

Employers tell us they are always in search of qualified, well educated, well trained employees to assist them in meeting their company's goal. They want to find workers who are team players; proven communicators who are able to work in a diverse environment.

Onondaga Community College's Career and Applied Learning Center is designed specifically to meet your human resource needs.



Fall 2010

A New Home for the CAL Center

The Career & Applied Learning (CAL) Center moved from their home in Mawhinney Lobby to a new space across the quad in Ferrante Hall, room 262. Although the location has changed, the services provided by the Center have not. This fall employers have continued to recruit on campus. Eight companies, for a total of 37 recruiting visits, were on campus seeking to hire Onondaga students. Employers are also continuing to find the Center's "user friendly" online job posting and career database, CALink. With CALink, employers and community agencies have the ability to post volunteer, internship and employment opportunities. They receive e-mail reminders when a student applies for a position with their organization, and when their posting is about to expire.

As one employer stated, "CALink has proven to be an instrumental recruiting tool for FEDEX Ground and our hiring initiative. Utilizing CALink has allowed us to spread our employment opportunities

exponentially and in turn we've increased the Onondaga Community College student hires considerably since the implementation of the site." (Michael Salvagni, Recruiting Specialist, FedEx Ground)

Since the beginning of the Fall 2010 semester, 76 companies posted 226 jobs, both full and part-time that are suitable for Onondaga students and graduates.

Students are also finding their way to the Center's new location. Along with the extensive job search resources provided on CALink, students are individually assisted in obtaining informational interviews, shadowing experiences and internships. Graduates and alumni are provided information and assistance with resumes, cover letters, interviewing and job search techniques. There have been 575 students logged into CALink since the beginning of the semester and 251 students have been assisted by the CAL Center staff.



Career and Applied Learning Center Employment Services

Each year, approximately 900 students receive degrees in more than 50 areas of study from Onondaga Community College. Nearly 40 percent of students transition directly into the work force. These students are motivated and eager to begin working in their chosen career fields.

Employers are invited to work through Onondaga's Career and Applied Learning (CAL) Center to recruit the College's finest graduates through:

CALink

CALink allows employers to connect prospective employers with highly skilled and motivated graduating students and alumni. myinterface.com/sunyocc/employer

On-Campus Recruitment

Employers are welcome to visit Onondaga Community College to recruit students and advertise their company and available career opportunities.

On Campus Interviews

Employers can arrange interview sessions in the CAL Center with Onondaga Community College students.

CAL Center Job Fair

The CAL Center sponsors an annual Spring Job Fair where students and employers can meet and discuss potential career opportunities.

Your Opportunity to Choose Well-Educated Employees!

“ I wish I came here earlier because it has changed my understanding of the way the job world works.”

—Stephen Crolick, Labor Studies May 2011

“Socrates was correct when he said ‘The unexamined life is not worth living.’ I never knew how true that statement was until I worked on my resume with the Career & Applied Learning Center.”

—Michael Davis, *Electronic Media Communications* May 2011/
Math Science December 2011

Internships

“I Got Into Medical School!”

Services we provide to our students and alumni:

CALink
Volunteering
Internships
Job Shadowing and Informational Interviewing
StrengthsQuest™
Resume and Cover Letter Writing
Interviewing Strategies
(including recorded mock interviews)
Job Searching
Local Employer Information
Job Fair and Employer Panels

This was the great news that Joe Capogreco brought to the Career and Applied Learning (CAL) Center in September 2010. Capogreco began working with Rose Martens, Onondaga’s Internship Coordinator in the spring of 2008. “Joe wasn’t sure if he wanted to become a Physician’s Assistant or a Medical Doctor so I arranged two different job shadowing experiences for him. Although he enjoyed his time with a Physician’s Assistant, he ultimately made the decision that medical school was the best option for him. Job shadowing can have a profound impact on student’s career decisions,” said Martens. “Employers who participate in job shadowing don’t only help students learn about a particular industry; they help them to learn about themselves, about what they want to do with their lives, and guide them to the next level in their academic and professional growth.”

The next step in Capogreco’s journey happened when Martens pointed out an opening for a part-time position at a tissue recovery organization. “I thought this would be a perfect way for him to get some hands on experience in his chosen field and to make sure that he had made the best decision for himself.” Working in this position further convinced Capogreco that the medical profession was right for him. “I perform aseptic tissue recovery, including donor evaluation, culturing, packing and shipping of donated tissues. It feels good to turn an otherwise sad event into something promising and hopeful for someone else.”

Capogreco received an additional boost in his career path when an opportunity arose to



volunteer for a week with “Operation Smile”, an organization enabling medical volunteers to provide free cleft palate repair surgery for children in third world countries. He was able to witness and assist with life changing surgeries for children in Nicaragua. (See picture above).

