

January 2010 Topic Discussion - Mentor

I hope you are enjoying a great start to 2010!

I have been hearing from some former business school students about how difficult the employment situation is currently for new university graduates. Along these lines, many educational institutions and professional organizations will be holding job fairs in the coming months. Our own TWU career fair will be held on campus this January 21st. As current fourth year students beginning to think more about their careers and futures with April graduation on the horizon, I would like you to discuss new employment issues, and more specifically, "employability" in today's marketplace.

1) Mentor, please discuss with your student what you look for when reading a resume. Also, review the skills and characteristics you feel are important when evaluating a new hire. (If you are not in a hiring position, please discuss the personal qualities you feel a student should possess to succeed within an organization.)

2) Student, if you have not prepared a resume, please do so and review it with your mentor. Make a list of your strengths and weaknesses. Review the list with your mentor with a view to determining how you can be better prepared to enter the work force, and how you might distinguish yourself from other business school students through enrolment in additional coursework, volunteering or skill acquisition.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Again, the monthly topics are intended to complement other areas you are reviewing during your time together.

Regards,
Doug