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Career Services hosts summer internship, job fair, offers résumé building opportunities

By Brooke Constance White

Published: Thursday, March 3, 2011

Updated: Thursday, March 3, 2011 02:03

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The University of Rhode Island Memorial Union Ballroom was packed with students and employers yesterday afternoon at the Summer Job and Internship Fair held by Career Services.

Rows of tables set up throughout the room held more than 50 companies ranging from Frito Lay to Foxwoods Resort and Casino to The Children's Workshop.

Assistant Director of Career Services Carolyn Thomas said the number of companies doubled from last year's fair.

"We had more companies at this job fair than we have had in several years," Thomas said. "The majority of the employers that come, we have worked with before, but at almost every job fair, there are new companies."

More than 200 students attended yesterday's fair.

Among the students was junior microbiology major Yanna Segeren, who is already looking at opportunities for jobs after graduating.

"I'm have been wanting to know about the Peace Corp, and even now as a junior, I can start applying," Segeren said. "This job fair is so much better than just a website because its person to person."

For junior electric engineering major Ruddy Olivo, it's about building up his résumé .

"I have no experience and I really need to get some," Olivo said. "I'm looking at any possible electrical engineering internship opportunities."

Freshman Jermaine Stephens is hoping to find a summer job in which he can use his communications major.

"People were really helpful today and hopefully I will find something that works out," Stephens said.

The fair saw many graduate students as well. Among these students was Lauren D'Ambra, a graduate student working towards getting her Masters in Elementary Education.

"I'm looking for anything where I can work with children," D'Ambra said. "There are several opportunities that I saw that I am going to look into further."

For Colleen Thomson, representative of The Children's Workshop, a childcare and education program throughout Rhode Island and Massachusetts, it was a busy day.

"This is the best turnout I've ever seen," Thomason said. "I've had people at my table all afternoon so far."

Director of Career Services Bobbi Koppel said that the job fairs are great opportunities to network with possible employers.

"Ask about companies that you may not have heard of before," Koppel said. "Keep an open mind as you are searching for a job because every company needs a variety of people with all kinds of majors, not just what students might assume."

Career Services is hosting a spring career fair in the Ryan Center on April 6 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.



University of Rhode Island accounting and finance major Keith Cortez, browses at a job fair booth, in search of a summer internship.

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