

# Your Career Services... Skills for Life!

Texas A&M Career Center 209 Koldus Building <http://hireaggies.com> <http://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/>

Enjoy the Texas A&M Career Corner!

Issue 6: March 2011

## When Should You Start Looking For a Job?

Landing a great job once you graduate from college means you'll need to start the search early, according to the experts. It's a multi-step process and there are things you can do as early as sophomore year to get on the right career track. "The most common mistake made is beginning preparation too late," says Cheretta Robson, assistant director of career development at St. Francis College who urges students to do exploratory research almost as soon as they get on campus. As a part of starting your search, use the career services office at your school as a way to guide your search, she adds.

Not sure when to start looking for a job? Here's what you can do throughout your college career.

### Sophomore Year

Since finding a job is still two years away, take the time to really see what it is you'd like to do. "Do informational interviewing and job shadowing," recommends Judit Price, career expert and founder of [careercampaign.com](http://careercampaign.com). Use this time as a way to really understand your strengths and weakness while experimenting with what you'd like to do. Even if you change your mind about where you eventually want to work, understanding potential career paths can give you a starting place for your search.

### Junior Year

Use the school year to get as much experience as you can in your field. Attend lectures hosted by alumni, and either volunteer or get a part-time job that lets you gain experience in your field. While junior year can mean that you'll have an extra demanding curriculum, it's important to make time for some real world experience. It's also important to start narrowing your choices of where you'd like to end up post graduation, Price says. "Begin eliminating other alternatives and start developing a [targeted] network."

### Summer after Junior Year

Getting an internship before senior year is a crucial part of landing your first job, Price says. While it may feel like there are plenty of internships and summer job opportunities, be sure to really invest your time in something that could help your career. For example, if you're studying towards a degree in accounting, interning with a music public relations firm can be a fun experience but won't advance your career. "Many students never had a meaningful internship, but focused on raising money or taking anything they could find," she says. Instead, look around to land an internship or role that will be relevant to your post-college career choice. In addition to college classes and experience, employers weigh internships heavily when making hiring decisions. Some students may even get a job offer at the company where they served their summer internship.

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**Starting points for your career search**



### Senior Year

Even if you've come straight from a successful summer internship, continue to network and build connections during your senior year. "The last year is the most crucial to the final stages of a student's college career," explains Robson. "Finding a job is difficult for everyone, and if college seniors have not taken the steps required for success, they will face even more hurdles to getting that job that will connect them to their future." Keeping up with potential employers means you'll be the first to know about opportunities so be sure to check in with them periodically.

### After Graduation

You can start your job search by tapping into the network you've built through previous internships, professors or classmates. Remember, it's important to follow-up on job leads as soon as possible. And even though interviewing can be frustrating at times, keep in mind there are plenty of companies that are looking for eager grads.

*CareerRookie.com, 2010 Follow Us*

*[http://www.careerrookie.com/Article/CB-229-Job-Hunting-When-Should-You-Start-Looking-for-a-Job/?utm\\_source=careercenter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=21511](http://www.careerrookie.com/Article/CB-229-Job-Hunting-When-Should-You-Start-Looking-for-a-Job/?utm_source=careercenter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=21511)*

### Company Spotlight Attebury Grain, LLC

Based in Amarillo, Texas, Attebury Grain is an independently owned Texas Limited Liability

Company involved in grain merchandising, warehousing, seed and feed production and processing, and fertilizer sales and distribution.

Attebury Grain receives wheat, corn, grain sorghum, sunflowers, soybeans and whole cotton seed from local producers and other dealers. The company sells and distributes these commodities to flour millers, feed and seed processors, exporters, and livestock producers throughout its region and the world.

Since its inception in 1954, the company has grown to over sixty facilities comprising over one hundred million bushels of storage space in country elevators, sub-terminals and terminals located in the Texas panhandle, North Texas, New Mexico, and southern Oklahoma. The company ranks among the top five multiple facility grain companies in North America based on total grain storage capacity.

Attebury Grain currently employees approximately 150 employees in Texas. Opportunities are available for Manager Trainees in Operations and Merchandising. Internships are also available for those who are looking at a future with one of the fastest growing businesses in West Texas.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about  
ATTEBURY GRAIN, LLC

### Upcoming Events

**Utilizing Your Ag Degree in Other Industries Panel**

**March 31, 5:30-7, Kleberg 121**

**Exploring Your Options with Your Ag Degree**

**April 14, 4-5:30, Heep 101\*\***

**\*\*Notice Room Change**

Featured Career Center Service

# Workshops on Demand

**What is Workshops on Demand?** Workshops on Demand is a resource available to students through hireaggies.com. Students can go to this page to access printouts, PowerPoint presentations, and CareerTube videos that include valuable job search information. Some of the printouts include guides to HireAggies and AggieE-folio, brochures distributed through the Career Center, and general job search topics. The PowerPoint presentations you may have seen in class are available through this service.

