What do you think a student can do between now and graduation to prepare for employment?

A: Network! Network through informational interviews or connecting with professionals on LinkedIn. Build your own network by finding people with similar career interests and learn how they got where they are. This can include people you met in your classes or other professional settings. You can also go to events like career fairs or industry conferences to network with people in your field. Remember, networking is about building up rapport and raising money for the school. Make the most of your LinkedIn profile and keep it updated with your current job status and skills. Finally, don’t be afraid to ask for help or support from your career services offices. They can provide you with resources and guidance on how to find and connect with potential employers.

Q: What are the most common mistakes you see students make at job fairs?

A: The most common mistakes I see at job fairs are:

- Students not doing their research on the companies they are interested in. They don’t know what they are looking for or what the company does.
- Students not preparing their resume and cover letter. They don’t make sure their resume and cover letter are tailored to the specific job they are applying for.
- Students not asking questions to the recruiters. They don’t take advantage of the opportunity to ask questions about the company and the job.
- Students not following up with the recruiters. They don’t send a thank you email or follow up with the recruiter after the job fair.

In summary, students need to be proactive and prepared for job fairs. They need to do their research, prepare their resume and cover letter, ask questions, and follow up with recruiters. By doing so, they will increase their chances of landing a job.

Liana Lei, Career Peer Educator at the Career Services Center

The Triton Worker is a monthly newsletter that was created in order to give the UC San Diego student career community, marketing professionals on campus discussing important topics such as networking, job search, and interview preparation. The newsletter covers a variety of topics such as information on upcoming career events, tips for finding internships and jobs, and highlights of success stories from students who have landed dream jobs.

Q: What advice do you have for student starting to look for work experience?

A: Start small and work your way up. You can start by doing freelance work or volunteering. This will help you gain experience and build your resume. Once you have some experience, you can start looking for paid internships or entry-level positions. Remember, networking is key! Attend career fairs, informational interviews, and informational networking events to meet people in your field.

Liana Lei, Career Peer Educator at the Career Services Center

The Triton Career and Professional Development Program offers a number of resources and opportunities for students to gain work experience, including:

- Internships
- Co-op programs
- Volunteer opportunities
- Part-time jobs
- Full-time jobs
- Career fairs
- Networking events
- Workshops and seminars

The program also offers career coaching and guidance to help students develop their career goals and plans. In addition, the program provides resources for students to find and apply for internships, co-op programs, and full-time jobs.

Q: What advice do you have for students looking to build their network?

A: To build your network, start by identifying people in your field or industry that you admire. Attend career fairs, informational interviews, and informational networking events to meet people in your field. Connect with them on LinkedIn and follow them on social media. Ask them for advice and guidance on how to advance in your career. Remember, networking is not just about making connections, it’s about building relationships. The more people you know, the more opportunities you will have.

Liana Lei, Career Peer Educator at the Career Services Center

The program also offers resources to help students advance their career, such as:

- Resume and cover letter writing workshops
- Interview preparation workshops
- Networking events
- Industry-specific career fairs

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