

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Director's Desk (cont.)	2
Announcements	3
CV Readings Tutorials	4/ 5
Pardon Our Progress	6/ 7
Lounge Chairs: A Eulogy	8/ 9
Becoming Tier One	10 - 12
Calendar	13

From the Director's Desk

Resumés

Two weeks ago, we had our first CV roundtable on resumés and the room was packed. Since many of you are sending out resumés for summer employment or internships, I thought it might be useful to offer 5 tips on developing and improving your resumé.



1) Always be thinking about how to improve your resumé. Be open to crafting your resumé to the particular job/internship at hand. Keep your audience in mind when you are working on a resumé for a particular position. Ask yourself, “What is the employer looking for in my resumé? How can I help assist them in evaluating me and my application?”

2) Stop by the Career Center and get some help. Valerie Brunell has copies of their excellent handout on crafting a resumé.

3) Identify the key things about you that make you special: your career goals, your educational background (major and year), awards/honors received, previous job experience, and skill sets (including level of mastery of foreign languages, computer skills, laboratory/mathematical skills). Be specific and concise in providing this information. Remember that high school activities likely don't matter much anymore.

4) Limit your resumé to 1 page unless directed otherwise and put your contact information at the top. Employers and internship directors do not have time to fight through a long resumé nor do they want longer resumés than requested. An applicant who can't follow directions is quickly dismissed.

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Director's Desk (continued)

5) To complement your resumé, develop a brief “elevator speech” about yourself and the skills that you have to offer an employer. Essentially imagine that you have one minute on an elevator to explain to someone who you are and why you are right for a particular position. Neither false bravado nor false modesty will get you a position. You need to be able to explain who you are, what your goals are, and why you would be a valuable addition to an organization or a laboratory.

If you don't have a resumé yet, get started now and share it with friends, family and colleagues. Be open to criticisms and suggestions. Above all else, do not misrepresent yourself or lie about your accomplishments. This will come back to haunt you someday. A good resumé can help you understand yourself better and figure out areas in need of improvement.

*“...do not
misrepresent
yourself or lie
about your
accomplishments”*



Announcements

Lost and Found: Any items lost in the CV Lounge and classroom are often given to Valerie. Currently, she has a sweater, book, planners, jewelry, and USB drive in her possession. Please go see her if you have lost something.

Senior Poster presentations: If you are a graduating senior, please remember to sign up for a presentation date in Valerie's office.

To graduate with CV Honors: 24 hours CV coursework, 3.5 GPA, and a senior thesis/project and poster presentation. Please see Valerie if you have any questions.

*"Please go see
[Valerie] if you
have lost
something"*

CV Reading Tutorials

Waqas Haque

While waiting in the airport for my flight back home from San Diego, I sat comfortably on my chair, burying myself in a book I checked out just a week ago. After reading for a bit, I stuck my head up and glanced around the gate – I was the only person reading a tangible book.

Let's face it: it's beyond obvious that we're a society dominated by screen-related activities. Our gadgets organize our daily activities, communicate our messages to others, and now even answer our questions on-the-go. In fact, our primary source of informational reading comes from online articles and e-books, not *Encyclopedia Britannica*. As sad as it is to say this, maybe snuggling up with a good book is as anachronistic today as dial-up internet and payphones. With "Control + F," virtual highlighters, automated bookmarks, scroll-down options, "You May Also Like," Wikipedia, and no dusty bookshelf, maybe Kindles and tablets are too progressive for the "book."

*"...I was the
only person
reading a
tangible book"*

Then I took a Collegium V Readings Class.

As I sat in Dr. Harpham's Medicine, Politics, and Philosophy (yes, those three things *do* actually intersect) Selected Readings, we were asked to relate historical paradigms in medicine with modern health-care delivery after covering four lengthy books.

Last fall, I also was enrolled in Professor Seeligson's Internet and the Modern Age readings course, where our class used the notion of "memes" to construct a marketing plan to make people believe in the non-existent island of Nillocus (also, if you're abhorred by my criticism of our electronic gadgets, you know who to see). This semester, I'm carrying on with Dr. Seeligson's Logic of the Law class.

These classes not only served as credit for the Collegium V trajectory, but more importantly galvanized my love for reading and general intelligence.

