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## NIU Career Services

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Career Services Intern, Justin Pappachan and Career Counselor, Bob Norwood staffing a Résumé Express table in the College of Engineering.

## Projected Increase in Hiring College Grads for the Class of 2011

The job outlook for 2011 looks more promising for soon to be graduating seniors. Employers participating in the National Association of Colleges and Employers' (NACE) Fall Preview Survey anticipate hiring 13.5 percent more new college graduates from the Class of 2011 than they hired from the Class of 2010. While just under half of the employers said they will hire at the same rate as 2010, the overall increase is good news for 2011 graduates.

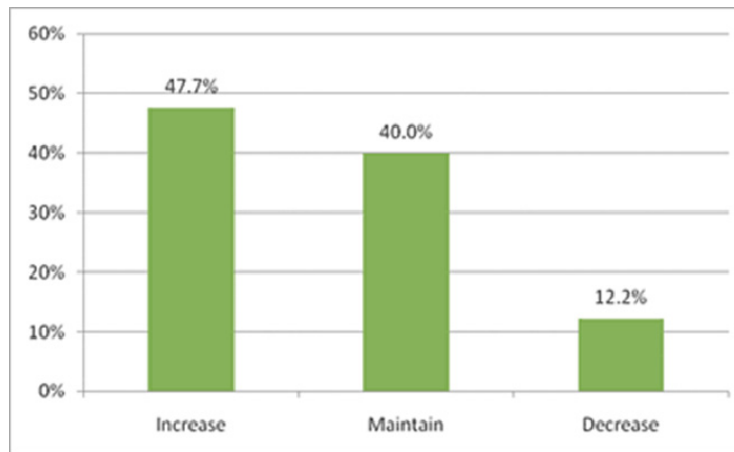


Figure 1: College hiring plans by percent of responding employers (NACE Spotlight Online, Sept. 1, 2010)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Oct. 5 - Graduate and Professional School Fair

Holmes Student Center—Ellington Ballroom  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Oct. 6 - Internship Job Fair

NIU Convocation Center  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Oct. 20 - Full-Time Job Fair

NIU Convocation Center  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Nov. 1 - Health Professions Job Fair

Holmes Student Center—Ellington Ballroom  
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

## October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	★ 5	★ 6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	★ 20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

## A Message from the Executive Director of NIU Career Services

### We're All in This Together

Welcome—or welcome back—to the new academic year at NIU. There's a special excitement about the "fresh start" that comes with the beginning of the fall semester, when we set ever-higher goals for helping students with their career development.

At NIU Career Services, our goals this year are straightforward: **Prepare** students to be sought-after candidates by employers and graduate schools; **create** outstanding job and internship opportunities for students; and **collect the data** that proves how NIU graduates are in demand by employers and graduate/professional school programs.

**Where we especially need your help is with collecting information about where NIU students work and study after they graduate.** Every time a student or alumnus tells you of a new internship, job offer, or acceptance to a graduate program, **please remind them to report their success to Career Services at [www.niu.edu/careerservices/reporting/](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices/reporting/) or call us directly at 815-753-1641.** Reporting is quick, confidential, and helps us validate the success of our students—thus ensuring that the NIU legacy of excellence continues. We provide this data to the university (and departments upon request) for recruiting, advancement and program development purposes.

On behalf of the entire Career Services team, please accept my thanks for everything you contribute toward the lifelong career development of these bright young adults who are the global community's next generation of leaders. Surely, gladly, ***we're all in this together!***

Sincerely,



## How Can I Help My Students with Their Career Plans?

**Career Services provides many resources for faculty.**

Call 753-1641, email [CareerServices@niu.edu](mailto:CareerServices@niu.edu) or visit our website [www.niu.edu/careerservices](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices) for:

- a classroom presentation on careers in your field of study
- information on how to job search, interview, and participate in career events
- observing or participating in the career fairs
- viewing résumé samples
- posting or reporting employment/internship opportunities
- employment data and projections in your field of study
- virtual interviewing projects through webcams that are emailed directly to instructors
- the online Victor eRecruiting tutorial (job search/posting database)

Please remind your students of the importance of their GPA in getting into grad school, an internship or full-time job position!

## Your Career Plan is a Business Plan

Danny Huffman, author of *Your Personal Career Marketing Manual & Portfolio Essentials* for Education Career Services, Inc., explains career planning as being similar to developing a business plan. Business plans include a vision and mission with measurable goals and a product or service of value to a customer. They include a promotional plan with a defined target market and an understanding of the competition. When developing a business plan, available resources, the customer and the product/service are thoroughly researched. These are all important factors that need to be considered and explored while one is still in the education environment for a well-developed career plan.

