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“Aspire to a Career” connects job-seekers to more than 80 employers

More than 80 employers are coming next week to the 2008 Engineering and Applied Sciences [EAS] Career Fair. It's set for Thurs., Sept. 25, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The Parkview event is free and open to the public, with no pre-registration required to attend.

Heather Highhouse, assistant director for Career and Student Employment Services (CSES) and career advisor for the CEAS, is coordinating the event. The theme of this year's engineering career fair is “Aspire to a Career,” which she said is a way to focus on the CEAS spire that serves as a beacon in front of the Parkview Campus. The spire is featured on the 2008 career fair tabloid.

Representatives from many sectors of the economy offer opportunities to students, alum, and others. Some areas include manufacturing, aeronautical, aviation, service, health care, medical, mechanical, civil, energy, construction, distribution, chemical, paper, electrical and electronic, computer, food, governmental and military.

“We have an excellent balance of employers participating in this year’s career fair,” Highhouse said.

Highhouse has also partnered with the advising office to provide this year’s fair with a student/information area for name tags, maps, tabloids, and information.

Eaton Corp. is sponsoring this year’s fair. According to its Web site, Eaton is a diversified power management company and global technology leader in electrical systems, hydraulics, aerospace technology for commercial and military use, and truck and automotive drivetrain and powertrain systems. It has 81,000 employees, sells to customers in 150 countries, and had $13 billion in sales in 2007.

Professionals from Eaton, Whirlpool Corp., Consumers Energy, and the Department of Labor and Economic Growth provided perspectives on networking, interviewing, etiquette, and the economic outlook. “This was one of the best resources to help students prepare for the fair,” Highhouse said.

Eaton has been consistently supportive of CEAS students, projects, and programs. “We really appreciate all that Eaton has done for us,” Highhouse said.

Students who are looking for positions are encouraged to dress appropriately professional and to bring copies of their resumes.

Assistance in resume preparation is available during drop-in office hours in the Advising Suite at Parkview: MW 12 to 2 p.m. and TR – 11:30-1:30 p.m. Additional hours are available on the main campus. Students can also call (269) 276-3241 to schedule an appointment.

Job seekers should prepare for the EAS career fair by reviewing the list of employers and researching those of interest ahead of time. All employers registered are identified on the Web site. Employers have until the day before the event to sign up. As employers register, they are added to the Web site in real-time. To view registered employers and/or to register as an employer, go to http://wmich.erecruiting.com/stu/cf_registered_employers?fhnd=3219

Highhouse, who is coordinating the annual event for the first time, credited several student organizations and student assistants for their support: Nicole Maggio, graduate assistant, Joe Mydosh, peer educator, and Matt Smith, co-op assistant. For more info, call (269) 387-2745 or go to www.broncojobs.wmich.edu/career

Opinions and ideas, please! Send your thoughts to the editor at jerrie.fiala@wmich.edu Thank you.