

New York City College of Technology
BUF 4900
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Professional Development #2: Career Q&A

1. What, where, when and how was this professional development seminar about? 5-6 sentences.

On March 23, 2023, a virtual seminar on "Career Q&A" was conducted over Zoom by the Professional Development Center of New York City College of Technology. The event featured Nelly Lliguichushca, a career advisor, as the speaker. The seminar was designed to address the questions and concerns of the attending students on various topics related to their careers such as graduation, understanding confusing aspects, and answering professional interview questions. At the beginning of the session, the speaker provided guidelines on how to interact effectively with others virtually, as there was initially little engagement among the attendees.

2. What did you learn by attending this seminar in detail? 5-6 sentences.

During the seminar, attendees asked numerous good questions, and the advisors provided valuable assistance in understanding and clarifying various topics, such as Resumes and Cover Letters, which can be the most challenging aspect for soon-to-be-graduating students. The advisors also introduced the concept of an elevator pitch, which involves discussing "what is unique about you" and how to highlight it. They offer sessions for interested students to sign up for guidance in developing an elevator pitch, which could be a useful tool in advancing their career path and sharing their experiences and qualifications.

Additionally, the advisors emphasized the importance of seeking guidance early on, from freshman year, and not waiting until senior year to apply for internships and volunteering opportunities. It is recommended to apply as soon as the student reaches their sophomore year to gain practical experience. They also introduced the Handshake app, which is a highly beneficial tool for CityTech students seeking job or internship opportunities.

3. How did this professional development seminar enhance your career moving forward? (5-6 sentences).

For one it was very helpful insights gained during the Q&A session with the speaker. The speaker emphasized the importance of improving public speaking, highlighting soft skills in resumes, and building professional networks as crucial factors for career development. The speaker also stressed the significance of having strong relationships with mentors and professors and the value of building new connections in the industry. Additionally, the speaker offered guidance on obtaining internships despite a lack of experience, such as highlighting one's skills on a resume and using an elevator pitch to make a lasting impression. Overall, the attendee found

the session informative and felt equipped with valuable strategies to help advance their career path.

4. What would you tell other students about this seminar and why should they attend? (5-6 Sentences).

The attendee found the seminar to be important and incredibly beneficial. The session covered a wide range of questions that attendees had, providing clarity and answers to queries that may have been previously unanswered. The resources shared during the seminar offered insight into understanding individual strengths and weaknesses, which can prove valuable when seeking employment opportunities. The attendee also noted that the seminar highlighted questions they may not have realized they had until hearing them asked by others, further emphasizing the value of the session. Overall, the attendee felt that the seminar was a valuable resource for students seeking guidance on career development which is always very important and recommended to attend.