Whenever I begin reading an economics paper, I no longer feel a burning pain in my head when I read past the Abstract section. It can even be a class of differential equations I'm learning to solve or a chemical solution I'm trying to envisage – the dizzying rush that dosages of internet usage inflict has been successfully cured from my mind.

Instead of having incisive spurts of attention, I can follow a complex argument at a very fast clip. I went from somebody with pretty good reading skills from debate to lightning fast speed, a large part of that owing to reading courses and the fuel those courses furnished.

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CV Readings Tutorials

Waqas Haque

From an intelligence standpoint, understanding a textbook or memorizing equations won't serve as visible markers of intelligence. Rather, your talent to genuinely offer opinions on a controversial dilemma will make you stand out among your peers. You develop a feeling of open-mindedness, being able to converse on a wide spectrum of human affairs. If you take a readings course related to your major, you'll surely be updated with contemporary trends in your discipline of interest.

In the future, I think incorporating the tutorial system to open up opportunity for independent thought by the student will immensely benefit the program. Right now, we're given a pantheon of pages to cover, so we still learn a lot of facts while building upon a fundamental theme. But what about a readings course where we're free to choose our own reading for the week on a specific subject from a given list? That's how the Cambridge M.Phil program operates. How about an academic economic readings class, where a professor assigns a paper by a New Classicalist and a Neo-Keynesian every week? Readings tutorials may also benefit from bringing in guest speakers, akin to Dr. Wendy Harpham making time almost every week to contribute to discussions and offer a one-of-a-kind perspective in Dr. Harpham's class.

With the creativity that opposing viewpoints creates, we should be able to extend the range of activities the reading tutorial incorporates. Our innovative Collegium V brand, and hopefully one day the downward-gazing zombies we all see at the airport, demand it.

-edited by: Kinsey Cline

"... your talent
to genuinely
offer
opinions...will
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out..."

Pardon Our Progress

Katelyn McWilliams

As I walk around campus, orange and white constantly assaults my eyes. I cannot escape from the colors as I walk from the AC to Jonsson to the SU. The hues are not, however, inspired by our lovely school colors. Instead, despite my most fervent attempts to avoid them, I find the orange and white of construction equipment accompanied by dirt and loose stones everywhere I turn.

On-campus construction predates me and will remain long after I've gone. Since I arrived at UTD in the fall of 2011, I have never known the campus without construction men in one building or another. Though Founders is now beautifully remodeled, the men with hats moved right down the hill and have begun construction on the eagerly anticipated ATEC building. Building projects also continue in the housing sector. Just last year, workmen were setting the foundation for Res Hall West, which is now completed. Students living in Waterview also received notices last week announcing construction of a new Loop Road which will continue for the next six months.

There is something both annoying and comforting about the continuous filth that adorns my dark blue car from the constant barrage of construction dust. In spite of the constant noise, clutter, and inconvenience, I am proud to be a student at a university that constantly *needs* to expand. Though UT Dallas was established in 1969 as a graduate school, we have rapidly grown to become one of the most well-respected universities in the state of Texas. The constant construction acts as a sign of our monumental and "meteoric" rise to power.

UTD's plans for future expansion reflect the school's continuing commitment to the needs of its students. The ATEC building, the most recent recipient of construction efforts, is slated to open in Fall 2013. The Jindal School of Management will also undergo expansion efforts as the student body grows in tandem with UTD's reputation. In addition, the Board of Regents has accommodated students' social and housing needs.

"The constant construction acts as a sign of our monumental and 'meteoric rise to power'"

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Pardon Our Progress

Katelyn McWilliams

Though UTD introduced freshman dorms only a few years ago, the student body eagerly filled open spaces, and the campus responded by opening duplicate buildings in 2011 and 2012. Another identical building, currently under construction, will open this fall to accommodate another 400 students, while a larger facility is slated to open in August of 2015. The university additionally approved a much-needed second Activity Center to cater to athletically-inclined students, while lobbying on behalf of the Student Union has prompted lengthened hours at The Pub.

