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Professional Development Critique I

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CUNY City Tech

Upon attending the professional development course chosen, there was much information shared. The Panel consisted of five individuals: Tanika Baker (Manager), Andrea Baker (Special Project Officer), Natifah Gordon (Career Advisor), Christopher Millington (Career Advisor), and Nelly Lliguichushca (Career Advisor). While the entire panel participated in the presentation; the main presenter was Nelly Lliguichushca who is a career advisor with much experience in the field. Her occupation includes advising students on the education and experience needed to attain a steady career. Through this, she helps students with the discovery process, clarity, advancement and transition. During the presentation, Nelly was clear and concise providing extensive information on the topic at hand.

The Professional Development Course chosen was called " I major in... Do I need an internship?". This professional development course provides students with critical information regarding why they should participate in internships, the benefits of participating in internships, what type of preparation is needed to start an internship and how to find the internship that is most fitting for the major chosen. Providing space for interactive learning, students were encouraged to participate in open ended questions and polls. This also created an environment where students can learn from their peers' while being guided by the presenter. In the end, Nelly designated time for questions to be asked regarding the topic at hand, cultivating a professional conclusion of the course.

In relation to the presentation conducted, an internship is defined as an opportunity for students to apply what is learned in the classroom and gain hands-on experience in the field. Because of advancement in technology, students can now advance in the field chosen both virtually and in person. Giving students a chance to test drive an occupation before committing to a specific career path, participating in an internship creates numerous benefits for the participant. Some benefits include earning credits towards education, an opportunity for employment after successful completion of an academic program and internship, lessons in accountability and dedication, exposure to different environments and networking opportunities and development of personal skills such as problem solving, public speaking and more. As a student who is currently in an internship, this presentation was truly beneficial. The most valuable take away includes gaining knowledge on the importance of attending internship and how to maximize the experience. Knowing this creates space for further advancement in a career within the fashion industry and allows for the passion of fashion to be authentically fulfilled.

Advice given from here would be to fully engage in the learning and networking at the internship placement of choice. Keeping an open mind and allowing room for growth is also helpful in obtaining experience as an intern. For prospective students seeking internships, personally the utilization of the career center is crucial in gaining confidence while entering corporate America. Through the career center you can ask further questions in regard to internships, learn what it takes to land the ideal internship, learn how to create a convincing elevator pitch, get resume help, etc. Overall, Nelly and her team did an amazing job during this seminar, as it was informative and easy to follow.

References

Lliguichushca, N. (Presenter). (2022, September 29). *I major in... Do I need an internship?*
Lecture presented at CUNY City Tech, Zoom, Manhattan, NY, United States.