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UNH Expands Career Fair As Demand For Hiring Millennials Grows

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July 31, 2008

DURHAM, N.H. - The University of New Hampshire has expanded its fall internship and career fair as demand from employers wanting to hire recent graduates, or millennials, has grown.

"Even in a slower economy, the demand is still strong for college-level hiring. The millennials bring a lot of energy to companies, and they are more moldable and trainable than prospective employees with more work experience. Also, many industries are recognizing that a huge contingent of their baby boomers will retire in the next five to ten years, and they want to pass that institutional knowledge onto new leaders," said Bethany Cooper, associate director of career resources and recruiting at the University Advising and Career Center.

This year's fall career fair will be held for the first time at the Whittemore Center arena to accommodate more employers. Held in partnership by the NH Business and Industry Association and the NH High Tech Council, the fair will be Monday, Oct. 20, 2008, from noon to 4 p.m.

UNH has had an employer waitlist for the last three years, with the 90 spots for employer booths filling up quickly. With the expansion this year, 130 companies will be able to participate in the fair that is expected to attract more than 500 students from across campus.

UNH is the premier research university in New Hampshire with more than 11,000 undergraduates and more than 2,000 graduate students. UNH offers thousands of courses and more than 100 different majors in subjects ranging from art to zoology. The university is particularly known for its undergraduate research programs that have funded hundreds of student projects in dozens of fields on six continents.

"Today's graduates are very different from previous generations in how they work and process information. They are team oriented, but also like autonomy and a certain level of freedom in managing projects. They need to see the big picture in whatever they do. For some, it's at the company level and how they are making a difference to support the company's overall mission. Others want to make their mark at the individual level. Even if they feel they are doing something mundane, they want to see the big picture and how they are contributing to it," Cooper said.

The university also has launched a new corporate sponsors program that provides an opportunity for companies to strengthen their recruiting brand on campus and support the UNH Advising and Career Center. For more information, visit <http://www.unh.edu/uacc/corpsponsor.html>.

To register for the fair, visit <http://www.unh.edu/uacc/AllFairs.html> and click on the fair date

to fill out the form. The registration fee of \$375 for for-profit and \$175 for nonprofit includes wireless Internet access, food vouchers for two employer representatives, free parking for one vehicle (additional vehicles can park in the UNH visitor lot), unloading/loading assistance, and advance publicity to students.

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