Professors and alumni continuously comment on the changing face of UTD. Once a graduate facility, the campus has morphed into a distinguished institution for both graduate and undergraduate students alike. As the space changes to accommodate a younger and growing demographic, the change often unsettles those established in their routine. Yet change is vital no matter how disturbing the interim. If we are to become a thriving, research-driven university, we must be willing to endure the discomfort of change. A few moments (or months) of inconvenience will reap untold benefits in the future!

-edited by: Kelsey Drake

*"Professors and
alumni
continuously
comment on the
changing face of
UTD"*

Lounge Chairs: A Eulogy

Mikaela McMurtry

I speak for every CV Honors student who ever made our dear lounge home when I say I will miss the magenta, overstuffed, ultra plush chairs...forever. Thank you for taking a moment out of your lives to remember our beloved, plush chairs. I hope this article will make its way to a revered spot on the CV Lounge's walls.

Upon first visiting the headquarters of our dear Collegium V, I was immensely pleased by the character of the furnishings. The chairs leaned and rocked, and they seemed to give an air of rich nonchalance to "The Lounge." The composite violet hue added warmth to the décor, and the slightly ragged softness of the seats told me that this wasn't another computer lab—this was a place to escape. This was a place to love.

The plush magenta chairs were a constant and reassuring presence. They provided comfort during midterms and finals, during the ups and downs of our semester. They gave us a soft place to nap between classes, and kept us warm during stormy nights. They made the CV Lounge home. They never claimed to be safe, but they offered it. With their high backs and wide shoulders you felt cocooned. The plush chairs were a stark contrast to the otherwise normal feel of our lounge. They were one thing that distinguished our lounge from all the other lounges on campus. Like jovial old uncles whose extra pounds only make them more endearing, their blocky softness was a welcome embrace in our stressful lives. Ergonomic-shmergonomic—would I want my round, merry uncle to be skinny and hard? No! Our chairs were lovable just the way they were.

Sometimes, when I really needed a mother's hug but knew that it would be practically impossible, the lounge's old chairs would offer a comparable level of comfort. I would immediately be transported back to childhood, when sitting on mom's lap was the highlight of my day.

*"This was a
place to love"*

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Lounge Chairs: A Eulogy

Mikaela McMurtry

The chairs are gone now, taken away by good hands, good people, and good reasons. Their time is past, not with a bang, but with a creak and a rustle, with a rocking, whispering lullaby.

We have new chairs, and they are good for us. They are shiny, they are presentable, they are ergonomic. We will learn to like them. But, dear, old, super-stuffed swivel chairs, you have made your impression. Although nothing could permanently press itself into your cushioned contours, you have impressed yourself into our hearts. We won't forget you nor how inviting you made the Lounge feel. We won't forget when you first greeted us, first seated us.

I know it hurts. Our lounge's master moved the magenta sofas to the computers, and the new, black, insect-like chairs were curved into a defiant NO in the heart of the Lounge's main room. This was a good thing. It is right to grieve when what we love is taken from us. For the next few weeks, I am sure I won't be the only CVer to imagine the old pink chair every time I sit in my new sleek and modern chair.

*"... you have
impressed yourself
into our hearts"*

So, our dear, plush magenta chairs, I hope you rest in peace, knowing that you will stay in all our hearts.

- edited by: Anandini Rao

Becoming Tier One

Carter Plotkin

I'm sure most Collegium V students have heard about UTD's move towards becoming a Tier One university. To that end, we need a language program here at UTD, as I will show.

I have often come across colorful and uplifting advertisements on the UT Dallas homepage that illustrate our progress toward our Tier One goal, grandly displayed alongside strides in science and technology made here at the university. Indeed, a President's Viewpoint dated 13 December 2012 is entitled "Moving Toward Tier One" and proudly commemorates the 2,500 doctoral graduates from our university. I am both excited about the prospects for the future in obtaining a Tier One status and proud of the strides we've made thus far.

***"... we need a
language
program here
at UTD..."***

U.S. News and World Report incorporates a weighted scale including the following criteria in order to identify Tier One institutions: peer assessments, faculty resources, student selectivity, and financial resources. We need to institute organizations that will contribute to these categories.

I contend that with Phi Beta Kappa, an extremely prestigious honors organization, we can reach closer to Tier One.

