

(Fall 2008 Career Expo, in the John M. Parker Coliseum)

Opening Screen: LSU Fall Career Expo, Employers Tell All: Work Experience

Entergy: Work experience is very important, however, I think work experience can also be student work experience. It could be internships, it could be work study, it could be everyday life work that is considered work experience.

Georgia Pacific: It is very important. It doesn't have to be directly related to what our field is but we want to know that you've been in an industrial setting or a business setting that fits our business so explain that to us. That really matters when we're putting candidates beside each other.

Providence Engineering: Work experience shows drive and initiative, especially if someone has taken their summer or part-time employment. So it's definitely a big plus with interviewees.

Patent and Trademark Office: Work experience for the United States Patent Office is not really that important because we have a training academy in which we train the examiners to do the work that necessary at the patent office.

TEKsystems: Companies hire us to find quality people in the IT arena. If they haven't actually done the job before or at least have some experience towards that, that's pretty much impossible for us to find that. So any sort of experience whether it's internships, or even experience they go and find on their own, independent contracting, anything that can prove that they have some of the skills to back up their education is paramount to finding them a job.

Target: One of the things Target looks for is leaders. Those are one of the things that you really can't teach. So, definitely leadership is really important so those are things that we look for as far as work experience. Leadership.

ExxonMobil: Work experience is always differentiating. People that have taken the time out of their education or personal time to go and find opportunities, whether they're paid or unpaid, to get experiences in the fields that they're interested in. That kind of initiative is what companies are looking for when they're looking for people, especially new hires that have limited amounts of experience.

(Video ends)

Final Screen: www.lsu.edu/career