

Stefhanie Perez
BUF4900
Dr. A

Professional Development Critique #2

1. What was the purpose of this workshop? Its title, names of who hosted, who attended? Where?

I attended the Fisher Investment: Hispanic in Finance Panel on Friday, October 13th from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. The virtual webinar held through Zoom was hosted by Joshua Garcia, Kelli Waldo (moderator), Cassidy Haack (panelist), and Juanita Bibian (panelist). The purpose of this workshop was to acknowledge the work life at Fisher Investment. The month of October is Hispanic Heritage Month and the company wanted to introduce a group of Hispanic workers that have been working at Fisher Investment. The speakers spoke about their personal experiences, their experiences at the company, the connections they have built, how the job aligned itself with them, and the benefits of the company.

2. What was the most significant thing you have learned in this workshop? Why is it so important? Give details.

The most important thing I have learned during this workshop is that although we earn a degree in a specific career path we somehow end up doing something else. One of the panelists Juanita Bibian mentioned how she obtained her degree in accounting, but had no idea where to start. She began looking for a job and found Fisher Investments. She started off as a junior associate at her company and later on became a Modernization and Event Manager. She also mentioned how she did not have anyone after college until she found this company and those who worked with her mentored her. It is important because although we see ourselves heading in one direction life will take us in a different path and you will have to work to earn these titles. Patience is always key.

3. What would you share with your colleagues about this professional development seminar? Why? Please explain in detail. Should be different than previous answer in #2.

What I have learned during this professional development seminar that I would like to share with the class is that it is important to always be your authentic self. During the seminar, one of the panelists Joshua Garcia mentions how people should find places that are inclusive. What I mean by find is if a job you are at makes you unhappy it is best to try and look for something else with a possible higher pay or a place that is inclusive to all. That being said inclusivity helps you be your most authentic self while also maintaining that professionalism. Finding an opportunity that is inclusive allows workers to connect with each other and create a less toxic environment.

4. How does this professional development seminar contribute/enhance your learning as a BUF major at New York City College of Technology, CUNY?

This professional development seminar contributes to my learning as a BUF major at New York City College of Technology, CUNY because it allows me as a Hispanic to become more confident in the field I choose to work in. As someone who studies fashion, I rarely see any Latin designers being chosen to be studied and many times people choose designers that are French, Italian, or anywhere in Europe. I would also like to see a Latin designer infuse Latin culture into their designs. If I were to choose a career related to fashion, or if I was into designing clothes I would create garments that carry Mexican culture. As someone who is Mexican, it would be amazing to see embroidery, flowy dresses, flowers, lace, and all these details in luxury, modern women's wear.

5. What are some of the most valued lessons you have learned during your time at NYCCT? Which classes/events? Why? Give details

The most valuable lesson I have learned during my time at NYCCT is that one must always maintain professionalism no matter what. In a class setting or in a work environment it is always good to be outspoken and professional. I learned this from Dr. A during BUF4900- Internship and I believe it is the most valuable lesson taught. I will carry this for the rest of my life because I truly believe that work is solely for work. It is okay to make connections and acquaintances, but it is never good to overshare, gossip, or attend non-work related events. To me personally, I see this as unprofessional and overall not a good look for someone.