As with many non-traditional students, a long and winding road led Capogreco to Onondaga and his decision to become a physician. After graduating from high school, he went to college not knowing what he wanted to do with his life other than getting a college degree. He completed a Business Administration degree at the University of Buffalo. While working as a Financial Services Representative, he volunteered at his local fire department and obtained his EMT license. That’s when his passion for medicine was sparked and his journey to a medical career began.

For more information about the internship and job shadowing programs at Onondaga Community College, contact Rose Martens at (315) 498-2494, or email her at martensr@sunyocc.edu.



Job Fair 2010

Job Fair 2010 was held last April with 28 employers and over 135 students/graduates attending in the Atrium of the Whitney Applied Technology Building. **JOB Fair 2011** will be held on Wednesday, April 27th in a new location – the Great Room in the Gordon Student Center. This new location will accommodate more employers and a better flow of student traffic. Registration information will be sent out in early February. If interested in participating contact Mike Ramos, ramosm@sunyocc.edu or call (315) 498-2118.

Provide Career Direction

Flying High with NASA

Jonathan Boucher is anything but your typical college student. In May 2010, he embarked on the opportunity of a lifetime - a three-day research experience at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX. He, along with another Onondaga student, was chosen from a pool of nearly 300 candidates to participate in the National Community College Aerospace Scholars program. The program brings students out of the classroom and allows them to work side-by-side with NASA scientists and engineers on a number of different projects.

Before attending the program Boucher needed to complete a web based learning experience exploring the possibility of a mission to Mars. He learned about the opportunity with the help of the internship coordinator, Rose Martens, in the Career & Applied Learning (CAL) Center. Martens assisted him in developing his resume and looking for research opportunities. She came upon the aerospace scholars program in the process.

"Rose sent me an email one day describing the program. I applied for it, and she reviewed my essays and worked with me to make sure I was prepared. It worked because I was accepted!"

A homeschooled student until attending Onondaga, Boucher enrolled at the College as an



engineering science major, maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA and received the program's curriculum honor award.

"Everyone knows what NASA is. This was a huge, huge opportunity that I was able to participate in," said Boucher. "This experience helped me realize that I am definitely interested in Aerospace."

Boucher is continuing his engineering education at Clarkson University.

Edited from an article written by Alex Cole, Onondaga Public Affairs Office

Interview Video can be viewed at <http://students.sunyocc.edu/life.aspx?id=24511>

Student Internships

Onondaga's Career and Applied Learning (CAL) Center Internship Program provides employers with highly-motivated, skilled students capable of meeting the challenges of today's workforce. These students are currently working to complete their degree and wish to supplement their studies with real-world experience.

The benefits to employers are:

- The opportunity to use your student's worksite performance for permanent hiring decisions.
- An excellent way to satisfy your temporary and seasonal employment needs.
- Reduction in recruiting costs, training time and employee turnover.

Students are generally available part-time during the fall and spring semesters and full-time during the summer.

Student Volunteers

The CAL Center Volunteer Program also matches non-profit community agencies with students interested in volunteering their time and talents. These opportunities allow students to assist your organization with day-to-day operations and special projects while gaining experience in their career field, developing a sense of social responsibility, and contributing to the community. All Onondaga students are eligible and encouraged to participate in community volunteer opportunities.

Your opportunity to shape the education of your future employees!

Environmental & Business/Communications Careers Panel Discussions

An employer panel discussion on "Environmental/Green Careers" was held on March 5, 2010. Participating companies were: Environmental Products & Services, Forecon, Inc., C&S Companies, Natural Resources Group, and O'Brien & Gere. Panelists discussed new, emerging and growing careers in environmental/ green technology.

A "Business & Communications Careers" panel discussion was held April 9th. Participating companies were: Time Warner Cable, Sutherland Global Services, Syracuse University and Upstate Medical University.

Employers on the two panels shared types of positions they hire graduates with two and four year degrees along with salary ranges. They also highlighted career pathways within their companies discussing internships and company paid tuition assistance programs to support their employees in earning Bachelor and advanced degrees. The senior economist from the New York State Department of Labor participated on both panels to give students and faculty a regional overview of the job market in the targeted sectors.



Career and Applied Learning (CAL) Center

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Onondaga Community College
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www.sunyocc.edu/calcenter

Upcoming Events

Technical Careers Employer Panel Discussion:
DECEMBER 1, 2010
MAWHINNEY HALL, ROOM 345

Volunteer Fair:
FEBRUARY 9, 2011
GORDON STUDENT CENTER LOBBY

Green Careers Employer Panel Discussion:
MARCH 2011

National Volunteer Week:
APRIL 10 - 16, 2011

Spring Job Fair:
APRIL 27, 2011

! CALink

An employer "One Stop"
for all your recruitment needs!

Log onto CALink—

myinterfase.com/sunyocc/employer

to post full-time, part-time and internship openings.

the **Link**

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