

College graduates get on the JOBTRAK

■ Many companies are recruiting new workers by way of the Internet

By Brooke Ross
Oregon Daily Emerald

CardPayment Solutions, Inc., a nationwide credit-card processing service company, hires about two college graduates a week using JOBTRAK.com, one of many Web sites available today to help people find careers throughout the country.

This is just one company that is following the trend of using the Internet to hire new workers. Today, hundreds of companies post work opportunities ranging from internships to full-time careers using a number of Web sites, including Monster.com and JOBTRAK, which is designed specifically for college graduates.

Zach Hyman, director of recruitment for the company, said he prefers finding employees over the Internet because it's quick and shows that applicants have some degree of technological experience that is needed in most of today's professional fields.

"We have the capability of seeing a number of potential employees online," he said. "And obviously they have access to a computer, so they likely have some kind of computer experience."

But while many employers and staff at the University Career Center agree that using Internet technology is an efficient way to find a career, others caution against using the method. Some job seekers may rely on the Web sites too much and avoid face-to-face interaction with employers, critics say, which can hurt their people skills and eventually decrease their chances of obtaining a job.

Rick Guerra, assistant director of the University Career Center, said that with graduation approaching, more students have been coming in lately and searching for a career online.

"The sites give students a place to start," he said. "They can look for jobs all over the country."

The University uses JOBTRAK through the Career Center's Web site, and Guerra said establishing a free account involves entering one's student ID number into the system. He said by using the Web site, students have a number of career opportunities available in a variety of different fields.

"There's a lot of recruitment action going on over the Internet," he said.

Guerra said convenience is a major advantage to using job-seeking Web sites.

"People are able to search in the privacy of their home and are doing a lot of the footwork," he said. "Looking on the Internet gives you a good general sense of what's available."

But Guerra also said that while there are advantages to using the Internet to find a career, no one should rely solely on the technology. He

Planning for the Future with the Web

The top 20 most searched-for career fields during a 6-month period in 1999.

1. Management	1763471
2. Sales	827685
3. Engineer	642723
4. Accounting	468739
5. Marketing	430465
6. Human Resource	396366
7. Admin./Clerical	373601
8. Finance	351165
9. Computer	310066
10. Analyst	251063
11. Programmer	230732
12. Nurse	198554
13. Technician	186682
14. Network Admin.	175715
15. Legal	174578
16. Teacher	167070
17. Customer Service	155179
18. Consultant	154151
19. Secretary	152957
20. Medical	148630

SOURCE: CyberAtlas.internet.com

said getting out in the field and talking to people in person is just as important as having a solid resumé.

"It's really easy to sit in front of your computer and see what's available, but a lot of the time people do that blindly," he said. "It's to a student's advantage to create a strategic job search with more than just Internet searches."

Kevin Mullins, spokesman for Monster.com, said the speed of searching for jobs over the Internet seems to attract many people, particularly college students around graduation time. He said there were more than 26 million visits to the Web site in March alone.

"There's no question there's an obvious increase in college-aged job seekers around this time of the year," he said.

Mullins said employers are also at an advantage because they receive applications and resúmes through e-mail, so the information is right in front of them and cannot get lost in the mail.

"It's just a wealth of information across the board for everyone," he said. "Connecting employers to job seekers is much easier this way than using a newspaper."

Hyman agreed and said his company receives more responses using JOBTRAK and other similar Web sites than it does using ads in newspapers or other forms of advertising. He said the company receives resúmes through e-mail, and this allows him to easily flesh out applicants. He said this way he can send applicants a reply with a phone number to call to set up an interview.

"It just saves a whole lot of time," he said.

Offenders

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Vogelsang is a licensed clinical social worker who has worked in social services for 33 years and is specially trained to work with sex offenders.

"Sex offenders are under a tight set of conditions that are strictly enforced," Vogelsang said.

She also said her clients are required to undergo polygraph testing throughout their supervision and treatment to discern whether they are in compliance with set conditions and requirements.

"The polygraph tests are accurate when it comes to keeping track of what someone's doing," Dave said.

Dave said the entire therapy process has helped him personally; he has been sober since 1997.

"Therapy has made a difference in

my attitudes when it comes to sex," Dave said. "I've begun placing more value on relationships and not just on a one-night stand."

Admittedly ashamed and embarrassed of his past, Dave believes the treatment he received has improved his self-esteem and made him examine the way he lives his life.

But Dave said he isn't sure whether the treatment program works for everyone. He said it's like a drug and alcohol treatment program; it won't work unless the participant wants it to work.

Another major part of Vogelsang's job is to help parole officers assess the potential risk sex offenders pose and determine what an offender's mode of treatment should be.

"Even people who are considered low risk at the beginning of treatment are taken with a grain of salt," Vogelsang said. "There is a great effort

among treatment providers to be informed about an offender's true sexual history."

Collins said offenders are assessed using a list of negative, positive and historical factors that determine an offender's risk to society once he is released on parole. An offender can earn back points through treatment, which lowers his assessed risk level.

Vogelsang said clients go through a maintenance exam, which includes a polygraph examination, every three to six months. She said that if anything comes out during treatment that might change an offender's risk level, his status and level of supervision could be altered.

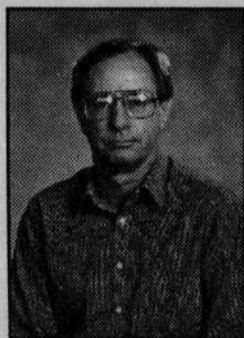
"If a person is assessed as being extremely high risk, it would guarantee enhanced requirements and supervision," Vogelsang said.

*Editor's note: Dave's name has been changed to protect his identity.

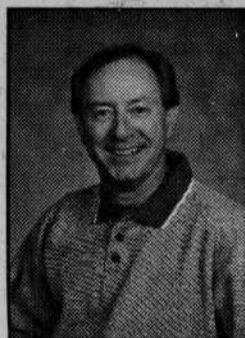
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Calendar

Friday, May 18

Sociology Colloquium: Leontina Hormel, Sociology, discusses "Teaching Social Issues and Movements: Activism in the Classroom." 3 p.m. Room 332, Gilbert Hall. Free. For information, call 346-5366.

Theater: "Profesia" is presented by Teatro Milagro/Miracle Theater, a Latino theater group in Portland. 8 p.m. Auditorium, Agate Hall. Free. For information, call 346-4037.

Pacifica Forum: "The U.S. as a Rogue State." A review of books and articles portraying the United States as a "rogue state." Noon. Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid St. Free. For more information, call 346-4694.