

Allan's College Survival Tip for a Successful Future`

Freshman/Sophomore Year Advice

DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH YOUR PROFESSORS, GO TO OFFICE HOURS, TALK TO THEM, it will be important that you have relationships like this in the future for example recommendations for opportunities. **MAKE SURE TO KEEP YOUR COLLEGE EMAIL CLEAN FROM THE BEGINNING, AS IN DON'T LET THE NUMBER OF UNREAD EMAILS PILE UP. THIS WILL HELP YOU OUT LONG TERM.** It's also important to have a good resume and an online portfolio such as LinkedIn to apply for research or internships. Work on your LinkedIn. Update it, make it look good, put all your activities on there. Use someone else's as a template for yours. Work on your resume! Add all your experience, projects, etc. Use someone's as a template if you don't know where to start (more specifically that someone should be in your major). Work on a general cover letter that you'll be able to change slightly for each application. In **August (I MEAN AUGUST, OPPORTUNITIES HAVE DEADLINES AND WE DO NOT KNOW WHEN THESE DEADLINES ARE)**, Go on job websites and sign up for for daily emails of internship opportunities. Apply to the ones you want. Most importantly if you don't have anything this summer, USE LYNDIA (Bucknell offers this for free) learn something, get ahead on a course, do something such as starting a summer project. For example comp sci majors can learn another language or start building an app. Point is there is always something to do! If you do have something to do this summer : Work on your resume and LinkedIn. ADD these experiences, it will make you much more employable. **LOOK BELOW AT RESEARCH TIPS. IT IS USUALLY AIMED TOWARDS FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORES especially the REUs. Try to participate in Bucknell programs over the summer like ILTM.**

Hold your drinks with your left hand because if you hold drinks with your right hand, it will get wet and nasty. Then when you network and meet someone new, you gotta awkwardly wipe your right hand to make it not wet. Good habit to build early.

SOPHOMORE/JUNIOR/SENIOR ADVICE

START APPLYING IN AUGUST, BEFORE COLLEGE STARTS AGAIN. This was my process of scoring an internship last year and this year. So just a word of advice, a good way to

score an internship is to MASS APPLY to everything. I applied to maybe over like 50+ internships before I got mine, and got rejected from quite a lot too. It takes time and effort. What I recommend doing is first freshening up your LinkedIn / Resume. The best way to do this is to find someone in the same Major as yours and copy their format. Find someone on LinkedIn that has a good profile and copy their format and fill it in with your information, find someone in the same major as you and ask them for their resume, if you think their resume format is great copy it. Write a general cover letter where you only have to change the first sentence to apply to varied similar positions (keep in mind if you have time, try to tailor the cover letter, but if you want to mass apply, this worked for me well). The next thing to do is to **SIGN UP FOR DAILY JOB ALERTS** based on keywords on your search and location preferences as well. **LINKEDIN, INDEED, and MONSTER** are three job websites that can send you daily job alerts to your email. **RELIGIOUSLY APPLY TO EVERYTHING ON THE EMAIL ALERTS** you find relevant to what you want to do. Keep an excel sheet (i used google sheets) to document what you apply to such as the LINK to the job description and Company because when you apply to so many things, its easy to lose track, so that way when you get an email from Company XYZ asking to interview you, you remember what you applied for. DO BASIC RESEARCH on the position using GLASSDOOR based on the position and company, this website gives you an idea of what the interview process is like so you can prepare for it. Spring Break is coming up, it is a great time to catch up on errands and get a head start on the job process.

Applying to Research Opportunities (I highly recommend doing research one summer just in case you do decide to go to graduate school for research experience)

The first thing to do is read freshman/sophomore tips and do everything that says it on there, it is the dirty work before even applying. Keep a google documents of the questions and answers when you apply to REUs or other research. Most of them reuse the same questions so when apply to MULTIPLE REUs, you can just copy and paste your answers or reuse answers. APPLYING TO AS MUCH OPPORTUNITIES as you can will increase the probability of getting an offer. **TALK TO YOUR PROFESSORS AT SCHOOL** about their research. See if you can ask to help with their research over the school year or over the summer. WHEN asking a professor or staff for a recommendation for research opportunities that require one, phrase it like the photo below.

Dear Professor Peck,

I have just recently applied to the **research** experience for the University of Minnesota. The deadline to apply is February 28th. I was hoping you could also fit this into your schedule to recommend me for this experience as well. To send the recommendation, you can simply send it to reubigdata@umn.edu with my name as the subject line. I appreciate the time and effort you take to craft the recommendations! If you need anymore information or materials from me, I be gladly to help.

Sincerely, Allan

Bucknell University '18
Computer Science & Engineering
al037@bucknell.edu

As you apply to more and more, make it easier for your professor to submit your recommendations. Have a concise list such as the photo below listing what the opportunity is, the deadline, how to upload or send the recommendation, and a link to the opportunity. Make sure to send your resume to your professor as well since it can help them write their recommendation. It is important you ask a professor that knows you well so their recommendation can be more impactful. Again it would be useful to keep a google document with all the information to the research, deadlines, how to submit nominations, etc.

Professor Peck,

I be more than happy to help. So far I have applied to 5 research opportunities.

1. Carnegie Mellon Research Experience for Undergraduates in Software Engineering, the deadline is February 19th, recommendations are uploaded directly by you, I can send a reminder email that gives you the link to upload it I believe.
(<http://www.isri.cmu.edu/education/reu-se/index.html>)

2. Research in Industrial Projects for Students in Los Angeles, the deadline is February 14th, recommendations are uploaded directly by you, I can send a reminder email that gives you the link to upload it I believe
(<https://www.mathprograms.org/db/programs/368>)

3. UnCoRe REU program. The reference letter is to be emailed to Dr. Huirong Fu at fu@oakland.edu, Ahmad Mansour at aamansour@oakland.edu, Ali Alshehri at aaalshehri@oakland.edu, and Hani Alshahrani at hmalshahrani@oakland.edu. I believe they do not care whether I email it or you email it. The deadline is March 15th.
(<http://cse-reu.secs.oakland.edu/index.php?site=apply>)

4. REU Program at the University of Minnesota. The deadline is February 28th. The recommendation can be sent directly to reubigdata@umn.edu with my name as the subject line.
(<http://reubigdata.cs.umn.edu/apply.html>)

5. CISE REU program at the University of Connecticut. The deadline for this opportunity is February 15th, 2016. Recommendation can be emailed directly to john.chandy@uconn.edu with my name as the subject line.
(<http://ciacss.engr.uconn.edu/reu/>)

Sincerely, Allan