**Current postings on HireAggies.com:**

**Bader Rutter & Associates**

Lincoln, Nebraska

**Position Type:** Internship

**Job Title:** Agribusiness Public Relations Intern

**Opportunity:** Looking for a summer internship to gain quality, hands-on public relations experience? Bader Rutter is seeking a summer intern in public relations for agribusiness-related accounts.

At Bader Rutter, you'll be a member of the state's largest PR agency and the largest agri-marketing agency in North America. You'll be working in a fast-paced environment alongside experienced professionals in public relations, creative design, relationship marketing and digital media to execute strategic BtoB public relations for national brands. Our clients include Dow AgroSciences, Pfizer Animal Health, Mycogen Seeds, John Deere, Mosaic and Dairy Management Inc.

We specialize in offering our clients an unparalleled level of integration in the following services:

- o Advertising
- o Creative
- o Research
- o Public Relations
- o Media
- o Digital Solutions
- o Brand Asset Management
- o Local Marketing Services
- o Relationship/Direct Marketing
- o Collateral
- o Event Management

Go to [HireAggies.com](http://HireAggies.com) to view more postings like these!



Interns are a valuable part of our team and will perform a variety of important tasks to support our clients.

Current Postings on HireAggies.com continued...

### Crop Quest, Inc.

Austin, Texas

**Position Type:** Full Time

**Job Title:** Agronomist

#### Opportunity:

Duties / Responsibilities:

- Regular Field Checks
- Insect, Weed & Disease Monitoring / Diagnostics
- Soil Moisture Status Monitoring
- Irrigation Scheduling
- Ag Chemical, Fertilizer & Seed Recommendations
- Soil Sampling
- Equipment Calibration
- Crop Rotation Planning and Hybrid/Variety Selection Recommendations
- Solicit Customers & Increase Acres and/or Opportunities
- Precision Ag Services (including GIS/GPS information)
- Detailed Computerized Field Reports & Permanent Record Keeping
- Crop Budgeting & Planning
- Provide Personal Consultation with Customers as Needed
- Educational / Promotional Presentations as Needed
- Other Duties as necessary upcoming SUSTA activities



## SUCCESS IN THE JOB/INTERNSHIP SEARCH

**Name:** Lindsey Tampir

**Major:** Agricultural Communication and Journalism, '10

**Company:** Adobe Equipment

**Job Title:** Marketing Director

### 1. Explain what you do:

I head the marketing department for Adobe Equipment, which is a material handling company based in Houston. I provide marketing ideas for its four divisions, such as new logos, truck decals, tradeshow merchandise, etc. I have a marketing committee that is in place to bounce ideas off of and run all final drafts through.

### 2. What were the best and worst parts of the job search process?

The best part was the interview skills that I acquired by interviewing for different positions at different companies. I learned how to market myself better each time I did it. The worst part was the waiting game after the interview. I always felt like weeks before I heard something. Also, it is very hard to not get down after hearing a few no's.

### 3. Do you have any advice for those students who are in the same place you were one or two years ago?

I would say for starters, start looking early! Looking back, I felt that I started looking too late and I was graduated and without a job before I knew it. Also, I would highly recommend students to take advantage of the Career Center while you can. I moved home to work an internship while finishing my last semester and I definitely struggled without the face-to-face guidance the Career Center offers.

### 4. Did you know about the Career Center?

I knew about the Career Center through the speakers who often came to my classes.

*Success in the Job/Internship Search cont...*

**5. Did you use the Career Center during your job search or in any way during your time at Texas A&M?**

Yes, I put my résumé in with the Career Center website for businesses to view. I also frequently updated my profile and searched for internships my senior year as well as jobs for after graduation.

**6. What resource was most helpful to you once you took advantage of Career Center services?**

The ability to look through the job database as well as having a place to post and update my résumé for potential business to review. So many businesses are looking for Aggies because of our reputation as honest, hard workers and I found that by putting my résumé online with the Career Center, I was gaining a great advantage.

**7. If you hadn't come to the Career Center, what resources/strategies would you not have known about?**

I would have definitely missed out on using the Aggie Network that is so prominent through the Career Center and its resources.

## Questions?

If you have any questions or comments about your career search as a College of Agriculture & Life Sciences student, please [contact us!](#)

## Good places to start your job search...

[www.HireAggies.com](http://www.HireAggies.com)

[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

[www.agcareers.com](http://www.agcareers.com)

[www.ag1source.com](http://www.ag1source.com)

[www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com)

[www.agr.state.tx.us](http://www.agr.state.tx.us)

<http://greatjobs.tamu.edu>