

“Post-market” Service to WCU Statistics Alumni

This is a kind of “new service” that I have been offering to graduate and undergraduate statistics majors using my unique industry experience. I worked in a fast-growing financial IT firm and conducted numerous interviews for job seekers and co-op interns within my data science team and other analytic teams across the company. I decided to use this experience to offer mock job interviews to students who graduated from our program and were still searching for a job. I have helped three graduate alumni and one undergraduate alumnus in the past few years with multiple mock job interviews and all landed a good technical job. To prepare for a mock interview, I usually requested a copy of the job description (or advertisement) prepared questions from a business perspective, and provided advice to make better interviews. One of the graduate alumni had 5 rounds of interviews (from the initial team lead interview to the technical interview, all the way to the final round interview with a senior VP) and called for about 30 minutes every time before the scheduled interview. Eventually, she landed a job at Citi’s risk modeling team. Another exciting story is about an undergraduate alumnus who spent a semester at home learning R programming language systematically after graduating from WCU. After some preparation, he decided to pursue a highly technical job. He found a job opportunity at Deloitte’s advanced modeling team. He successfully passed the initial general interview but needed a technical interview on building machine learning models. He reached out to help with a mock technical interview. I asked him to revisit a model he did in a course and then spent about an hour walking through the projects with various business-related questions. He passed the technical interview and accepted the job offer the day before Thanksgiving!