

# CAREER CORNER

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Issue 20

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## Welcome Back!

Fall is such an exciting time to be on a college campus: new students, new experiences, new expectations for yourself and your future. Career Services would love to be a part of your Fall activities - we have a full schedule of events and programs with you in mind and are looking forward to meeting you throughout the semester!

Be sure to familiarize yourself with JOB CENTER (**all students already have an account, accessible through 'Academic Resources' in MyLVC**), check out our electronic resources through [www.lvc.edu/career-services](http://www.lvc.edu/career-services), and learn about our upcoming events and programs, including those listed below. *Keep in mind, this is not a full listing of our Industry specific days, on-campus recruitment visits, or off-campus consortium events - see JOB CENTER for a full listing.*

## Fall Quick Guide

### Experience Counts: INTERNpreneurship

Take your internship search & achievement to the next level.

Sun. Sept. 25 3:33 pm NG 203

### Bound for Graduate School

All you need to know when preparing to apply

Sept. 8 & Sept. 13 11 am Library BI Lab  
Sept. 12 5 pm Library BI Lab

### Becoming a PROFESSIONAL Dutchman

Workshops begin at 11 am

Get your materials in order Sept. 27 Lynch 167  
Social media & the job search Oct. 25 NG 203  
Marketing you co-curriculars Nov. 29 Lynch 167

### On the Porch

Meet and Greet area employers On Our Porch!  
*Practice your networking skills!*

Thurs. Sept. 29 & Thurs. Oct. 20  
10:30 am—1:00 pm

### Internship Prep Workshops

Tues. Nov. 8 at 11 am & 5 pm NG203

### Financial Literacy

Both at 7 pm in NG 203

Creating a Budget  
How to Get Good Credit

Wed. Nov. 9  
Wed. Nov. 16

**For complete information log on to JOB CENTER or visit Career Services at 50 N. College Avenue.  
[careerservices@lvc.edu](mailto:careerservices@lvc.edu) - 867-6560**

## Resource Feature:

### What Can I Do With This Major?

(access through [www.lvc.edu/career-services](http://www.lvc.edu/career-services))



Whether you are exploring multiple majors or searching for information about your chosen field, this site will help you connect majors to careers. Learn about the typical career areas and the types of employers that hire people with each major, as well as strategies to make you a more marketable candidate. Continue your research on majors and careers through the websites provided, including professional associations, occupational outlook information, and miscellaneous career information on each field.

*More than 80 fields of study are represented!*

Select **What Can I Do With This Major** through [www.lvc.edu/career-services](http://www.lvc.edu/career-services) and have access to the following:

View All Majors

Connect majors to careers.

How To Use This Resource

Learn about resource features.

FAQ's

Find answers to common questions.

# Looking Back & Thinking Ahead

An update from the NACE Knowledge Center

When compared to seniors from the Class of 2010 who found jobs before graduating, the seniors from the Class 2011 who landed positions **prior** to graduation spent more time in the job search, according to results of the National Association of College's and Employers' *2011 Student Survey* (more than 50,000 students nationwide responded).

The median time that seniors from the class of 2011 took before landing a job was 7.74 months. For seniors from the class of 2010, the median time looking for a job before securing one was 6.95 months.

Why it took longer is hard to say. It may be that seniors this year saw the difficulty the two previous classes had in finding a job and simply started their searches sooner, perhaps even before the recruiting season truly got underway.

**What does this mean for you?? Regardless of what year you are in college, you are encouraged to...**

## Get an Early Start... (Yep, that means get started now!)

*It doesn't matter how or where you start—just start from where you are.*

We understand that school has only been in session for a matter of weeks and students are anywhere from 4 months to 4 years away from graduation. The Career Services office wants to stress that it doesn't matter how far you are from commencement; it is vital that you begin thinking about your career plans early. We encourage you to explore the possibilities, gather information, connect with others, and build your professional profile. These steps will help you begin to gain experience, prepare to transition to life outside of college and find employment and/or plan for graduate school.



### HOW TO MOVE FORWARD:



#### 1. USE CAREER SERVICES.

Career Services can help you almost every step of the way through your major exploration to your job or graduate school pursuits. It's an efficient and effective way of quickly gathering a lot of information about resumes, interviews, job search tips, and so forth. Access resources and attend workshops/programs. Don't forget to set up an appointment for individual help!

*Tip: Always have specific questions in mind when scheduling an appointment to ensure a beneficial experience.*



#### 2. CREATE YOUR BRAND (OR AT LEAST BEGIN THINKING ABOUT IT!).

Make your resume and cover letter stand out by targeting them to each job. Link what you've done with what you want to do, especially if the connection isn't obvious. Prepare great stories to illustrate your talents and respond to those tough interview questions. Check your online profile and remove any "digital dirt." Set up a LinkedIn account for professional networking.

#### 3. ASK YOURSELF, "WHERE AM I NOW AND WHERE DO I WANT TO BE ONE YEAR FROM NOW?"

Let's say you're currently a senior and you'd like to work in the field of \_\_\_\_\_ when you graduate. So, can you do that tomorrow? If the answer is no, what do you need to do first? Maybe it's writing your resume, or doing an internship, or taking a class, or identifying the companies that might hire you. Whatever steps you need to take, write them down and work on them when you can. *This is also a good step for students thinking about internships!!*

#### 4. ASK YOURSELF, "WHEN AM I AT MY BEST?"

In other words, when have you been particularly proud of your accomplishments? They don't have to be grand, by the way. Sometimes an accomplishment is just the afternoon you tutored a child. How can you parlay your "best" into an interview or resume? For instance, think about what skills you developed. Tutoring might have required patience and compassion. How might those traits be valuable in the job you're seeking?



#### 5. STAY FOCUSED AND KEEP IT MANAGEABLE.

Look for ways to make your job search as fun or interesting as possible. Conduct small experiments to learn what you want to do: Volunteer for an afternoon to see if you really are interested in working for an environmental cause. Write your resume while enjoying a latte in a coffee shop. Think of networking as a way to meet new friends and interesting people. Take a negative experience and create a story about how you overcame the challenges. Set a timer and tell yourself you'll just work for 10 minutes on something. Whatever you have to do to get started or stay focused, do it!

*Congratulations, if you finished this article, you're already on your way!*

Much of the information above came from the *Job Choices* magazine; an excellent resource filled with job search tips and career information. *Job Choices* is available in the Career Services office or online (a new feature!) through

**[www.jobchoicesonline.com](http://www.jobchoicesonline.com)**

Pick up a copy, read through the many career-related articles, and consider filling out the satisfaction survey to be entered for the \$500 prize. LVC students have won for the past 2 years in a row; can we have a third!?