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Becoming Tier One

Carter Plotkin

Phi Beta Kappa was established in 1776 and is the nation's oldest academic honor society, according to its website. ΦBK employs 5 rigorous stipulations for membership eligibility. 17 U.S. Presidents, 37 Supreme Court Justices and 136 Nobel laureates have been inducted as members. The website states, "[p]otential employers regularly contact the national office of Phi Beta Kappa to confirm the membership of job seekers who have listed Phi Beta Kappa among their credentials."

In terms of selectivity, only 10% of the nation's higher learning institutions have ΦBK chapters and only 10% of the arts and sciences graduates from those institutions are selected for ΦBK membership.

*"... it wouldn't be
immensely difficult
to establish a
chapter at UTD"*

The point of these boring figures is to demonstrate the prestige of Phi Beta Kappa. I contend that the specified criteria (peer assessments, faculty resources, student selectivity, and financial resources) would improve substantially for UT Dallas if we had a ΦBK chapter on campus; thus, greatly aiding our Tier One endeavor.

The good news is that it wouldn't be immensely difficult to establish a chapter at UTD. Because Phi Beta Kappa is based in the liberal arts, the national office requires certain liberal arts to be on campus before they will sign off on a chapter. I understand that we have all we need at UTD except a language program.

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Becoming Tier One

Carter Plotkin

Here is the point: we CVers should advocate for a language program. A UTD News Center post dated 1 November 2012 exclaims, “The University of Texas at Dallas recently celebrated raising more than \$125 million for *Realize the Vision*, a \$200 million drive to support the University’s goal of becoming a Tier One research institution.” Given the diversity on campus, Texas’ burgeoning Spanish-speaking population, the significant funds already dedicated to the purpose, and the popularity (and lucrativeness) of language studies, we should express in student government and in regular conversation that we want a language program at UTD.

**“... we want a
language
program at
UTD...”**

Such a program would serve manifold ends: we would attract language arts students and professors (for which there is surely a large market), we would be closer to establishing a Phi Beta Kappa chapter (from which many CVers would benefit greatly), and, perhaps most importantly, we would substantially contribute to the factors which define a Tier One institution. I implore you, faculty, staff, and students alike: let us work to create a language program at UTD.

-edited by: Mikaela McMurtry

FEBRUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Faculty Honors Roundtable	8	9
10	11	12	13 Honors Guest Roundtable	14 Movie night at 9 pm in CV Lounge	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Archer app. due/ LAN party	23
24	25	26	27	28 Archer interviews	1 Archer interviews	2

Faculty Honors Roundtable (Feb. 13): At 4:00 p.m. in the CV Library. Ben Fountain is a fiction writer based in the Dallas area. He has won numerous awards and honors, notably the 2007 PEN/Hemingway Award for his book *Brief Encounters* with Che Guevara. His most recent book, *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk* was a National Book Award finalist. Spaces are limited so please reserve a seat by emailing Michael Seeligson.

Archer Internship (Feb. 22): Applications are due by 5:00 pm in GC 2.202.

LAN Parties: Will be on Feb. 22 and Mar. 29, both starting at 7 pm in the CV Lounge. Pre-gaming is encouraged.

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Calendar/

Announcements:

Dakota Deutsch

Josh Olson

Special Thanks To:

Dr. Harpham

Dr. Dow

Valerie Brunell

Dr. Scotch

Dr. Champagne

Michael Seeligson

Collegium V: Learning That Never Sleeps



The Collegium V Honors Program at The University of Texas at Dallas was established in 1997 to provide an undergraduate honors experience that extends beyond the classroom. Small classes, innovative instruction, world class faculty, bright and inquisitive colleagues, and an array of extracurricular events offer Collegium V members special opportunities for professional and personal growth at the university.

If you are interested in learning more about Collegium V, please visit our website at cv.utdallas.edu or contact us for an application or to set up a tour.

CV Contact Information

CV Council

events@collegiumv.org

CV Network Administrators

cvadmins@utdallas.edu

CV Lounge Phone

972-883-6605

The CV Lounge (GC 1.202) is located on the 1st floor of the Green Center between the McDermott Library and Green Hall

If you have any questions/comments about the CV newsletter, please email Shravik Sethi at sps092020@utdallas.edu.

