimately wants to work in France, and wishes to interact with company representatives in order to get her foot in the door with employers. The Career Fair was the perfect place for her, and many other students, to do exactly that.

Students can sign up for an appointment with Career Services advisors, attend seminars on interviewing and résumé writing and try out mock interviews. Tate said it's important to get your résumé checked, and that Career Services can really help you learn to market yourself to employers.

"With interviews, I think the key is just to relax and be professional," Tate said. "Be confident with yourself and be sure to show the employers your strong sides."

Tate recently had an interview with one of the companies from the Career Fair, and she plans to continue attending the fairs. She would gladly recommend that students check it out, too.

"Overall, I thought that the Career Fair was great," Tate said. "I really think the Career Fair helped me, and I'm looking forward to working more with Brittany and Career Services and going to the Career Fair."

The next Career Fair will be held winter quarter in February. Check out the Career Services Web site for more information and updates as the Career Fair nears: www.ohio.edu/careers.

Now is the time to register for Career Services!

To gain access to Career Services' programs, you must register. Stop in Baker 533 or call the office for information on how to sign up.

You can register for *CareerBeam*, an online tool with various self-assessment inventories, which will help match personal attributes with career options. You can have access to assessments, résumé and cover letter builders and receive help with job searches.

The *Bobcat Online Job Search* program can give you access to résumé referrals, online job postings and on-campus interviewing. E-Recruiting can bring students job listings, event schedules and interview sign-ups. To register, you must attend a Registration Orientation Seminar to receive a registration form.

Fall and winter quarters are heavy recruiting times, so don't put off signing up for these programs. Visit the student page on the Career Services Web site for information on programs, seminars and events: www.ohio.edu/careers/students.

Meet the Career Services employees

Leslie Kingsley:

—**Job:** Graduate Assistant for Employer Relations

—**Previous education:** Plymouth State University
B.S. in Finance with dual minors
in Professional Communications
and Economics



—**Current studies:** Masters of
Education in College Student
Personnel

—**What's great about Career
Services:** "I love having the op-
portunity to work and assist students whenever pos-
sible."

—**Favorite class:** "Women & the Economy. It opened
my eyes to the possibility of teaching college courses
in the future!"

—**Interests:** She loves the outdoors, and is a big New
England sports fan, especially the Boston Red Sox.

—**Favorite thing about Athens:** "Being new to the
area, I really enjoy the wide array of restaurants!"

—**Best advice for students:** "Get involved early and
find something that you are really passionate about!"

Megan Stone:

—**Job:** Graduate Assistant for GA Selection Process

—**Previous education:** Bachelor of Science Degree in
Psychology and Health and Phys-
ical Education at Virginia Tech



—**Current studies:** Masters of
Education in College Student
Personnel

—**What's great about Career
Services:** "I think the office envi-
ronment is very friendly and sup-
portive. Also, there are so many wonderful opportuni-
ties and services made available to students through
the Career Services office."

—**Interests:** She likes to play sports and read a good
book when she finds the time.

—**Favorite thing about Athens:** "I love the natural
surroundings and all of the beautiful hiking trails."

—**Best advice for students:** "Start getting involved in
leadership opportunities early in your college career. It
is important to make connections and start off on the
right foot your first year."

Mock interviews prepare students

By RACHEL DOUGHTY
Newsletter Editor

Career Services offers a variety of programs that can help you in your job search. The mock interview program is a way to practice and perfect your interviewing skills before taking on the real thing.

To sign up, students can submit information electronically through the mock interview page on the student section of the Career Services Web site.

Ashley Gorman, the student in charge of mock interviews, said that you need to send your résumé and a job description for which you would like to practice. You must submit this information before the mock interview session through an e-mail attachment.

Gorman said that there are no specific rules, but that they request you cancel 24 hours in advance. She recommends that the students bring a portfolio or notebook and a pen, so they can take notes or write down any advice that might be offered.

Even though this is just a practice run, you should dress professionally, preferably in a suit, or at

least dress pants and a nice shirt. The student is encouraged to come prepared with questions they would ask a real interviewer.

The interview is recorded, and the student can request a copy for them to study. You will discuss afterward what needs improvement, but Gorman can offer some tips.

"A successful interview is one where the student knows what they want out of a job, has examples to back up their experiences, has a unique perspective and is motivated and enthusiastic," Gorman said.

If you're unsure of interviewing procedures, scheduling a mock interview might be a great way to help give you confidence.

"(Students) will take away knowledge about what employers are looking for, how to improve their answers and better express their examples and the experience of having practiced it all before going through the real thing," Gorman said.

Faculty Page

Check out the Career Services Web site:

www.ohio.edu/careers/faculty

Career Services offers programs to help faculty and students

Career Services has many programs that can benefit both faculty and students. Stop by Baker 533, check out the Web site or call the office at 593-2909 for more information on programs.

Outreach Programs:

If you plan to miss class for a conference or other professional event, Career Services can help. Career Services can send a staff member to your class to give a presentation on: resume writing/cover letters/references, basic interviewing, business etiquette and professional dress, job search strategies or planning for graduate school.

Another outreach option is to schedule a class visit to the Career Services office. A staff member will discuss the services and programs that Career Services can offer and give students a tour of the Career Resource Center. Simply call the office or e-mail the office at career.services@ohio.edu to schedule an outreach program.

Presentations last approximately 50 minutes and should be scheduled at least two weeks in advance. You can fill out an online form on the faculty portion of the Web site, or you can print a form to turn into the office.

Career Awareness Through Self-Assessment (CATS):

The CATS program is a process to aid students with their career planning. Faculty are encouraged to direct advisees and students to the student section of the Career Services Web site so they can learn more about the CATS program.

The CATS site includes detailed career planning information, a checklist for students and a link to FOCUS, a self-assessment tool designed to assist students with career and educational planning. Then, advisors in Career Services can begin matching majors/minors to the career options identified after a student completes FOCUS.

Seminars:

Career Services also offers many seminars throughout the quarter, including résumé writing, basic and advanced interviewing, career fair etiquette, job search strategies, planning for graduate school and business etiquette and professional dress. Seminars are schedule for various times and dates with no need for students to sign up or register. Direct them to www.ohio.edu/careers/students/seminars.cfm for a list of seminars scheduled throughout the quarter.