

12-7-2000

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Recommended Citation

"Campus Recruitment Visits Up, Job Market Strong for New UD Graduates" (2000). *News Releases*. 9471.
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Dec. 7, 2000
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NEWS RELEASE

CAMPUS RECRUITMENT VISITS UP, JOB MARKET STRONG FOR NEW UD GRADUATES

DAYTON, Ohio — A record number of corporate recruiters are visiting the University of Dayton campus, allowing graduating students to ride the crest of a four-year wave of employment opportunity.

"It's been wild here for four years, and each year has gotten better," said Lisa Warren, assistant director of UD's career services center. "Between Oct. 2 and Nov. 30 alone, 80 companies participated in our campus recruiting program, and 869 interviews were conducted in our office. We don't have numbers yet as to how many of those interviews led to job offers, but I can tell you our students are definitely securing jobs."

On Dec. 16, the University will graduate 395 students, including four who will receive doctoral degrees and 168 who will receive master's degrees. Commencement exercises will be at 10 a.m. at UD Arena.

Although there remains an obvious demand for degrees in techno-savvy fields such as computer science, liberal arts students are also faring very well, Warren said. One senior, who is about to receive a degree in general studies, landed a management position with a \$36,000 salary. A communication student has been offered positions with a consulting firm and in the automotive industry, both carry salaries in the high 30s. And a philosophy student has been offered an internship with a major sales company.

Graduates of UD's School of Education and Allied Services are experiencing similar successes, said Roger Coy, director of educational placement services. "This is an exciting time to be in education. There are needs for educators in a variety of areas — in particular, science, math and special education. But students looking for jobs in liberal arts areas such as physical education and social studies are also having a much easier time finding positions than in years past."

For the last 10 years, educational placement services has surveyed its newly graduated student teachers to report on hiring statistics. The survey has been successful with an average

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return rate of 97.7 percent through the 1998-99 school year. In the last four years — including the unofficial statistics currently being assessed for the 1999-2000 school year — the hire rate of full-time, part-time and substitute positions in education for UD students has averaged an impressive 85 percent, Coy said. Of those totals, the percentage of students acquiring full-time jobs has jumped to an average of 75 percent in the last four years, as opposed to an average of 53 percent for the first six years the survey was conducted.

Reports from the University of Dayton match a nationwide trend, according to the Collegiate Employment Research Institute at Michigan State University, which conducts an annual survey of 380 employers. Its most recent survey indicates 2001 could be the hottest of four years of “frenzied” activity for liberal arts grads in the college labor market.

University of Dayton students will have the advantage of that market, but Warren and Coy agree that UD graduates have an extra edge because of the type of education they receive. For instance, all students take a mandatory humanities-based general education curriculum, and incoming students arrive on campus to find a computer, loaded with the same software their professors and classmates use, fully loaded in their residence hall rooms.

“Companies often call us specifically because they want UD students,” Warren said. “Once they hire a UD grad, they always come back for more. Most recruiters also recognize that our arts and sciences students receive an excellent, well-rounded education. They’re skilled, smart, computer-literate and highly involved in extracurricular activities. That says a lot.”

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For media interviews, call **Lisa Warren** at (937) 229-3957 and **Roger Coy** at (937) 229-4146.