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Job hunting season opens next week at Engineering Opportunity Day

More than 70 employers are coming next week to the 2007 Engineering Opportunity Day (EOD) career fair next Thurs., Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. For the first time in its history, the career fair has a theme – Hunting for a Job.

Representatives from business, government, and corporations will offer networking opportunities to students, alumni, and others. The Parkview event is free and open to the public. No pre-registration is required to attend EOD. For more info, call (269) 387-2745 or check www.broncojobs.wmich.edu

Event coordinator Tracey Moon, assistant director for Career and Student Employment Services (CSES) and career advisor for the CEAS and the College of Aviation, said this year’s fair promises to be the largest in the fair’s 12-year history. “At this fair, students will be able to get a lot of information about where to find internships, co-ops, and full-time jobs,” she said. “With so many representatives, students are going to have to be very prepared.”

Stryker Instruments is sponsoring the 2007 Engineering Opportunity Day on Thurs., Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the WMU Parkview Campus.

In this photo from our archives, Stryker representatives Amanda Pryor (center background, in dark suit) and Laura Walsh (center foreground) talk to job seekers.

Stryker Instruments is sponsoring this year’s fair. Headquartered in Kalamazoo, Stryker is a global leader in medical technology that has won many awards for its products and its corporate culture. According to its Web site, Stryker’s products improve the lives of medical professionals and patients in over 120 countries.

Stryker consistently supports WMU. “Stryker is always contributing with job postings, full-time internships and co-ops,” Moon said. “They are always recruiting here, and they hire a lot of our graduates.”

Moon said that a few companies are making their first appearance at an EOD. Among those are Duncan Aviation, Kraft Foods, and Evergreen Packaging. Duncan and Kraft are national corporations with local roots.

Moon encouraged those students who are bringing their resumes to EOD and looking for positions to dress appropriately professional. She said that it is better to be overdressed than underdressed.

“Just because employers are dressed in business casual does not mean that is how job seekers should dress,” she said. “There’s a difference. The representatives have jobs and the students are seeking jobs, so they need to step it up and dress for success.”

As a career advisor, Moon reviews resumes for engineering students. Students can take advantage of drop-in office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room E-102. Students can also call 387-2745 to schedule an appointment. “Students should bring copies of their resumes to the fair in a nice portfolio, not a backpack,” she said.

Job seekers should prepare for the EOD by reviewing the list of employers and researching those of interest ahead of time. All employers registered are identified on the Web site listed at the end of this e-News.

Employers have until the day before the event to sign up. “Registrations are processed daily,” Moon said. “As employers register, they are added to the Web site in real-time.”

To view registered employers and for employers to register, go to: http://wmich.erecruiting.com/cso/cf_registered_employers?hnd=2502

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