Faculty can support students' career plans through rigorous academic programming that pushes students to perform and understand how the knowledge and theory gained in the classroom can be transformed, applied or expanded in a work environment. These are transferable skills that students can use to market or promote themselves as assets for an organization or provide services that expand and enhance their mission. Finding a career is not an easy task and requires effort and guidance. If you think of your career plan as a business plan, begin by asking yourself how you would start a business?

## "Target" the Faculty/Advisor Award

Career Services recognized Cliff Mirman, Department of Technology, Rebecca Pritchard, Department of Nursing and Health Studies, and Dr. Lee Rush, Department of Counseling, Adult and Higher Education, for their impact on student learning outside the classroom. Each award winner received a "Target" the Faculty/Advisor Award for Spring 2010 and a \$500 grant to expand or enhance experiential learning opportunities in their academic areas. Mirman, Pritchard, and Rush all have strong partnerships with Career Services to advocate for experiential education and provide extensive support to students. The awards were funded through the 2010 Target Campus Grants program. Faculty interested in building or expanding experiential learning partnerships with Career Services should contact Joyce Keller, Associate Director of Counseling and Internships, 815-753-9113 or [jkeller@niu.edu](mailto:jkeller@niu.edu).



Target College Recruiter, Hope Heiser, poses with award winners, Rebecca Pritchard, Department of Nursing and Health Studies; Cliff Mirman, Department of Technology; and Dr. Lee Rush, Department of Counseling, Adult and Higher Education.

### Career Services Online

- Major WebLinks
- Victor eRecruiting
- Career & Job Search Resources
- Focus
- Perfect Interview

[www.niu.edu/careerservices](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices)

**COMING SOON** . . . Career Services, in collaboration with the NIU Alumni Association, is investigating an **automated** Mentoring Program (Huskie-2-Huskie). Watch future issues to learn more about this exciting new venture.



**Find us on Facebook**

## Top 10 Reasons Employers Recruit NIU Students

### 1. Our Students

Recruiters come back to NIU year after year because NIU students make great employees. An NIU graduate is a sound investment for any organization.

### 2. Centralized Career Services Department

Unlike schools with multiple career offices, we provide one-stop services to save recruiters time and money. A single call to Career Services provides access to all NIU students and programs.

### 3. Customized Recruiting Strategy

Career Services provides individual consultations for interested employers to outline a plan and develop customized strategies to meet hiring needs.

### 4. Comfortable Work Space

Sixteen private interview suites are available with wireless internet access and an employer lounge. Conference rooms for information sessions and greeting candidates are conveniently located.

### 5. Cutting-Edge Recruitment Technology

Recruiting through Victor eRecruiting gives access to the web-based Experience job posting system. This free service allows recruiters to post jobs and internships 24/7 and to proactively reach out to pre-qualified students and grads. Also, posting on eRecruiting ensures equitable access to the entire NIU community.

### 6. Highly Attended Career Events at NIU's Convocation Center

Northern hosts the largest campus-based job fair in the Midwest every fall and spring, along with two internship fairs and niche job fairs. These events draw rave reviews from the outstanding candidates who attend and from recruiters as well.

### 7. Location, Location, Location!

Northern offers a location in the middle of one of the world's most dynamic employment markets in the heart of the Midwest:

65 miles west of downtown Chicago  
45 miles southeast of Rockford  
Easy access from I-88, I-39 and I-90

### 8. Nationally Ranked Academic Programs

Many of NIU's academic programs are nationally accredited for meeting the highest standards of academic quality and rigor. These programs include business, engineering, nursing, visual and performing arts, and teacher certification programs.

### 9. Diverse Student Population

NIU has dedicated cultural centers for reaching diverse students: Latino Resource Center, Women's Resource Center, Center for Black Studies, LGBT Resource Center, Asian American Center, and Access-Ability Center (for students with disabilities).

**Student demographics from 2009-10:** 91% of students from Illinois; 48% men, 52% women; 27% ethnic minorities; 16 percent non-traditional students over the age of 23; 751 international students (83 nations).

### 10. Student Organizations

NIU's 200+ student organizations provide companies with lots of recruiting options. Groups include honors students, Greek chapters, academically-based clubs and volunteer organizations.

## NIU Career Services

### CAREER COUNSELING

Campus Life Building, Room 220

- Career counseling and career testing
- Internship and job search guidance
- Professional career counselors available to present workshops to classes and groups

### CAREER RESOURCE CENTER

Campus Life Building, Room 235

- Individual résumé reviews
- Expert assistance with Victor eRecruiting, NIU's internship and job postings database
- Computer lab for career exploration and job searching

### CAMPUS & EMPLOYER RELATIONS

Campus Life Building, Room 260

- Job and internship fairs
- On-campus interviewing
- Part-time, full-time, and temporary off-campus employment opportunities

**815.753.1641**