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Fall Into Your Dream Job

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Because of continued interest from organizations and students, the University of Dayton will hold its fall career fair at the University of Dayton Arena.

The 2013 Fall Career and Graduate School Fair is scheduled for 1-5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 23. The career fairs, scheduled twice a year, are opportunities for students and alumni to speak with employers about job prospects and graduate schools. Opportunities include internship, co-op and full-time employment.

The career fair will host a record 196 organizations this year, including 25 grad schools. That is up from this spring's 160 in attendance. Career Services will run two shuttles in a continuous loop from the RecPlex on campus to the Arena throughout the event.

Jason Eckert, director of career services, has noticed a growth in requests from employers for "all majors." Companies are looking to hire Flyers of any major who are interested in their field, he said. For example, E&J Gallo Winery will be looking for people of all majors with an interest in the hospitality industry. Once hired, the student will be placed into a management development program and will be given all of the training necessary.

Although the event is only open to University of Dayton students and alumni, Eckert has three guidelines for anyone attending a job fair:

Prepare. Research the companies that will be at the event and have an idea of which ones you want to speak with. A comprehensive list of organizations attending the Career Fair and information about each is provided on the Hire a Flyer website (see the related link). "One of the first questions you will be asked is 'What do you know about our company?' If you research beforehand, you'll seem professional and prepared," said Eckert.

Dress to Impress. "You can't be overdressed for a career fair," Eckert said. He suggests wearing a suit or the most professional attire you own.

Practice. Know what you're going to say before you say it. Come up with an "elevator pitch" about yourself – a one-minute summary of your name, major, experiences, accomplishments and what kind of job you're interested in. One last word of advice from Eckert: "Always end your elevator pitch with a question. This promotes dialogue between you and the employer and shows you are truly interested in the company."

For more information about the career fair, contact Eckert at 937-229-5537 or jeckert1@udayton.edu.

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